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 24, 2023

10 am: "Truly Following Christ" Matthew Series | Lesson 27 Matthew 8:14-23

Matthew 8:14-23 Bill Parker

11 am: "The Lukewarm Church" Revelation 3:14-22

Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

- -Sermon Audio
- -Facebook
- -YouTube

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"And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever." (Isaiah 32:17)

Peace of conscience, quietness of spirit, and assurance of salvation do not and cannot come from looking within ourselves. These blessings of grace and faith are all "the work of righteousness," and who accomplished this great work of righteousness? Not us, but Christ Jesus our Lord and Redeemer. Righteousness is HIS great work alone, and His people receive the benefits of it. We who have been saved by God's grace IN CHRIST as evidenced by God-given faith IN CHRIST will only find peace, quietness, and assurance in looking and clinging TO CHRIST as the Lord our Righteousness. These graces of the Spirit are forever because Christ as the Lord our Righteousness is eternal and unchangeable. Whatever peace, quietness, and assurance men may find apart from Him is no more than a false refuge of religion and self-righteousness. God help us to continue looking unto Christ and finding in HIM all our peace, quietness, and assurance of salvation and glory.

—Copied

Putting On Christ

Does Satan accuse you, that you are a sinner before God, and cursed by the law of God? The charge is just – OWN IT. Yet this need not destroy your peace of conscience. PUT ON CHRIST, your breast-plate of righteousness. For, He was made sin for us, that we sinners might be made the righteousness of God in Him (2nd Corinthians 5:21). "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us" (Galatians 3:13). By Him, all who believe are completely justified, fully discharged, and perfectly acquitted from ALL things (Acts 13:39). Though "sin hath reigned unto death, yet grace reigns through the righteousness of Jesus Christ our LORD, unto eternal life" (Romans 5:21). Now why is Christ, His grace and righteousness, thus held forth to us in Scripture? Surely it is that we should so put Him on in our conscience as to answer every demand of law and justice, silence every accusation of Satan, possess peace and joy in God knowing assuredly that we have eternal life in Christ. O this living and abiding in the LORD is precious! It is living like ourselves, children of God, members of Christ, and heirs of glory!

—William Mason (1773)

When challenged by the scribes and Pharisees for eating with publicans and sinners, the Lord responded, "They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Mark 2:17). Christ knows the sin-sickness of His people, and He knows the cure. Christ knows who we are – sinners who deserve and have earned nothing but damnation and death and spiritually dead in trespasses and sins. He knows what we need – cleansing from our sins, forgiveness and righteousness to be justified in God's sight. He knows what to do to cure us, and He has the power to provide the only remedy by His obedience unto death as our Surety, Substitute, and Redeemer –

"But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him" (Rom. 5:8-9);

"Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:4).

—Pastor Bill Parker

When our Lord was upon earth, and conversed with His disciples, their eyes and hearts were fixed upon Him. In danger, He was their defender; their guide, when in perplexity; and to Him they looked for the solution of all their doubts and the supply of all their wants. He is, now, withdrawn from our eyes, but faith sets Him, still, before us for the same purposes and, according to its degree, with the same effects, as if we actually saw Him. His spiritual presence, apprehended by faith, is a restraint from evil, an encouragement to every service, and affords a present refuge and help in every time of trouble.

—John Newton

When I shall be summoned to the great tribunal, what will be my plea, what my dependence? Nothing but Christ! Christ, I would say, has been wounded for my sins, therefore they will not be punished in me. Christ has fulfilled all righteousness in my stead, therefore I trust to be justified when I am judged. I am a poor unworthy sinner but worthy is the Lamb that was slain, worthy is the Lamb that was slain, for whose sake I shall receive both pardoning mercy, and everlasting glory. He is my Only Hope.

—James Hervey (1714-1758)

Prayer Requests

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

Hymns

September 24th services
Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus - 145
Depth of Mery - 233

Call to Worship

(Tune – O God Our Help – p. 10)

Christ bears the name of all His saints,
Deep on His heart engraved;
Attentive to the state and needs
Of all whom He has saved.

In Christ our Righteousness complete, God's glory forth doth shine; Where mercy, truth, and justice meet Our Savior all Divine.

When justice smote our Surety's head,
Then satisfaction made;
The blood which our High Priest has shed,
A perfect ransom paid.