

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 September 13, 2020

10 am: "Kinship With Onesimus"

Philemon

Randy Wages

11 am: "The Dead Made Alive"

John 3:1-8

Jim Casey

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

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God's Everlasting Love

Christ did not die for sinners so that God would be merciful and love us. Rather, it was because the Lord was merciful and because He loved us that Christ was sent to save us from our sins. "God commendeth His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His son to be the propitiation for our sins" (1 John 4:10). God's love for His people did not commence with the death of Christ; the death of Christ is the result of God's everlasting love for His chosen people.

– Pastor Jim Byrd

Birthdays

JIMMIE MATHIS - SEPT. 17TH
TONY WAGES - SEPT. 18TH

Hymns

September 13th services

He Hideth My Soul - 258
Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus - 204

From the Pastor

The Lord willing, I will be preaching this Sunday night at the Thirteenth Street Baptist Church in Ashland, KY. Debbie and I will return home Monday. Please pray for us as we travel home.

A New Way to Donate!

Here at Eager Avenue Grace Church and Reign of Grace Media Ministries, we rely heavily on donations to be able to spread the gospel in this day and age. We now make it easy for anyone to pay electronically however they choose! (Paypal, credit card, Venmo, Apple Pay). Simply click on the new donate link on our website and get started!

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Are We Essentially Good?

I once read a statement by a group that said, “We operate from the belief that everyone is essentially good.” I thought this a bit contradictory since it was given in a statement of policy concerning dealing with problems between individuals! If all people are “essentially good,” then why all the problems among them in the world: the wars, the crime, the conflicts between individuals, the mistrust and on and on? But what is worse, this same principle is at the core of most all religious beliefs. Yet the word of truth is clear. God who knows man far better than we know ourselves says, “*There is none good, no not one...*” The “good heart” that most claim to have is the seat of all bad, all evil according to God. “*The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?*” (Jer. 17:9) The hearts of men are “*desperately wicked*” and most deceitful, deceiving us into imagining we are essentially good. Christ said, “*For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:*” (Matt. 15:19) If we were essentially good instead of evil, self-deceived sinners, there would have been no need for a Savior such as Christ! Our self-righteousness is not righteousness at all in God’s sight but sin. Therefore, if we are saved, we must be “made righteous” through the imputed righteousness of Christ.

Christ alone is “essentially good.” He is the only sinless, perfect and good man essentially that ever lived in this world. The righteous we read of in scripture are only righteous in Him! It is no wonder that false religion offers its faulty remedies and ways of salvation; it denies the true condition of man. I have often heard people deny God’s election, predestination, effectual calling, and salvation through an imputed righteousness, saying they do not believe them. The truth is, they do not believe what God says about them! If we are spiritually dead sinners with no righteousness of our own, deceived, blind, helpless and unable to save ourselves, then these precious truths are essential! A man that would have been called a “good man” by most came to Jesus and asked, “*Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life? And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God.*” (Mark 10:17,18) Christ is the GodMan and essentially good, and none are looked at as good but those in Him. In Christ, believers are good, perfectly righteous, in His sight. “*As He is, so are we in this world.*” (1 John 4:17)

-- Pastor Gary Shepard

Call to Worship

(Tune – Depth of Mercy – p. 233)

**O give thanks unto the Lord;
Praise His name with one accord;
Tell the wonders of His power;
Praise His goodness every hour.**

**Let the ransomed church begin,
Whom He has redeemed from sin,
Gathered from the east and west,
North and south to enter rest.**

**Through the wilderness they stray
In a lonely, weary way;
Hungry, thirsty, tired, and faint,
God attends to their complaint.**

**O that men would praise the Lord,
While His goodness they record;
All His wondrous works rehearse,
Who redeemed them from the curse.**

"Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea." (Micah 7:19)

When God takes all our iniquities with His own hand, and casts them with His own arm into the depths of the sea, they will never come out of those depths to witness against the family of God in the great and terrible day. Your sins now may seem to be all alive in your breast, and every one of them to bring accusation upon accusation against you. This sin is crying out for vengeance, and that for punishment. This slip, this fall, this backsliding, this foolish word, this wrong action, are all testifying against you in the court of conscience. Do what you may, be where you may, live how you may, watch and pray how you may, keep silent and separate from the world or even from your own family how you may, sin still moves, lives, acts, works, and often brings you into guilt and bondage. But if God has had mercy upon us, He has cast all our sins with His own hands into the depths of the sea, and those sins have no more eyes to look at us with angry indignation, have no more tongues to speak against us in voices of accusation, have no more life in them to rise up and testify that they have been committed by us, that God's law has been broken by them, and that therefore we are under its condemnation and curse. And there is no truth in God's word more certain than the complete forgiveness of sins, and the presentation of the church of Christ at the great day faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy.

– Augustus Toplady