

OPENING HYMN #296

All The Way My Savior Leads Me

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Brother Obie Williams from Kingsport Grace Church in Kingsport, Tennessee is scheduled to preach here the weekend of September 29-30. Lord willing we plan to meet Saturday evening at 6:30 with supper and fellowship following the service, and Sunday morning for our regularly scheduled service. We hope to see you here, invite a friend!
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SCRIPTURE READING

Colossians 3:1-17

WORSHIP HYMN #255

Blessed Assurance

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 #222

There Is A Fountain

MESSAGE

THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD

JEREMIAH 31:35-37

CLOSING HYMN #449

To God be the Glory

THINGS TO PONDER

As well might a gnat seek to drink in the ocean—as a finite creature to comprehend the Eternal God. A God whom we could understand—would be no God. If we could grasp Him—He could not be infinite. If we could understand Him—He could not be divine.

-C.H. Spurgeon

Christians are like the several flowers in a garden that have each of them the dew of Heaven, which, being shaken with the wind, they let fall at each other's roots, whereby they are jointly nourished, and become nourishers of each other.

-John Bunyan (1628-1688)

"If Thou Wouldest Believe"

John 11:40

Our Lord is standing before the tomb of Lazarus with Martha and Mary, Lazarus' sisters. It appears that Martha had questioned the wisdom, goodness, and power of the Lord Jesus. She questioned the wisdom and goodness of the Lord's providence, because he had not come sooner to prevent her brother's death (v.21). And she questioned his power and ability to raise Lazarus from the dead (v.39). Without question, Martha was a believer. She was loved of God, and she loved God. She was chosen, redeemed and born again by God's almighty grace. But she had a problem, a fault, a weakness of the flesh that kept her from seeing the glory of God. Her problem was unbelief. She did not trust Christ in the matter of her brother's death. She looked at her present situation; and circumstances told her that Lazarus, who had been dead for four days, was beyond hope. She had grace enough to believe for the future. She said, "I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day" (v.24). But she did not trust Christ for the present. She walked by sight, not by faith. She acted according to reason, not according to revelation.

Then "Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?" The only thing that kept Martha from seeing the glory of God on this occasion was her unbelief. If she had only trusted Christ, as he ought to be trusted, she would have seen the glory of God in Lazarus' sickness and even in his death. And if she would only believe, she would see the glory of God in his resurrection from the dead. "If thou wouldest believe..." These words were not spoken to Martha alone. They were not intended to reprove and instruct Martha alone. They are recorded for our learning. This is what the Lord Jesus says to you and me: "If thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God."

How much like Martha we are! We profess that we trust Christ for all atonement, justification, eternal life and acceptance with God. But how quickly we murmur against his providence. If we trust him for the future, for the welfare of our immortal souls, shall we not also trust him for the present, for the welfare of our lives in this temporary house of clay? Lord God, give us grace to trust You as we ought today, for Christ's sake.

-Pastor Don Fortner

Ask God for anything--but let Him judge as to the manner, measure, and timing of the giving. "Yet not my will, but Yours be done." Luke 22:42

-Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)

Blessings or a Curse?

How often have we heard someone talk about being blessed of the Lord? Or some false preacher says, "God has a blessing for you today!" Most generally, when people consider their blessings, they start counting temporal things: their money; health; size of their house; a prosperous business or job, etc. But the scriptures say "We look not at the things which are seen, but at things which are not seen: for the things which are SEEN are temporal; but the things which are NOT SEEN are eternal" (I Cor. 4:18). The scriptures also speak of spiritual blessings in Christ.

Let us weigh some of our ideas about God's blessings in light of His Word. If being prosperous is evidence of God's blessings, then is being poor evidence of God's disfavor? If having health is proof of God's blessings, then does it mean that being sick is a curse from God? If the only way we can count our blessings is by looking at temporal things then we really haven't been blessed at all. For God has given us ALL spiritual blessings IN CHRIST!

He has given us redemption from our sins, regeneration by the Spirit and peace with Himself by reconciling us to Himself by the cross. In short, He has made Christ unto all believers, wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption.

Anything you possess, hope to possess or can put your hand on or your physical eye can see, is going to perish with the using, but Christ is the same today, yesterday and forever! If there is something in your life that you call a blessing and it keeps you from the worship of Christ and the hearing of the Gospel, then you are sadly mistaken. Our Lord said "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt. 7: 19-21).

Where is your treasure: in the bank; in your job; in your children? If these things are your blessings, they are all fading away -- ONLY CHRIST ABIDETH FOREVER! Do you have your heart set on HIM?

-Pastor Donnie Bell

Contentment is the product of a heart resting in God. It is the soul's enjoyment of that peace that passes all understanding. It is the outcome of my will being brought into subjection to the Divine will. It is the blessed assurance that God does all things well, and is, even now, making all things work together for my ultimate good.

-A.W. Pink

"But godliness with contentment is great gain."

1 Tim 6:6

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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 September 2, 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