October 21, 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

O Thou God of my salvation

My Redeemer from all sin

Moved by Thy Divine compassion

Thou hast died my soul to win.

Thou unseen I love the Saviour

He has brought salvation near

We, because of His great favor

Shall His glorious image bear.

From the highest Throne in glory

To the cross of deepest woe

Jesus came to ransom sinners

Flow, my praise, forever flow.

While the angel choirs are crying

“Glory to the great I AM!”

I, with them, will join in saying

“Glory! Glory! To the Lamb!”

(Tune: “Jesus Calls Us” p. 374)

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We mourn the loss of our friend Tony Gonzalez who passed away October 11thand extend our sympathy to his family and loved ones.

Birthdays

21st  – Tim Scifres            22nd– Samuel Kincer            24th– Carla Bryan

25th– Norman Frye          27th– Aaron Warta                27th– Mark Mohr

*“Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.”                                                      - Proverbs 27:1*

WHEN DID GRACE BEGIN?

It didn’t! Grace is an attribute of God.  *“The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious”*were His words to Moses when He was proclaiming His Name before him.  We read in *II Timothy 1:9*that His saving of us was *“Not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which were given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.”*We read of eternal salvation, eternal redemption, eternal judgment and the eternal Gospel in the pages of the New Testament! If grace had a beginning point, it would be contrary to the character of God and would make grace God’s response to something. God is eternal. He is not bound by space or time, all He does is eternal. God never responds: He only acts. God’s grace is His action, not His response to man’s action. God’s grace, like God, is eternal.  His grace never had a starting point.  *“By grace are ye saved.”*

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In *Ephesians 5:22-33*Paul gives invaluable instruction regarding marriage and the marital responsibilities that the husband and wife have toward one another.  And he says with regard to everything he said, *“This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the Church” (Ephesians 5:32).*This is not about the recipe for a happy marriage…. although if we do what Paul says we will be happily married.  This is all concerning Christ and His church.  So is everything else!

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We need no *“confessions of faith”*, as a church, to let people know what we believe. Every writing of man contains error anyway. Our creed is the Word of God.  “But everybody can say that,” you say.  True, but most do not say that, but will refer you to their flawed articles of faith rather than the Holy Scriptures, and besides, the evidence is in the preaching. If you want to know what someone preaches, do not refer to the confession of faith to which he subscribes. You will find that a poor indicator in almost every case.  With few exceptions, they won’t match up.  LISTEN TO HIM *(I John 4:1-3)*. There is no shortcut.  And in this vast ocean of error, only listen to him if you have some reason to believe he may be true.  And if you find a faithful preacher of the Truth as it is in Christ Jesus, consider yourself highly favored of God, and support the Gospel where you are with all your heart and means.

*- Chris Cunningham*

There are thirty-three references to eternal life in the New Testament. It is the gift of God (*Romans 6;23*), and the fruit of election (*Acts 13:48*).  It is something that a man can know he has (*I John 5:13*)!  But, what is eternal life?  It is not eternal existence.  Even those who are in Hell have eternal existence, but they do not have eternal life.

When Adam fell in the garden, he died.  He did not die physically at that time, but he did die in two other ways.  He died in that the law condemned him to death.  He became a sinner before the holiness and justice of God.  And he died spiritually.  As a physically dead man cannot perform the functions of life, Adam lost his ability to perform the functions of spiritual life.  But when God gives a sinner eternal life, he now has life in both of the ways he lost it … he has life before the law, a perfect standing before the law of God because of the cross and he has spiritual life.  He now has repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. He now knows God.  The Lord said, *“Thou has given Him power over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as Thou has given Him*. *And this is life eternal, that they might know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou has sent”  (John 17: 2-3).*

Somebody may be thinking, “How can I know that I have eternal life?”  John says in *I John 5:13, “These things have I written unto you that believe on the Name of the Son of God, that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the Name of the Son of God.”*Those who have eternal life know Him.  Those who know Him trust Him. Those who trust Him will spend eternity with Him.

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LOVE

LOVE is a very strange, mysterious and unexplainable thing to me.  I must confess that I know little about love.  However, from the Word of God and experience, I do know a few things.  Love can hurt the one loved, but not without sorrow, and not persistently and intentionally.

Love suffers much, long and patiently…enduring all things.  Love may be wounded and hurt, but is not easily provoked, does not quickly draw the sword.  Love is not jealous and envious, but rejoices in the achievements, advancements, and happiness of the ones loved.  Love neither works nor wishes ill upon those loved.  Love is an amazing thing!  May God give us more of it.                                                                                            *- Maurice Montgomery*

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While the church is in this world she is with Christ and Christ is with her, and she is safe. All is well!  Sometimes our doubting hearts become fearful about the welfare and safety of the Lord’s church.  But our fears are ill-founded.  The church belongs to Christ. He loved her, chose her, and redeemed her.  She is in His hands.  He will defend her, protect her, and perfect her.  The church of Christ and the cause of Christ are safe.                                        *- Don Fortner*