CALL TO WORSHIP

The Church's One Foundation # 186

HYMN

Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us # 67

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Cleaning for March – Amber

CLOSING HYMN How Can It Be? # 67

It is one of the un-wisest things under Heaven to comfort people who have not yet closed with Christ in heart faith and confessed Him publicly. When someone manifests an interest in the Gospel and gives ear to our message, we must not allow our love for them and our zeal for their conversion to lead us to offer them rest when they need strong words to shut them up to Christ. Any friendship with the pastor and church-people which gives an unbeliever cheer, fellowship, and ease, short of a union with Christ is dangerous. We are telling them, without saying it, that everything is alright, when in fact, they are in great danger! A sinner's main business is to come to Christ HIMSELF, to love Christ, and to rest with Christ. Then comes church fellowship, rest, and the joys of the body. There is no halfway house before believing Christ!

- Henry Mahan

Mankind's "doing" to merit favor with God is their very undoing before His throne of grace!

- Caleb Hickman (Oley, PA)

TWO TREES

It was at the tree of the knowledge of good and evil that the First Adam fell. There he plunged his whole race, all whom he represented, into sin and death (Genesis 2:17, 3:6-8; Romans 5:12).

It was at the cursed tree, the tree of the cross that the Last Adam triumphed gloriously. There he redeemed his whole race, all whom he represented, with his own precious blood. He gave them life from the dead. He obtained the forgiveness of their sins and reconciled them to Holy God. By his Spirit the enmity is put away from them and they are adopted into the family of God (Colossians 2:13-15; Ephesians 2:13-16, 1:4-5).

- Eric Lutter (Nixa, MO)

MALPRACTICE

What disservice would it be if a doctor of medicine simply gave pain meds to a patient in pain without first diagnosing the illness or injury? They would not be a very trustworthy doctor would they? This is precisely what is happening in every false religion everyday. Men and women gather together to hear how "good" they are living for their god, what a "good" choice they have made, and how they do not need to fear death because of their practices, morals, lifestyle, and decisions. The false pastors who declare this are merely smearing the salve of self-righteousness on the putrid wound of sin. They are simply treating a symptom rather than the proper diagnosis. Sinners do not need corrective lenses, we must be made to see for we are blind. Sinners do not need a bandaid for our leprosy, we need to be cleansed. The dead man doesn't need a choice, he must be made alive by the power of God. Hear the good news of the Gospel; "Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)" Ephesians 2:5. "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us" Titus 3:5. Not only is Jesus Christ the Great Physician (Mark 2:17), but He is the resurrection and the Life (John11:25). His precious blood is the only Cure for our sin condition.

- Caleb Hickman (Oley, PA)

THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS

"For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven." – Matthew 5v20

Our Savior is the righteousness that exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees which we must have in order to enter into the kingdom of heaven. We cannot look to our obedience to one command given by our Lord in this sermon on the mount, nor in any precept in other part of scripture, and imagine that by our obedience we have made ourselves righteous enough to enter heaven. Three things happen when the Spirit of God makes us hear Christ's commands.

First, the exhortations our Lord gives make us behold that Christ alone is our Righteousness in each command. He alone has fulfilled his commands in perfection for God's elect.

Also, our Savior exhortations make us see our sin and need of Christ to be our only Righteousness due to our coming far short of fulfilling any gospel precept our Savior gives.

Lastly, by the Spirit of God giving us a new heart we have a sincere willingness to do everything our Redeemer graciously commands. But we do them in faith, trusting Christ alone is our Righteousness in each command; trusting Christ has put away our sin, as well as our brethren's sin, in coming short of every gospel precept. While we endeavor to obey, we do so, not from legal motives, but only from the constraint of Christ's love for us in gratitude that our Savior has made us complete by his broken body and shed blood.

If we remember these things then when our brethren fall we will not condemn them for coming short but will be used of Christ to help them by reminding them of this good news of the LORD our Righteousness.

- Clay Curtis (Ewing, NJ)

San Diego Grace Fellowship

"But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God." 1Cor 1v23-24

March 17th, 2024

Service Times Sunday - 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM Wednesday - 6:30 PM

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