

## OPENING HYMN #53

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Saturday Lord willing, Cody Henson will be with us. We will meet at 6:30 pm Saturday night and Sunday at our regular scheduled time. We will have our first Sunday fellowship dinner following the Saturday evening service.
  - Brother Eric Lutter has accepted a call to pastor Grace Baptist Church of the Ozarks in Nixa, Missouri. We are encouraged to see the Lord fulfilling his promise in Jeremiah 3:15 as we wait upon Him.
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## SCRIPTURE READING

1 Peter 1:1-25

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## WORSHIP HYMN #308

Higher Ground

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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 #125

Jesus Paid It All

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## MESSAGE

PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT

EPHESIANS 6:18-20

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## CLOSING HYMN #460

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

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## THINGS TO PONDER

Better is that sin which humbles me, than that duty which makes me proud.

*-Thomas Watson 1620-1686*

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The Bible is not a “how to” book, a road map, a calendar of events, a history book, or a code of conduct. The Bible is a Him book. From beginning to end it is the declaration of the redemptive glory of God in Christ. Take the preeminence of Christ out of the Bible and all you have is another book. Use the Bible for any other reason than to declare Christ crucified and you misuse the word of God.

*-Pastor Darvin Pruitt*

## Holiness, God’s Requirement and God’s Work

*Hebrews 12:14*

That which God demands God gives. He requires faith; and he gives faith. He requires atonement; and he gives atonement. He requires righteousness; and he gives righteousness. The same is true about holiness. God requires it. Without holiness no man shall see the Lord. And God gives holiness. As Christ is our righteousness and our redemption, he is our holiness (sanctification).

### God’s Requirement

God who is “glorious in holiness,” demands holiness in us. He cannot and will not accept anything less than perfect, pure, flawless holiness. God will not accept sincerity, works of benevolence, repentance, sacrifices, moral reformation, or even faith as a substitute for holiness. God demands holiness (Matthew 5:20; Hebrews 12:14; Leviticus 11:44-45; 1 Peter 1:16). God says, “Walk before me, and be thou perfect” (Genesis 17:1). The slightest deviation from perfect holiness ignites the fire of God’s wrath against his creatures. It was deviation from perfect holiness that: drove Lucifer from heaven, the angels into darkness, Adam from the Garden, and drives sinners into hell. It will take something more than a walk down a church aisle, a few tears, a prayer, and a decision of your free-will to get you into heaven. If you would live forever with God, you must be as good as God. You must be perfectly holy! That means that salvation by the will of man, the works of man, or even the worship of man is an utter impossibility, because you cannot make yourself holy!

### God’s Work

God alone can make unholy, sinful men and women perfectly holy. Holiness is nothing less than the complete restoration of manhood to the image and likeness of God. Holiness is the complete, not partial, but complete conformity of man to the image of God in Christ. Men talk about practical holiness, about living holy lives, and of being holy. And that is alright, as long as you understand that holiness is not something you produce. It is something God gives. Not even faith in Christ produces holiness. Faith receives holiness. Faith embraces holiness. Faith loves holiness. And faith seeks holiness. But faith cannot produce holiness. Holiness is the work of God.

The whole purpose of God in the scheme of redemption and grace is to make his people holy, perfectly holy, for the glory of his own great name. Salvation is neither more nor less than God taking that which is common and unclean and making it holy (Ephesians 1:3-6; 5:25-27). There cannot be *continued on back...*

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degrees of holiness. We are either holy or unholy. It is impossible to be partially holy. God makes his elect holy by three distinct works of grace: (1.) We have been made holy before the law of God in free justification by the righteousness of Christ being made ours (Romans 5:19; 2 Corinthians 5:21). (2.) We have been made experimentally holy in regeneration (sanctification) by the imparting of Christ's nature to us (2 Peter 1:4; 1 John 3:4-9). We do not become more and more holy by our works in progressive sanctification. We grow in grace, but not in holiness. Our sanctification (holiness) is the free gift of God's grace in salvation (Hebrews 10:10-14). (3.) And we shall be made absolutely holy in glorification by the miraculous conformity of our nature (body, soul, and spirit) to Christ in the resurrection (Romans 8:29; 1 Corinthians 15:51-58; 1 John 3:2).

*-Pastor Don Fortner*

### **As Far as the East is from the West**

God's people confidently declare in Psalm 103:12, "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us."

It is significant that the psalmist spoke of the distance from the west to the east, not from the north to the south. On Earth, the distance from the west to the east is – unlike the distance from the north to the south – immeasurable. This is because Earth is a sphere with magnetic extremities at its north and south poles, but having no magnetic poles identifying its eastern and western extremities.

To measure the distance from the north to the south on Earth, go to the North Pole, where your compass points only southward regardless of which direction you face. Then go southward until your compass points only northward regardless of which direction you face, which means you have reached the South Pole. The distance between these two poles is the distance from the north to the south on Earth.

But if you go to a place on Earth between those two poles and follow your compass either eastward or westward in order to measure the distance between the east and the west, you will do so forever!

Believer, So far has God removed our transgressions from us!

*-Missionary Daniel Parks*

# San Diego Grace Fellowship

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Sunday 10:30 AM  
Morning Worship Service

**www.sandiegograce.com**

Wednesday 6:30 PM  
Mid-week Worship Service

Listen to the gospel at: [www.freegraceradio.com](http://www.freegraceradio.com)

**Sunday, January 28, 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**