

OPENING HYMN #295

He Leadeth 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

Psalm 40:1-31

WORSHIP HYMN #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 #294

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

MESSAGE

COMFORT OF THE SCRIPTURES

ROMANS 15:4

CLOSING HYMN #452

My Savior's Love

THINGS TO PONDER

The gospel preacher must be obsessed with one thing — Christ crucified! Once a preacher becomes obsessed with anything else, the gospel of God always takes a back seat to make room for his obsession and those who hear him are robbed of the Bread of heaven.

-Pastor Don Fortner

DISCONTENTMENT is the penalty we must pay for being ungrateful for what we have. Very little is needed to make a happy life; but unfortunately, one of the weaknesses of our age is an apparent inability to distinguish need from greed. Paul said, “Having food and raiment, let us be content.” Remember, it is not the happy people who are thankful. **It is the thankful people who are happy!**

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DOES THE GOSPEL OFFEND YOU?

Some of you have found that your family, friends, and fellow workers are not happy over your conversion to Christ – in fact, they are quite hostile. “I liked you better when you were not a Christian!” said one man to a new believer. Be encouraged, my friends; it is not you that they dislike, it is your Master. It is not you that they are against, it is the gospel you believe.

The gospel of God’s free grace is hated and despised by natural men. The gospel of God’s glory (salvation that gives God all the glory, that begins and ends with Him, that looks to Him as the fountain, the source, the giver, and the gift) is contrary to the flesh. They will not tolerate this message of sovereign mercy nor will they welcome those who believe and preach it. Two errors can walk together in harmony, or at least in peace, but error will never accept truth and will never allow it any room. It must be suppressed and denied. If you dare to declare your belief in the sovereign, electing, infinite, and everlasting love of Christ, prepare for trouble. If you have the courage to preach God’s covenant mercies, Christ’s sufficient obedience and sacrifice, and the Holy Spirit’s effectual call, be assured that you will suffer the same trials as those who have walked this road before. One of the great old sovereign grace preachers of the past gave four reasons for natural men’s attitude toward the free grace of God.

(1) Addressing all men as sinners offends man’s dignity. He resents being called a sinner. He does not mind admitting that he is not perfect, but to infer that he is born in sin, without God, without strength, without hope, having no righteousness, and a child of wrath will never do.

(2) The gospel of revelation offends man’s wisdom! Do you mean that apart from the Holy Spirit’s quickening work, apart from divine revelation, a man with reasonable intelligence and a fair education cannot understand the gospel you preach? Exactly! A man can understand free-willism and he can with natural logic and wisdom understand fatalism, but the mysteries of grace must be revealed. How God can be just and Justifier is a mystery no man understands.

(3) Salvation as a free gift offends man’s pride. “I will go home and pray.” I hope you do, but prayer does not save – Christ saves! “I will give my money and serve the Lord.” I hope you do, but works do not save—Christ saves! Salvation is the gift of God, as is repentance, faith, and all grace. This free gift is despised by all who go about to establish their own righteousness. Men, by nature, just must share the glory if only in a small way. Their pride will not let them beg for mercy and fall at His feet, making their headquarters in the dust.

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(4) The demands of Christ's Lordship offend man's love of self. Christ is welcome as his saviour from sin, judgment, and hell, but Christ as Lord and supreme dictator of his heart, hand, health, home, and inheritance is not in his plans. Barnard used to say, "I know who you say your Saviour is, but who is your Lord? His servants you are, and His will you will do, and His company you will have forever." "I will" is still the essence of sin, and "Thy will" is the sum and substance of holiness. No man can serve two Masters. Christ will be Lord of all, or He will not be Lord at all!

-Pastor Henry Mahan

Look before you, and see where it leads!

"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." *Matthew 7:13-14*

This, my friends, and this alone--is the way of salvation. Is this the way in which *you* are walking? Or is it the smooth, easy downward road to destruction? You may slide along that without exertion or difficulty, like a dead fish floating with the stream; but oh! look before you, and see where it leads!

Most people. . .
form some easy system of religion,
from their own vain imaginations,
suited to their depraved taste,
indulgent to their sloth and carnality,
and favorable to their lusts--
and this they call 'Christianity'!

But this is not the religion of the Bible! This is not the *way to life* laid out by God in His Word--but it is *the smooth downward road to destruction!*

-Samuel Davies 1723-1761

"Without Christ crucified, religion is no more than pagan ritualism. All religions have their messiahs, ceremonies, laws, rewards, and punishments. Only the gospel has a crucified, risen, ascended Redeemer. Beware of any hope of the favor of God, acceptance with God, or forgiveness from God apart from the obedience and blood of Christ."

-Pastor Henry Mahan

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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 16, 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