September 2, 2018

Sundays 9:00 am                                                                             WKYT     Channel 27-2

***It is requested that all children under the age of five stay in our nursery***

***so there will be no distractions during the preaching of the Gospel***

HYMN OF THE DAY

Compared with Christ, in all beside

No comeliness I see

The one thing needful, dearest Lord

Is to be one with Thee.

The sense of Thy expiring love

Into my soul convey

Thyself bestow; for Thee alone

I absolutely pray.

Less than Thyself will not suffice

My comfort to restore

More than Thyself I cannot crave

And Thou canst give no more.

Loved of my God, for Him again

With love intense I burn

Chosen of Thee e’re time began

I choose Thee in return.

Whate’re consists not with Thy love

Oh teach me to resign

I’m rich to all the intents of bliss

If Thou, O God, art mine.

(Tune: “According to Thy Gracious Word” p. 192)

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            We extend our sincere sympathy to Courtney Ortz on the death of her father.

We will have a church dinner Sunday, September 30th.

Birthdays

3rd– Laura Williams             4th– Bob Covert           5th– Shari Greenleaf

*“Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.”                                            - Proverbs 11:14*

WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

            From the Scriptures we know the church is His body, His bride, the people He loved and purchased with His own blood that He sees as glorious, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing.  It is the church of Christ, the church of God, the house of God, the pillar and ground of the Truth.  It is that which He built and of which He is the Head.  It is the ones He feeds, and walks in their midst, and promises His presence.  It is the place from whose midst He sings.  It is the general assembly and church of the firstborn whose names are written in heaven.  It is that group of people of whom Christ said, *“In as much as ye have done it to the least of these My brethren, you have done it to Me.”*

We see how important church is to Him. How important is it to you?

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*“He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.”                     – Revelation 22:11*

            I am in one of these two states before God. I am either righteous having been justified by God and holy, having been born of God or I am unjust and filthy.  As I live (and both of these are a state of being before God), so shall I die – righteous and holy or unjust and filthy.  And as I die, so shall I arise for eternity. I will be either righteous and holy in heaven or unjust and filthy in hell.

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            Any belief we have that is not founded on *“It is written”*will prove to be error.  Any position we hold that is not held up by a *“Thus saith the Lord”*is a wrong position.  Any doctrine we promote that does not arise from *“What saith the Scripture”*is false.  God has given us the written revelation of Himself, the Bible!  Can I prove the Bible is God’s inspired Word?  No.  But it claims to be and I know it is.  The Truth commends itself as the Truth.  Only that which is less than the Truth needs proofs to hold it up.

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*“The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord” (Psalm 37:23).*And who is this good man?  Every believer!  Every step of every believer was and is ordered by the Lord.  Nothing has happened that the Lord did not will to happen before it happened.  What comfort and encouragement there is in that!  This makes us cry out, *“Order my steps in Thy Word, and let not any iniquity have dominion over me” (Psalm 119:133).*

SECONDARY IMPORTANCE

            I have noticed that the main issue that men grapple with over the doctrine of election is not whether or not the Scripture teaches it.  Any honesty at all will make a man admit the Scriptures do teach this doctrine. What men grapple with is whether or not it is essential to believe this doctrine and preach this doctrine.  Most preachers will admit the Bible does teach election, but they relegate it to a doctrine of secondary importance. (Judgment day will reveal the motive behind such actions.)

            But will the Scriptures support such a position?  In *Exodus 33:18*, Moses said to God, *“Show my Thy glory….”*To which God replied, *“…. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious.”*  Paul quotes this in *Romans 9*to answer the carnal mind’s objection to election *(Romans 9:14-15)*.  According to Scripture, God’s glory and election go together.  If the glory of God can be thought to be a doctrine of secondary importance, so can the doctrine of election.  But we know the glory of God is of primary importance. What does that make God’s electing mercy in Christ?                                        *- Henry Mahan*

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THE PRECIOUSNESS OF CHRIST       -*I Peter 2:7*

            Nowhere does Jehovah-Jesus appear to the spiritual, believing mind so exalted as when He stoops! So glorious as when in eclipse! So holy as when bearing sin!  So loving as when enduring its punishment! So triumphant as when vanquished upon the cross!

            Oh, do not study God in the jeweled heavens – in the sublimity of the mountain – in the beauty of the valley – in the grandeur of the ocean – in the murmurs of the stream – in the music of the winds. God made all this, but all this is not God.

            Study Him in the cross of Jesus!  Look at Him through this wondrous telescope, and although, as through a glass darkly, you behold His glory – the Godhead in awful eclipse, the Son of His Diety setting in blood – yet that rude and crimsoned cross more fully reveals the mind of God, more harmoniously discloses the perfections of God, and more perfectly unveils the heart of God, and more fully exhibits the glory of God, than the combined power of ten thousand worlds like this, even though sin had never marred and the curse had never blighted it.

*- Octavious Winslow*

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            In happy moments, praise God.  In difficult moments, seek God.  In quiet moments, worship God.  In every moment, thank God.

*- Marvin Stalnaker*