November 18, 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

Dear Lord, to us assembled here

Reveal Thy glorious face

While we, by faith, with love and fear

Approach Thy THRONE OF GRACE.

Thy house is called the house of prayer

A solemn, sacred place

O let us now Thy presence share

While at Thy THRONE OF GRACE.

With holy boldness may we come

Though of a sinful race

Thankful to find in Christ there’s room

Before Thy THRONE OF GRACE.

We bless Thee for Thy Word of Truth

We bless Thee for Thy peace

And we do bless Thee, Lord, because

There is a THRONE OF GRACE.

(Tune: “Jesus the Very Thought of Thee” p. 58)

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There will be no service this Wednesday evening. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone! May you enjoy this time with family and friends.

The preacher’s class will meet Saturday Dec. 1stat 10:00am.

Andy and Megan Davis will host a gathering for the adults on Friday, December 14th. Bring an appetizer or dessert.

Birthdays

21st– Zack Murphy          21st– Todd Meek          23rd– Samantha Daniel

23rd– Evan Ferrell              24th– Martin Weinstock

*“The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the Lord.”                                              - Proverbs 16:1*

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STRIVE TO ENTER IN

The Lord said in *Matthew 11:12, “The kingdom of Heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.”*While it is true that salvation is a work of God in which we are passive, men dead in sins do not actively seek the Living God.  It is equally true that when God does give a dead sinner life, that one who was dead in sins becomes very active.  He *“strives to enter in at the straight gate” (Matt. 7:13).*He earnestly *“seeks God with all his heart.”*  He is *“importunate”*((insistence) in prayer *(Luke 11:8)*.  He seeks to *“crucify the flesh”*and *“through the Spirit to mortify the deeds of the body” (Rom. 8:12-13).*He is willing to *“endure all things for the elect’s sake, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus” (II Tim. 2:10)*.  The rest that the believer enters is not one of laziness, apathy, or indifference. If our belief in sovereign grace has let us to excuse our sin, justify our disobedience, dampen our enthusiasm, become indifferent to our responsibility, or make our love and zeal grow cold…. we have not understood sovereign grace. While all of our former religious activity does need to be killed, may God deliver us from using His grace to have a passive attitude that is not taught in Scripture!

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SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS

I have no doubt that self-righteousness is the greatest problem we have.  It is not our sin that keeps us from Christ.  It is our righteousness. This is the most deceptive of all sins!  The deceit of this sin is so subtle, that we can even commit a sin, and comfort ourselves by thinking, *“At least that is not as bad as self-righteousness,”*thus making our sin a ground of righteousness!  The sin of self-righteousness will attack us from every angle!

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Grace is not something God offers yet it is up to the sinner to accept or reject God’s offer. Grace saves.  Grace that is merely offered does not save. If grace were an offer, it would be your acceptance of the offer that saved you.  But the Bible never presents God’s grace as an offer….*“By grace ye are saved.”*

WHAT IS YOUR GROUND OF ASSURANCE?

To those who struggle with assurance, saying, “There are so many times that I do not feel saved,” I would remind you that, before you came to Christ, there were many times you did not feel lost!  Did your lack of ‘lost feeling’ at that time mean that you were not lost?  Of course not!  For feelings have nothing to do with whether or not we are lost.  Do you not see that it is the same with respect to whether or not we are saved?  Martin Luther said it well when he wrote:

*For feelings come and feelings go*

*And feelings are deceiving*

*My warrant is the Word of God*

*Naught else is worth believing.*

There it is!  God’s Word! There is our foundation.  The Scriptures never instruct us to feel, but to believe.  If you do not feel, believe anyway!  It does not say, “For by grace are you saved through *feelings*.”  Feelings are a look inward, at ourselves.  Faith is a look outward at Christ.  Feelings change because they look at a changing object – ourselves. Faith never changes, for it looks at an unchanging object – Christ!  May God grant you grace to look to Him.                                                                                                                  *– Joe Terrell*

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A doctrine is not true because I believe it or because you believe it - it is true only if God says it!  I do not ask whether you believe what I preach; perhaps you do not.  But I ask you to search the Scriptures and determine whether these things be so.  I am not afraid to submit my belief in God’s immutable sovereignty, man’s total fall and ruin, God’s elective grace, Christ’s effectual atonement, the Spirit’s invincible call, and the perseverance of the sheep to the Word of God!   *– Henry Mahan*

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The Word of God gives us the record of many historical facts; and they are all literally true. But each recorded fact is an allegory. Each was brought to pass by our God and is recorded in Holy Scripture to teach us something spiritual.                                *- Don Fortner*

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