

# EAGER AVENUE GRACE CHURCH

That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 5:21

## Worship Services

### Sunday, May 28, 2023

10am: "The Blessings of God's Grace (2)" | Lesson 12

Matthew 5:1-12  
Bill Parker

11am: "Living By the Power of Christ" | Philippians 4:10-23  
Bill Parker

## Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

-[Sermon Audio](#)

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## An Important Word for Sinners Truly Saved by God's Grace

Does the Gospel, the good news that God saved you from sin and judgment by His great love and mercy through the obedience unto death of the Lord Jesus Christ, cause your heart to rejoice and your soul to be flooded with gratitude? Does the fact that you could have been a vessel of wrath prepared for destruction, but instead you are a vessel of mercy, which God prepared beforehand for glory, cause you to marvel and ask, "Why me?" If this is the case, then, how can you complain, grumble, and despair over life's trials, changes, and even tragedies? Think about it – God has done the greatest thing imaginable in sending His Son to die for your sins and work out a righteousness for you (Rom. 8:31-34). He tells you that because of Christ, you cannot be separated from His love, care, and protection (Rom. 8:35-39). Surely, you can trust Him to provide for lesser needs.

—Copied

## A Good Fixation

***“My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise” (Psalm 57:7).*** The word “fixed” means firmly established, confirmed, fastened, and even prepared and ready. Upon whom and what is my heart fixed? By nature, the unregenerate hearts of people are fixed on the things of the earth, things such as self-worth, self-righteousness, material fortune and fame. But if the Lord God has given me a new heart by the power of the Holy Spirit in the new birth, my heart is fixed on the Lord Jesus Christ and the great salvation He has accomplished for me and freely given to me. My heart is fixed on His grace and mercy, His righteousness imputed and received by God-given faith, His Word and guidance, His providence and protection. And though I struggle with my sinful flesh, the Lord has fixed my heart to look to and follow Christ for all my salvation with all of its blessings and benefits. He shows me the utter foolishness, and even deadliness, of looking elsewhere, such as looking within myself for righteousness and power. Yes, truly, my heart is fixed on Christ crucified and risen from the dead – the glory of His Person and the power of His finished work to save me to the uttermost from all my sins. By God’s grace and with a single eye, I follow after Him to save me and to supply all that I need to insure my salvation unto glory. Christ is my fixation, and this is good. —Pastor Bill Parker

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***“Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30).***

The yoke of Christ includes allegiance to Him as our King, reliance on Him as our Savior, confidence in Him as our Protector and Guide, imitation of Him as our Example, and attachment to Him as our best Friend. —Copied

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***“Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 6:11).***

This is a clear command of God by the apostle to believers. What is it to “reckon?” The word means to take inventory, to conclude and to estimate. This we are to do by faith, believing what God has said concerning what He has done for us through the death of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are to reckon ourselves to have died to sin and all its consequences through the death of Christ. All connections to sin, to Adam and to condemnation are no more. When Christ died for our sins, we died to our sins. Justice, being satisfied, requires no more payment for sins forever but rather requires that we live! But we are not only to reckon ourselves to be dead to sin but also to reckon ourselves “alive unto God.” Both of these glorious things are only “through Jesus Christ our Lord.” —Pastor Gary Shepard

### Note From the Pastor

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The Lord willing, Debbie and I will leave next Wednesday (5/31) for Ruston, LA, where I will be preaching through the weekend in a conference at Grace Baptist Church where Brother Richard Warmack is pastor. Brother Gary Shepard, pastor of Sovereign Grace Church in Jacksonville, NC, will also be preaching in this conference. Elder Jim Casey will be preaching here next Sunday (6/4) in my absence. Please pray for Debbie and me as we travel and for Jim, Gary, and myself as we prepare to preach God’s Word to His people.

## Prayer Requests

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Patricia Pannell, Alex Wages, Audrey Asher, Kathy Robinson, Lori Ann Loosier, Leon Drake, Akemi Okada, Sue Parker, the mission in Malawi, Africa.

## Hymns

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### May 28th services

- All Hail the Power - 42
- My Faith Looks Up to Thee - 359

## Birthdays

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Stone Payne - May 30th | Alex Wages - June 1st

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## Call to Worship

(Tune – O For a Thousand Tongues – p. 46)  
(Words written by Pastor Jim Byrd)

**My heart upon Christ Jesus rests,  
No other One can save;  
I trust the blood and righteousness,  
Of Him the Father gave.**

**He suffered awful agony,  
And died upon the tree;  
To satisfy a holy God,  
He bled and died for me.**

**The precepts of God's holy law,  
The Savior satisfied;  
My countless sins were washed away,  
When Jesus bled and died.**

**Through life and death, and endless days,  
"Christ only" is my plea;  
I know that He will keep me safe,  
For all eternity.**