OPENING HYMN #359

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Kevin Thacker will preach here next weekend, the Lord willing. Saturday evening we plan to have pizza and a time of fellowship following the service. Sunday we will have lunch after the morning service.
- Pastor Don Fortner is scheduled to preach here the weekend of June 7-9. The Lord willing, we will meet Friday evening June 7 at 6:30 PM, and Saturday and Sunday at 10:30 AM. There will be a time of fellowship following each service.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 10:32-45

WORSHIP HYMN #127

Hallelujah! What a Savior

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 #488

My Redeemer

MESSAGE

STAYED UPON JEHOVAH

ISAIAH 26:1-4

CLOSING HYMN #186

The Church's One Foundation

THINGS TO PONDER

Most preachers of our day present the Gospel as an offer by God that the sinner can accept or reject. I have at least three problems with this. (1) The Bible does not teach this. (2) It puts salvation ultimately in the hands of man, therefore salvation is at least partly by works. (3) It denies the depravity of man by implying some capability in man to make use of the benefit offered. Where the Gospel is preached as an offer, THE GOSPEL is not preached.

-Pastor Todd Nibert

Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.

-Proverbs 16:24

Perfect Peace

Isaiah 26:3

This promise of God's Word is made to every believer in Christ, for all the promises of God in him are yea and amen. — "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."

God's Gift

Peace is God's gracious gift to faith. That is to say, as God gives us faith in Christ, he gives us peace. Peace was made for us by Christ when he reconciled us to God by his blood. And this peace is bestowed upon us as we trust him. Sprinkling our hearts with the blood of Christ, the Lord God proclaims peace in our hearts by his Spirit.

Like Abel, we obtain from God the witness that we are righteous, made the righteousness of God in Christ (Hebrews 11:4). Like Enoch, we obtain testimony from God that we please God because Christ is made of God unto us "wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption" (Hebrews 11:5-6; 1 Corinthians 1:30).

The Peace Promised

The peace that is promised to us is "perfect peace." Do not let those words throw you. Isaiah is not telling us that unless we have peace perfectly at all times, we do not have faith and are lost. God gives us perfect peace. But we do not always enjoy that peace perfectly. In fact, we never enjoy that peace perfectly in this world. We are kept by grace in the blessed perfect peace of salvation accomplished by Christ. But that peace is not perfectly manifest, felt, and enjoyed in this life. There is a vast difference between being kept in perfect peace and having peace perfectly.

"Perfect peace" is true peace. The peace which God gives to faith is real and true, not false and imaginary. And the word "perfect" has the idea of "completeness" and "abundance." We have peace now. But, oh, what an abundant, complete, blessed peace our God will give us in heaven! There it will be perfectly enjoyed forever (Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 72:7).

The Beneficiaries

This peace is promised to those whose minds are stayed upon the Lord. This is the promise of grace. — "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusteth in thee." Believers are the beneficiaries of this blessed promise of grace.

To have your mind stayed upon Christ is to have your heart fixed on him with confident faith, being persuaded of your interest in him. To be stayed upon Christ is to trust him alone as your Savior (Psalm 112:7-8).

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It is to trust his blood for forgiveness, his righteousness for justification, his intercession for preservation, his providence for daily care, and his power for protection. — "Trust ye in the LORD forever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength." — Fix me, blessed Spirit of God, stay me upon my dear Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Lean me only upon him, always upon him, by the unceasing gift of faith in him, and keep me in "perfect peace!"

-Pastor Don Fortner

Substitution; The Heart of The Gospel

The 'good news' of the Gospel is that there is a Substitute who has stood in the place of every repentant sinner and bore the wrath of God in his place. He did this for all whom the Father had given Him from all eternity. It is for them that He prays in John 17. They are 'His sheep', the Father gave them to Him, and He died for them (John 10:15, 29).

Substitution is at the very heart of the Gospel. Christ did not simply give His life to make salvation possible for those who contribute their part to what He has done by repenting and trusting Christ. *He it is* that gives repentance and faith (2 Timothy 2:25; Ephesians 2:8).

Christ did not say to the religious Jews of His day that they were not of His 'sheep' because they did not believe; rather, He says, 'Ye believe not, because you are not of my sheep' (John 10:26). If they had been His sheep they would have believed. The 'good news' is that all whom the Father has given to the Son, and for whom He died will believe and manifest true repentance and faith. This they will do willingly and with gratitude in their hearts. It is God's work. He cannot fail.

- Missionary Bill Clark

Can A Believer Fall away into Apostasy?

Short answer is no. A believer can fall into sin as David did with Bathsheba, as Peter did when he denied the Lord three times, but not fall away into apostasy, for it is written, "Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time" (1 Peter 1:5). However, many will come close to the Kingdom of God and yet not enter in (Matthew 7:21-23). This being so, every believer should do as Peter wrote, "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (II Peter 1:10-11).

-Pastor John Chapman

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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 April 14, 2019

"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*