

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, November 14, 2021

10 am: "Christ, Our Kinsman-Redeemer"

Christ in the Old Testament

Lesson 54 | Ruth 1-4

Bill Parker

11 am: "No Blood, No

Righteousness" | Hebrews 9:22

Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

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You are not justified by Spirit's work, but by Christ's alone; nor are the motions of the Spirit in you the grounds of your confidence, or the reasons for your expecting pardon from the Judge of all. The Spirit works in you, not to prepare you for being justified, nor to make you fit for the favor of God, but to bring you to the cross, just as you are. For the cross is the only place God deals in mercy with the transgressors. —Horatius Bonar

It is so sad when people feel within themselves that they have nothing for which to thank God. We need to consider that the very breaths we take are gifts from God. But what is more tragic and sad is when a sinner claims to be saved by the sovereign mercy and grace of God in Christ Jesus and fails to thank God through worship, service, and love. If this is the case, there is something seriously wrong in the heart. —Copied

It is true that the Holy Spirit's work within us in the new birth is not the ground of our justification before God. The obedience unto death of the Lord Jesus Christ (His shed blood, i.e. His righteousness imputed) is the only ground of a sinner's justification before God. But this in no way renders or portrays the Spirit's work as unnecessary or unimportant. In fact, Christ's righteousness imputed is not only the ground upon which God justifies us, it is the source and power of spiritual life worked in us by the Holy Spirit in our new birth. The way we are to view this, according to God's Word, is that our justification before God based on the cross-work of Christ as our Surety, Substitute, and Redeemer DEMANDS our sanctification by the Holy Spirit through the life-giving power of Christ. All whom God has justified must be and will be born again by the Holy Spirit.

We must also know that it is Christ's work in us by the Holy Spirit that He begins to equip us for the life to come in glory. Someone once said that if it were possible for a spiritually dead sinner, one who has not been born again by the Spirit and has not been given a new heart and new life within, to enter heaven's glory, that person would not be able to enjoy living with the saints in the blessedness of eternal life with Christ. We know that it is not possible for such a person to participate in the resurrection unto life, but the point is that he would have no capacity to enjoy such a life. He is spiritually dead. Apart from the work of the Spirit within us, we cannot be resurrected unto eternal life and glory, and that work in us is the beginning of the Lord's work to equip us to participate and enjoy eternal life with Christ forever and ever.

—Pastor Bill Parker

Righteousness That Has No Equal

Sinners find neither strength, merit, nor cause within themselves for God to look upon them savingly. It is a stark reality, that that which is flesh, is flesh and shall always be so. It is but delusion to believe that this flesh is improving day by day and thereby becoming more acceptable to God. This is Satan's lie; "ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."

Yet those to whom God has given open eyes, ears and a heart to believe his glorious gospel know for a fact that they are viewed as the very righteousness of God, in Christ. They know that their righteousness is not found within themselves, in thought, word, or deed, but only and always in their righteous Substitute. It is only through the finished work of Christ alone, the sinner's Mediator and Surety that a sinner can stand before God clothed in a righteousness that he did not and could not produce.

Seeking to mix the works of the flesh with the finished work of Christ is to seek to patch the holes of your moth-eaten garment of self-righteousness with the righteousness of Christ in only the deficient areas. True, eternal righteousness and self righteousness simply cannot dwell together in agreement. Fig leaf coverings and Jesus as a supplement just won't do. As the hymn says –

“My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus name
On Christ the Solid Rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand.”

—Brother Kenny Dyess

Birthdays

MICHAEL LEE - NOV. 20TH

Hymns

November 14th services

Nothing But the Blood - 212

Look to the Lamb of God - 216

Prayer Requests

Winston and Patricia Pannell, Alex Wages, Audrey Asher, Frank Dell, Cathy Robinson, Lori Ann Loosier, and the Gospel mission in Malawi, Africa.

Call to Worship

(Tune – Brethren, We Have Met to Worship – p. 15)

Glory, glory, I'm forgiven;
All my sins are washed away.
Christ, by His great blood atonement,
All my sin has put away.
Sin imputed to my Savior, and He died upon the tree
As the Substitute for sinners, God will not impute to me.

Glory, glory, I'm accepted,
Robed in Christ's own righteousness.
I'm a child, an heir of heaven,
Saved by God's almighty grace.
Christ's obedience to the Father is imputed now to me.
In God's sight I'm pure and holy, He declares me so to be.

Glory, glory, I'll not perish,
In Christ's hands I am secure.
He who saved me, sure, will keep me,
By God's grace I shall endure.
This is not a vain presumption; I just take Him at His word.
Christ has sworn, "They shall not perish
who believe on Me their Lord."