

MAY 3, 2020

Eager Avenue Grace Church

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Worship Services

Sunday, May 3, 2020

Welcome to all who are watching and listening on live-stream. <http://tinysa.com/live/reignofgrace>

10 a.m.: "The Greatest Love of All"
Song of Solomon Series
Lesson 2 | Song of Solomon 1:1-4
Bill Parker

11 a.m.:
Reading - Matthew 27:33-44;
Luke 23:39-43
Message - "The Word of Eternal Life"
Luke 23:39-43
Bill Parker

The following article written by Bother Jim Byrd, pastor of the Thirteenth Street Baptist Church in Ashland, KY, is a great summation of how, if we are truly and eternally saved, ALL of our salvation must be conditioned on the Lord Jesus Christ alone. Christ has fulfilled ALL that God requires to save His people to the uttermost!

"If sinners were to be saved forever, several things had to happen. God had to appoint a suitable Savior, divine justice had to be satisfied, the integrity of the law had to be honored, sin had to be destroyed, Satan had to be conquered, the world had to be overcome, death had to be defeated, those for whom He died had to be made righteous and God had to be glorified. There is but One who could do these things – the Lord Jesus Christ and the only way He could make all of these things happen was by His substitutionary death upon the cross of Calvary!"
—Pastor Jim Byrd

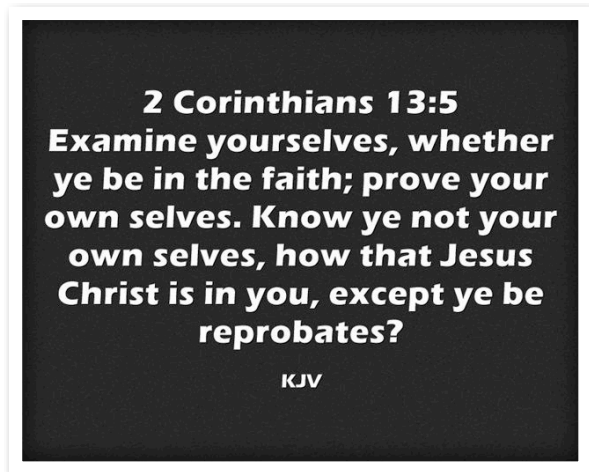
I read the following quote this past week – Biblical Christianity is unpopular. Popular Christianity is unbiblical.”

I do not know who said or wrote this, but it is very true. Our Lord said that one of the greatest signs of the nearness of His second coming would be false Christianity – *“Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Behold, I have told you before” (Matt. 24:23-25).*

What should we do to insure we are not deceived? Resolve to look unto Christ as He is revealed and identified in God’s Holy Word for all salvation – *“Look unto ME, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else” (Isa. 45:22).*

Also, *“Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?” (2 Cor. 13:5).* How should we examine ourselves? *“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly*

dividing the word of truth” (2 Tim. 2:15). “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil” (Eph. 6:10-11). —Pastor Bill Parker



“BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST!”

Every justified sinner who has been regenerated and converted, brought to a knowledge of what was actually obtained for them in their representative man, the Lord Jesus Christ, knows that we do call on sinners to believe – *“And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house” (Acts 16:31). “And this is His commandment, That we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as He gave us commandment” (I Jn.3:23).* If you’ll notice, both these passages say *“believe ON”* Christ, not “believe in” Christ. We call on God’s elect everywhere to rest (rely) ON Christ’s righteousness ALONE as their only hope of salvation – *“And this is the record, that God HATH GIVEN (lit., already legally given to us by imputation and representation) to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son” (I Jn.5:11).* I’m not calling on you to believe in order to obtain or gain salvation. I’m calling on you to rest in the FACT that Christ has redeemed and justified His elect by His perfect obedience and bloody sacrifice at Calvary as the sin-bearer. If you do rely on Him and what He has accomplished, it evidences that you are ONE OF GOD’S ELECT. BELIEVE ON the Lord Jesus Christ!

—Pastor Richard Warmack

“I, ME, MINE”

The current pandemic has often become a grand display of man’s innate selfishness and self-centeredness. I have thought about this when making trips to the grocery store and find frightened people hoarding supplies for themselves and their families at the expense of others. They do not think of other people who also may be in need but who go to buy supplies only to find empty shelves. And what is ironic about this is that these hoarders are probably ones who claim to be “Christians,” or, at least, who are religious. Many of them might even boast that they really love their neighbors. It has been said that our generation is the “I, ME, MINE,” generation. But when in the history of man since our fall in Adam has it been any different? NEVER! And does not this selfishness come through in man’s natural religion, even in false Christianity? One of the old poets wrote that,

“The twin sister of religion is selfishness.” This is true of false, man-centered religion, where salvation is conditioned on man’s works and man’s will, where worship is all about man and his “felt-needs,” and not about Christ and the glory of God revealed in HIS glorious Person and successful finished work as the Surety, Substitute, and Redeemer of His people. By nature, man worships himself and not the true and living God. His focus in false religion is “I, ME, MINE.” He thinks he can do something to earn and deserve God’s favor and blessings. To the natural (unregenerate, unbelieving) man, righteousness is not the merit of the work of Christ on the cross which God freely imputes to His people for their justification and from which He gives them life eternal and **“all things that pertain to life and godliness” (2 Pet. 1:3)**. To the natural man, righteousness is an achievement that he reaches,

or finds within himself, with (and sometimes without) the help of God. The true religion of God’s grace is not “I” but “HE” (Christ); it is not “ME” but “HIM” (Christ); it is not “MINE” but “HIS” (Christ). What “I” am is a sinner saved, blessed, and preserved by the grace of God based on the value and merit of Who Christ is and what Christ has done for me. My salvation is what Christ has done and is doing for “ME” and in “ME.” And what is “MINE” is what God has freely and fully given me in and by the Lord Jesus Christ. ***“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ” (Eph. 1:3)***.

—Pastor Bill Parker