

## OPENING HYMN #452

My Savior's Love

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Pastor Fortner is preaching at the Sovereign Grace Bible Conference at Rescue Baptist Church the weekend of July 5-7.
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## SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 4:1-31

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## WORSHIP HYMN #53

How Sweet The Name of Jesus Sounds

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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 #359

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

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## MESSAGE

**IT SHALL BE PERFECT TO BE ACCEPTED** **LEVITICUS 22:21**

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## CLOSING HYMN #186

The Church's One Foundation

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## THINGS TO PONDER

I hear a lot about “reformation” in our day. There are reformed churches, reformed doctrine, reformed preachers and reformed believers, everything seems to be “reformed.” The word “reform” means to “improve or to make better.” If “reformation” means to improve myself or make myself better, then, I do not need reformation! What I need is a perfect righteousness. I surely cannot find any hope of eternal life in trying to make myself better, especially when God requires perfection. I do not need “reformation”; I need “regeneration.” I do not need to get my heart right; I need a new heart that is right. The lost sinner does not need to just change their way; they need to change their God. I do not need to make myself “better”, I need to be made “perfect.” I do not need reformation, I need a “new creation”, which can only be found in Christ.

—*Pastor David Eddmenson*

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It is not the absence of sin but the grieving over it which distinguishes the child of God from empty professors.

— *A. W. Pink*

## It shall be Perfect to be Accepted

*Leviticus 22:21*

How good does a person have to be to get to heaven? He has to be perfectly good, as good as God himself. That which man looks upon as his “personal righteousness” he calls good; but is of absolutely no value in the sight of God. God calls all our thoughts and deeds of righteousness “*filthy rags.*” They are an abomination to him (Isaiah 64:6). Man’s definition of righteousness depends entirely upon his definition and understanding of God. The problem is most have never seen God in his glorious holiness. Once a sinner sees God in his holiness, he will cease forever to speak of his own goodness, personal holiness, and self-righteousness. With Isaiah, he will cry, “*Woe is me! I am undone*” (Isaiah 6:1-6). Who can stand in the presence of the holy Lord God?

No son of Adam can ever stand in the presence of the holy Lord God, because we are all cursed (Galatians 3:10). God is so infinitely holy that he charges the angels with folly, so holy that the heavens are not clean in his sight, so holy that when he found sin upon his own dear Son, he forsook him and killed him! Dare we imagine that God will accept us with our polluted works, when he killed his own Son for sin? Only one who is himself equal to God can stand in the presence of God and please him (Psalm 24:3-5; Matthew 17:5). That righteousness which God requires, only God can give.

Yet, it must be the work of a man, or it is of no value to men. Blessed be God! There is a Man who is himself God, who has magnified the law and made it honorable. He has brought in an everlasting righteousness by his perfect obedience to the law as a man, even the very righteousness of God. He has satisfied the law’s justice by dying under its curse. And he lives forever to give righteousness and eternal life to sinners. That Man-God is Jesus Christ the Lord.

The Word of God plainly declares that no one shall enter into the glory of heaven who is not worthy to do so (Revelation 21:27; 22:11; 1 Corinthians 6:9). And all are by nature unrighteous (Ecclesiastes 7:20). We are all sinners. We all deserve the wrath of God. Yet, God the Holy Ghost tells us that there are some who have been made worthy to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints (Colossians 1:12). How can that be? How can a sinner be made worthy of heaven? Only God can do it. Grace alone can make us worthy of heaven’s glory. Every believer, every sinner saved by grace, everyone who trusts Christ alone as his Savior and Lord has been made worthy of heaven by three mighty works of God: — **By Blood Atonement** — The believer’s sins have been fully paid for by Christ. Justice cannot require further payment.

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— **By Imputed Righteousness** — The righteous obedience of Christ has been imputed to all who trust him. Every believer stands before God as one who is perfectly righteous, having fulfilled all his holy law in the person of Christ, our Substitute. — **By Regeneration** — In the new birth God the Holy Spirit gives every chosen, blood bought sinner a holy nature. By these three works of grace, sinners are transformed into saints and made worthy of heaven, being “*perfect in Christ Jesus!*”

—*Pastor Don Fortner*

When a man is soundly killed to all his sins, to all his righteousness, to all his comforts whatsoever; and sees that there is no way but the devil must have him, but he must be damned in hell, if he be not clothed with Jesus Christ; 'O! then,(says he) give me Christ on any terms, whatsoever he cost; though he cost me friends, though he cost me comforts, though he cost me all that ever I have! Like the wise merchant in the Gospel, they will sell all to get that pearl (Matt. 13:46). I tell you, when a soul is brought to see its want of Christ aright, it will not be kept back; father, mother, husband, wife, lands, livings, nay life and all shall go, rather than the soul will miss of Christ. Aye, and the soul counts Christ a cheap Saviour, if it can get him upon any terms. Now the soul indents no longer (as a man bargains for the terms of his impending servitude). 'Now, Lord, give me Christ, upon any terms, whatsoever he cost; for I am a dead man, a damned man, a castaway, if I have not Christ.' What say you, O wounded sinners? Is not this true, as I have said? Would you not give ten thousand worlds, if you had so many, so you might be well assured that your sins shall be pardoned, and you souls and bodies justified and glorified, at the coming of Jesus Christ?

—*John Bunyan 1628-1688*

### **Christ Is Salvation!**

“All spiritual blessings that sovereign, gracious God has for sinners IN our Lord Jesus Christ, BY the merits and blood of our Lord, and FOR the glory of our Redeemer. Simply put, CHRIST IS SALVATION!

It is Christ, not the cross, who saves.

It is Christ, not the church, who justifies.

It is Christ, not my faith, nor my confession, nor my profession, who unites me to God.

It is the Master, not the mother, who is our Mediator.

It is His blood that cleanses, His obedience that sanctifies, His love that will not let me go, His faithfulness (not mine) constant and steadfast, and His promise, spoken to Peter but true of every believer, “I HAVE PRAYED FOR YOU.”

—*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](http://www.freegraceradio.com)

**Sunday June 23, 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**