April 7, 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

No more, my God! I boast no more

Of all the duties I have done

I quit the hopes I held before,

To trust the merits of Thy Son.

Now for the love I bear His Name,

What was my gain I count my loss

My former pride I call my shame

And nail my glory to His cross.

Yes, and I must and will esteem

All things but loss for Jesus’ sake

O may my soul be found in Him

And of His righteousness partake.

The best obedience of my hands

Dares not appear before Thy throne

But faith can answer Thy demands

By pleading what my Lord has done.

(Tune: “Just As I Am” p. 249)

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We will observe the Lord’s Table this evening.

Birthdays                                                                                                   7th– Seth Daniel           7th– Maggie Martin          9th– Rick Anjos          11th– Lilian Daniel     12th– Jason Gillispie         13th– Sarah Byrd

The grace of God influences both the understanding and the affections.  Warm affections without knowledge can rise no higher than superstition; and that knowledge which does not influence the heart and affections will only make a hypocrite.                                 *- John Newton*

BORN OF WATER AND THE SPIRIT

*“Except a man be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of Heaven” (John 3:5).  “Of water”*is not the waters of baptism. Water refers to the water of the Word.  We read in *Ephesians 5:27*of *“The washing of water by the Word.”*In the new birth the sovereign Spirit gives life.  And He does so with the Word of God.  He never acts independently from the Word, *“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God which liveth and abideth forever” (I Peter 1:25).*Someone may think, “But God is not able to give life without the Word.”  That is not the issue.  Does God give life without His Word?  The answer is no. Just as the physical creation came about by His Word, so too does the new creation.  No one is born of the Spirit apart from the Word of God.

People do what they want to.  They do what they do freely and uncoerced.  People were not forced to crucify Christ.  Pilate was said to have, *“Delivered Jesus to their will.”*While they were acting freely and uncoerced, they were doing neither more nor less than *“Whatsoever Thy hand and Thy counsel determined before to be done.”*Men do precisely what they want, and God exercises absolute sovereignty over men’s will – a paradox; but certainly not a contradiction.  They are both true.

A congregation cannot be said to welcome the Lord Jesus unless they are all there, which requires **punctuality**; unless they have come with design to meet Him, which implies prayerful **expectancy**; unless they are ready to hear from Him, which involved **attention**; and unless they are resolved to accept His teaching, which demands **obedience**.     *– C. H. Spurgeon*

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*

CONFIDENCE IN GOD’S GRACE

Do we really have confidence in the grace of God? If we do, we will be satisfied with His grace and His grace alone.  If we have confidence in His grace, we will not try to offer up anything of our own as a reason for God to bless us. If we have confidence in His grace, we will rest secure that, whatever happens in this life, God will preserve us blameless for the next life.  If we have confidence in His grace, we will not try to build a church with fleshly enticements but will be satisfied with preaching and teaching the grace of God, knowing that God will call His sheep by that Gospel.  If we have confidence in the grace of God, we will not be quick to judge others but will be patient with our brethren, knowing that God grows His people at His own rate and that what His grace has begun, His grace can finish.  If we have confidence in the grace of God, we will be much more at rest, knowing that all things are moving in their proper direction to their assigned goal.   *– Joe Terrell*

CONTENDING FOR THE TRUTH

Contending for the Truth against the errors of modern religion is the duty of God’s servants.  I hope our spirit is one of genuine love to all the chosen of God; but today’s rule of charity which requires us to keep silent on certain points in order to avoid controversy, I utterly despise.  It is treason to the Lord Jesus to be silent on any point where He has spoken and the honor of His Gospel is concerned.  It is easy on the flesh to deal in generalities, to denounce hyper- this or hyper-that, and to claim to be a friend to all, but it is required of the loyal servant of King Jesus to maintain His crown-rights and to stand up for His Gospel of glory and grace.     *- Henry Mahan*

Having religion is one thing, but knowing and walking with Christ is different!  Having religion – the world understands and tolerates.  But free grace – the world neither understands nor tolerates!  Any two religious errors can walk together, and permit them both to exist!  But the truth of God’s grace cannot exist with error – for one always must go!  *- Henry Mahan*