February 3, 2019

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

Sons we are through God’s election

Who in Jesus Christ believe

By eternal destination

Sovereign grace we here receive.

Pause, my soul, adore and wonder

Ask, O Why such love to me?

Grace hath put me in the number

Of the Saviour’s family.

Every fallen soul, by sinning

Merits everlasting pain

But Thy love, without beginning

Has restored Thy sons again.

When my Saviour comes in judgment

Bright in majesty Divine

I will stand with that great number

In Thy righteousness as mine.

(Tune: “Jesus Calls Us” p.374)

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We will observe the Lord’s Table this evening.

Birthdays

3rd– James Carver            5th– Billie Tuttle          7th– Tamara Dickerson

7th– Clark Grubb              7th– Faith Hacker         9th– Ryan Daniel

            *“He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.”                                               - Proverbs 10:4*

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            You contribute nothing to your salvation except the sin that made it necessary.                                                     *- Jonathan Edwards*

THE SHE BEARS

            We read in *II Kings 2:23-25*of some young men mocking Elisha, Elisha cursing them in the name of the Lord, and two she bears coming from the forest and killing 42 of them.  Elisha was God’s prophet bringing God’s Word.  *“Thus saith the Lord.”*God is more jealous of His Word then she bears are over their cubs.  These young men had no love for the Word of God. So they poured out their contempt and criticism upon the one who brought it.  This is what men do when they cannot justify their actions or beliefs from the Scripture.  They pour contempt and criticism on the one who brings the Word.  Any man we desire to be critical of we can find plenty of ammunition.  But God saw it for what it was - hatred of His Word.  The same Word that He has magnified above all His Name!  With God the punishment always fits the crime.  Oh that we might do as James said, *“Be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath”*,lest two she bears arise from the forest and devour us!

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            The Lord asked the disciples in response to their lack of understanding, unbelief, and failure to remember what He had done,  *“Have ye your hearts yet hardened.”*I fear a hardened heart!  “Have ye” is active. Have you hardened your hearts? Hardened is passive.  All God has to do to harden our hearts is let us alone! I fear being hardened toward the Gospel. I fear being hardened toward sin! If I am hardened it is my fault and it is the Lord leaving me to myself.  Oh, for a heart softened by the Spirit of God! Oh, to not be left to myself but kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation!

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WHO IS JESUS CHRIST?

            *“And he looked and behold the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.”*This is the bush of whom it was said the Angel of the Lord, the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to Moses.  This fire did not need the energy of the wood of the bush to be sustained. It was a fire that was independent of fuel to keep it going.  Christ is utterly independent.  That can only be said of God.  The wood could not be consumed by the fire.  This speaks of the perfect humanity of Christ.  He could not be consumed by the wrath of God.  He consumed the wrath. Who is Jesus Christ? The Independent God, the Perfect Man, The Word made flesh, God manifest in the flesh. It is because of Who He is that He is able to save to the uttermost.

I DID NOT “GET SAVED” - CHRIST SAVED ME

            Quite some time ago a man asked a question to one of our brethren concerning this congregation. He said: “Is anybody getting saved down there?”  Depending on what denomination a person attends, that means: Have you gotten anybody to speak in tongues yet?  Or have you gotten anybody to get baptized yet?  Or some other thing that religion tries to get men and women to do.

            Salvation is not in what we can get men and women to do.  Salvation is in what Christ has already done!  The terminology of a believing child of God is NOT: “I got saved”, but “Christ saved me!”  Usually a man who “gets saved” will get lost after awhile.  But if God the Spirit ever reveals to a sinner that salvation is not his choice – God the Father chose to give him to Christ His Son!  And salvation is not in any work the he must or can do – God the Son accomplished the work of His salvation to the fullest through the shedding of His own blood!  Once it is revealed to a sinner that by the death of the Lord Jesus Christ *“It is finished!”*that sinner will no longer wonder if anybody is “getting saved”, but he will cry: *“Salvation is of the Lord!” (Jonah 2:9)*  The Lord will add daily to the church such as should be saved! (*Acts 2:47)*  All that the Father has given to Christ shall come to Christ!  And the sinner that comes to Christ, Christ will in no wise cast him out! *(John 6:37)*None shall be lost!  *(John 17:12)*  Every truly saved sinner will cry:  I did not “get saved,” CHRIST SAVED ME!          *- Gabe Stalnaker*

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There is nothing that keeps a man out of heaven but his own will.  But there is nothing that will keep a man out of hell but God’s will. Eternal life is by God’s will, God’s gift, and God’s work *(Romans 9:16; 6:23; II Timothy 1:9)*.  But eternal death is the result of man’s will, man’s work, and man’s merit *(Proverbs1:23-26; Romans6:23; 10:21)*. *Don Fortner*

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            When you become just nothing, when you have no good feelings, no good desires, or anything you can bring to Christ – when you come to Christ, not with a broken heart, but for a broken heart, then he will receive you, then you will be the kind of man that Christ came to save.                                                                                *- Milton Howard*

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            We have no power from God unless we live in the persuasion that we have none of our own.                                           *- John Owen*