November 25, 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***

To Christ the Lord let every tongue

Its noblest tribute bring

When He’s the subject of the song

Who can refuse to sing?  Who can refuse to sing?

Survey the beauties of His face

And on His glories dwell

Think of the wonders of His grace

And all His victories tell!  And all His victories tell!

Thou hast redeemed our souls with blood

Hast set the prisoners free

Hast made us kings and priests to God

And we shall reign with Thee!  And we shall reign with Thee!

The whole creation join as one

To bless that Holy Name

Of Him who sits upon the Throne

And to adore the Lamb!  And to adore the Lamb!

(Tune: “Majestic Sweetness” p. 52)

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

All ladies are invited to a baby shower for Laura Williams on Saturday, Dec. 8 at 2:00.  The sign-up sheet is in the foyer.

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

Birthdays

25th– Sarah Lynn                26th– Adam Charron             26th– John Frye

26th– Max Murphy              28th– Lydia Lynn        30th- Bryleigh Carroll

30th– Isaac  Steeves                                                  30th– Mitch  Steeves

*“A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle.”               - Proverbs 18:19*

IF I AM NOT SAVED

If I am not saved, it is not because I want to be saved and God refuses to save me. If I am not saved it is not because God did not elect me, Christ did not die for me, and the Holy Spirit did not give me life.  If I am not saved it is because I do not want to be saved. That does not mean I do not want to be delivered from the punishment of hell.  But it does mean I do not want to be saved God’s way on God’s terms.  If I am saved, I do want to be saved.  If I am saved I am saved because God elected me, Christ died for me, and the Holy Spirit gave me life!  But if I am not saved, I have no one to blame but myself.  I do not want to be saved. Could anyone charge God with injustice because He did not give to somebody something they did not want?

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If a man is not a believer and hears preaching that makes him  see that he is not a believer - that is a good thing.  It is only then that a man will cry for mercy.  This is what God will use to drive him from his false refuges and look to Christ alone!  But if a man is a believer and hears preaching that makes him fear that he is not a believer because he does not measure up to what the preacher says a believer should be, he is quite simply not hearing the Gospel preached at that time. He is hearing a message that calls upon men to look *within*for evidence of salvation. Hearing the Gospel gives peace, not lack of assurance!  Hearing the Gospel is really believing that Christ is All, and assurance arises from that.

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There has never been a sinner who asked for mercy who was denied.  I have had many people over the years tell me that they have asked for mercy and their prayer went unheard.  The reason their prayer was not heard was they were not really asking for mercy.

When a sinner asks for mercy, two things are crystal clear in his heart.  First, his sin is all his fault. He cannot blame God’s sovereignty, his circumstances, or someone else.  If I do not take complete responsibility for my sin, it is impossible to ask for mercy.  Mercy is needed only when my sin is all my fault.   Secondly, mercy is God’s to give or withhold. Any objection to God being sovereign in giving His mercy to whom He will is leaving the ground of mercy and entering the ground of entitlement.  If I fail to see my sin is all my fault and that mercy is God’s to give or withhold, I have never really asked for mercy.  But if I confess before God my sin is all my fault, and acknowledge His sovereign mercy is His to give or withhold and cry out, “God be merciful to me the sinner,” I will have mercy.  There has never been a sinner who sought mercy who was denied.

*“IT IS HIGH TIME TO AWAKE OUT OF SLEEP”*

*Romans 13:11*

Sleep looks like death.  A true Christian can look dead in trespasses and sins.  The five virgins with the oil in their lamps slept and slumbered. On the outside they looked no different from the virgins without oil.  How can a believer become like this?  Too many reasons to list, but it is still a fact that they can.  Wake up! Our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.  We do not have much time left!  There is absolutely no excuse for our letting ourselves get in such a condition.  Where do I begin to wake up?  Hear the Gospel again as you first heard it.  *“As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him” (Col. 2:6).*

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*“What shall I cry?”   - Isaiah 40:6*

In the text above we have in the spirit of prophecy the last of God’s prophets asking of God His message.  What was he told to cry?  He was told to cry two truths.  First, he is to cry of the absolute weakness, and inability of man to restore himself into the image of God.  *“All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field.”*Second, he is to cry: *“Behold your God!”*  The Lord Jesus Christ is God and Savior to all that behold (look) to Him in faith.

By the grace of God as long as I am in this pulpit when you come here you will hear the old, old story of Jesus and His love in dying for sinners.                                                        *- David Pledger*

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Augustine once said: “To be assured of our interest in Christ is not arrogance, it is FAITH.  It is not pride; it is DEVOTION.  It is not presumption; it is GOD’S PROMISE.”  If assurance of salvation rested in my works, it would be presumption (even foolishness); but we believe God will receive all who come to Him in Christ Jesus.