

## OPENING HYMN #509

The Sands of Time Are Sinking

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Pastor Angus Fisher from Shoalhaven Gospel Church in Nowra, Australia is scheduled to preach here the evening of Wednesday, January 16. Lord willing we will meet at our regular time and we plan to have some refreshments following the service.
  - Pastor Don Fortner from Grace Baptist Church in Danville, Kentucky is scheduled to preach here on Tuesday and Wednesday evening, January 22, 23.
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## SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 6:19-34

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## WORSHIP HYMN #500

When The Roll is Called Up Yonder

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## 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

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## WORSHIP HYMN #234

Wonderful Words of Life

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## MESSAGE

NO CHANGES IN ETERNITY

REVELATION 22:11

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## CLOSING HYMN #442

Praise Him, Praise Him

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## THINGS TO PONDER

It is good that recorded sermons are available. But there is a tendency for folks to ignore the assembly using the argument, “I can listen from my own home.” But, I recently heard an old quote (from way back in the “tape” days) that I think makes the point: Just listening to a tape of a sermon is like kissing your wife over the telephone. It loses something in the translation! “*Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together as the manner of some is!*”

*-Pastor Joe Terrell*

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"Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right."

*-Proverbs 16:8*

## Only a Handful? Look Again

These few comments are for you who worship with only a handful of believers or are forced, by reason of conscience or convenience, to worship alone in your own home.

It has long been an encouragement to the saints that where two or three are gathered in God's name, the Lord Jesus has promised to be there in their midst. Remember those who gathered on the hillsides of Scotland during the covenanting years, or met in forests of the Soviet Union for fear of the authorities. They did not meet without the presence of their Saviour.

Even where one worships alone the pledge of the Lord is, ‘Lo, I am with you always’ Matthew 28:20. Those who are housebound, or hospitalised, or even the prisoner in his cell, may be sure that invoking the name of the Lord in worship is not a vain exercise. His spiritual presence is with us to assist us in our worship, to comfort us when discouraged, to supply us with His grace, and to protect and preserve us from evil; which is a great reassurance.

Yet, there is more, if more be needed. Not only has the Lord promised to be with His people, but He does not come alone. When believers go to worship they enter spiritually ‘into the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem’. There they join ‘an innumerable company of angels’. More, they are accompanied by ‘the general assembly and church of the firstborn’ which are ‘the spirits of just men made perfect’ (Hebrews 12:22-23).

When God's people worship they immediately join a heavenly choir more numerous and melodious than any mega-church choral society. When they pray, eyes closed and concentrating on Christ, the empty seats next to them fill with fellow-worshippers of the Most High God. When the gospel is preached enthusiastically, warmly, and sincerely, the hearers are not the few familiar individuals dotted around the room. They are the massed church of the Firstborn, the general assembly of the Lord's redeemed.

I always smile when our little congregation of a dozen souls sings Charles Wesley's rousing hymn, ‘O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise.’ It may be that in this life you and I never actually get the opportunity to stand in a congregation of a thousand and sing our great Redeemer's praise. But in a finer way, each time we pray or sing the praise of our Saviour we join a throng so numerous, a crowd of witnesses so joyful and glorious that our frail human minds cannot comprehend it.

If you find yourself alone next Lord's Day morning, or if your congregation amounts to but a few faithful souls, do not be discouraged. Spread throughout the land are faithful friends just like you, meeting in small congregations or at home alone, whose fellowship in the gospel is yours.

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As you sing, lift up your voice and remember the heavenly choirs with whom you make melody. As you close your eyes and pray, reflect that your thoughts are merging with those of a countless throng in the worship of King Jesus. As you listen to the gospel, remember you are only the most recent generation in a long line of saints for whom Christ preached is light, love and life.

*-Pastor Peter Meney*

### **The Love of the World**

Nothing more hinders a soul from coming to Christ, than a vain love of the world; and till a soul is freed from it, it can never have a true love for God. What are the honours and riches of this world, when compared to the glories of a crown of life? Love not the world; for it (the love of the world) is a moth in a Christian's life.

To despise the world is the way to enjoy heaven; and blessed are they who delight to converse with God by prayer. What folly can be greater than to labour for the meat that perisheth, and neglect the food of eternal life? God or the world must be neglected at parting time, for then is the time of trial. To seek yourself in this world is to be lost; and to be humble is to be exalted. The epicure that delighteth in the dainties of this world, little thinketh that those very creatures will one day witness against him.

*-John Bunyan 1628 - 1688*

### **Simple, Silent, Unassuming Worship**

Mark 14:3-9

I find it wonderful how our Lord expresses this woman's simple, yet focused act of worship in these verses here in Mark's gospel. How different is this real worship as compared to today's 'contemporary' style. How low key and unassuming and peaceful is this woman's utter devotion to the Lord of Glory. I also noticed the Lord's phrase in verse 9 . . . "this also that she hath DONE shall be spoken of . . ." she did not say a word, did not make a bunch of noise 'praising Jesus,' but simply, and with full understanding worshipped Him! May this be said of us here today. Not a lot of stuff was going on in that place; not a lot of music or pageantry or play acting but the 'doing' from the heart which truly shows itself in humble adoration for the One who called us and washed us in His own blood.

*-Pastor Drew Dietz*

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[www.sandiegograce.com](http://www.sandiegograce.com)

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](http://www.freegraceradio.com)

**Sunday January 6, 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**