

OPENING HYMN

Sat: #231 Jesus Saves

Sun: #314 I Am Thine, O Lord

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We are thankful to have brother Mike Smith visiting once again from Rescue Baptist Church in Rescue California (near Sacramento). We will have supper and a time of fellowship following the Saturday evening service all are welcome to join us. Tomorrow we will meet at our regular times.
 - Brother Andy Davis from Todds Road Grace Church in Lexington, Kentucky is scheduled to visit us on Saturday and Sunday June 2 and 3, Lord willing. Mark your calendars.
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SCRIPTURE READING

Sat: Ephesians 1:3-11

Sun: 1 Peter 1:1-15

WORSHIP HYMN

Sat: #469 I've Found a Friend

Sun: #53 How Sweet The Name of Jesus Sounds

OFFERING

“Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, *so let him give*; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.” *2 Cor 9:7*

WORSHIP HYMN

Sun: #326 More About Jesus

MESSAGE

SAT - GOOD NEWS

-PROVERBS 25:25

SUN -THE FAITH OF GOD'S SAINTS

-PSALM 53:6

CLOSING HYMN

Sat: #228 My Faith Has Found a Resting Place

Sun: #75 Abide With Me

THINGS TO PONDER

He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the LORD. -

Proverbs 17:15

PURE AND FREE GRACE

Everyone likes purity. They also like free things. If you are someone who enjoys pure and free things, listen carefully, and I will tell you of the purest, freest thing I know of.

The Grace of God, it is PURE and FREE! What do I mean? That God's grace is born in the heart of God Himself, that it is given to sinners in Christ Jesus without condition. God's Grace is like Himself - eternal. There is never any reason found in the recipient of it. It comes unasked, unsought, and undeserved. If it is ever deserved it is not grace. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8).

To show us how pure and free the Grace of God is, the scriptures tell us it was given to God's elect on purpose and before the world began. Listen, "Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began" (2 Timothy 1:9). How free, how pure is the Grace of God in Christ? "But when it pleased God who separated me from my mother's womb and called me by His grace..." (Galatians 1:15).

What do I mean that Grace is Free? First, that there are no conditions required by God. If there were that, then it would not be grace. If you had to meet some condition before God would give you his grace it would be a debt he owed you for meeting the condition, and then it would cease to be grace.

I can hear the freewill work monger say, "You must repent and believe before you can be saved!" That is true - but what the scriptures teaches is that repentance and faith are the gifts of God' grace. They are the results of the new birth; life must precede any spiritual acts. Christ has "ascended up on high, led captivity captive (all that held sinner's captive, sin and death) and gave gifts unto men" (Ephesians 4:7-8).

God requires perfection and we, as sinners cannot give it. God is just - he cannot lower his requirements. How then can he give his grace and salvation to imperfect sinners? By Christ, who was "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." God's justice demands death for sin, "He made Him to be sin for us" (God demands righteousness from sinners), "that we might be made the righteousness of God IN HIM" (2 Corinthians 5:21). Because of the doing and dying of Jesus Christ, God can justly give us repentance and faith through Him.

Christ as a sinless perfect man met all the conditions required by God. He gave us grace in Christ on purpose before the world began; it was not according to our works. If it was given us before the world began and on

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purpose, what did we have to do with it? "Not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:9). If you boast of any work before God, you fly in the face of God, the work of Christ, and God's holy word. If you are saved by anything YOU DO, then you "frustrate the grace of God, and Christ is dead in vain" (Galatians 2:21). Salvation is "To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved" (Ephesians 1:4-6). Folks read your Bibles.

-Pastor Donnie Bell

"BUT WE SEE JESUS"

How do we "See Jesus?" Not by means of mysterious dreams or ecstatic visions, not by the exercise of our imagination, nor by a process of visualization; but by faith. Just as Christ declared, in John 8:56, "Abraham rejoiced to see My day and he saw it, and was glad." Faith is the eye of the spirit, which views and enjoys what the Word of God presents to its vision. In the Gospels, Acts, Epistles, Revelation, God has told us about the exaltation of His Son; those who receive by faith what He has there declared, "SEE Jesus crowned with glory and honour," as truly and vividly as His enemies once saw Him here on earth "crowned with thorns."

It is this which distinguishes the true people of God from mere professors. Every real Christian has reason to say with Job, "I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye SEETH Thee" (42:5). He has "seen" Him leaving heaven and coming to earth, in order to "seek and to save that which was lost." He has "seen" Him as a sacrificial Substitute on the cross, there bearing "our sins in His own body on the tree. He has "seen" Him rising again in triumph over the grave, so that because He lives, we live also. He has "seen" Him highly exalted, "crowned with glory and honour." He has "seen" Him thus presented to the eye of faith in the sure Word of God. To him the testimony of Holy Scripture is infinitely more reliable and valuable than the testimony of his senses.

-Arthur W. Pink

Miracles never produce faith in Christ. Pharaoh perished, though he saw all God's wonders in the Land of Ham. Multitudes crossed the Red Sea on dry ground, and went to hell in the wilderness. Thousands ate the loaves and fishes multiplied by our Lord Jesus, and perished in their sins. Faith in Christ is the gift of God the Holy Ghost given to and wrought in sinners by the preaching of the gospel.

-Pastor Don Fortner

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Sunday 9:30 AM Bible Class lesson

10:30 AM Morning Worship Service

Wednesday 6:30 PM Mid-week Worship Service

Listen to the gospel at: www.freegraceradio.com

Sunday May 20, 2018

"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

Rev 22:17



"But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him." 1Cor 8:6