June 9, 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

Thy works, not mine, O Christ

Speak gladness to this heart

They tell me all the work is done

They bid my fear depart.

Thy cross, not mine, O Christ

Has born the awful load

Of sins that no one else could bear

But our incarnate God.

Thy death, not mine, O Christ

Has paid the ransom due

Ten thousand, thousand deaths like mine

Would have been all too few.

Thy righteousness, O Christ

Alone can cover me

No righteousness can satisfy

Save that which is of Thee!

(Tune: “I Love Thy Kingdom” p.188)

\*\*\*\*\*

VBS June 18-20

Birthdays

9th– Linda Ferrell                9th– Amie Steeves               12th– Rick Williams

13th– Matt Vincent             14th– Lauren Harries            15th– Silas Benton

*“Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.”   - Proverbs 22:15*

SINCERITY AND TRUTH

Paul spoke of keeping the feast with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.  Sincerity is mentioned first because if you do not have sincerity, the truth will never be truly stated.  Some other agenda is in operation.  Where there is sincerity, all that is desired is the truth.  But the truth is not the truth because of sincerity of the one who brings it.  The truth is what God’s inspired Word declares, *“Thy Word is Truth.”*  The truth concerning the character of God, man, and God’s salvation.  The truth concerning the Lord Jesus Christ.  Here are two things that always go together… sincerity and truth.

WHY MAKE AN ISSUE OF GOD NOT LOVING ALL MEN?

To make an issue of God not loving all men may appear upon the surface to be dwelling on something negative. So why make an issue of it?

1. Because the Bible does.  *“Esau have I hated” (Romans 9:13).*

2. If He loves all men the same and some of those men He loves are lost, it makes His love meaningless.  His love did nothing for them!

3. It is degrading to the character of God’s love to say He loves all men the same.  The world speaks of God’s unconditional love, but there is no such thing.  There must be something there to love!  Because God’s love is in Christ, all in Christ are lovely to God.  Outside of Christ there is nothing but God’s indignation against sin and sinners.

4. To know God loves you is the assurance of the believer.  *“He loved me, and gave Himself for me” (Galatians 2:20).*No one has the right to even suspect that God loves them unless they have bowed the knee to Christ.  To assure lost men that God loves them is evil!  This is the assurance of the believer!

REFORMATION?

I hear a lot about “reformation” in our day. There are reformed churches, reformed doctrine, reformed preachers and reformed believers, everything seems to be “reformed.”  The word “reform” means to “improve or to make better.”  If “reformation” means to improve myself or make myself better, then, I do not need reformation!  What I need is a perfect righteousness.  I surely cannot find any hope of eternal life in trying to make myself better, especially when God requires perfection.  I do not need “reformation”; I need “regeneration.”   I do not need to get my heart right; I need a new heart that is right. The lost sinner does not need to just change their way; they need to change their God.  I do not need to make myself “better”, I need to be made “perfect.” I do not need reformation, I need a “new creation”, which can only be found in Christ.           *– David Eddmenson*

CHRISTIAN MOTIVATION

I am sometimes troubled when I hear believers ask such questions as, “Must a man go to church to be saved?  Must he be baptized in order to enter heaven?  Does a man have to live righteously in order to inherit eternal life?” I could understand an unbeliever asking such things.  But a believer should already know that it is, *“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but by His mercy, He saved us.”*Salvation is not dependent on anything we do, but depends entirely on what God does.

But there is a greater concern that these questions pose.  What would motivate a believer to ask such a question in the first place? Is he looking for an excuse to avoid these things and still go to heaven?  Doesn’t he **want** to live righteously? Doesn’t he **want** to confess Christ?  Doesn’t he **want** to go to church?  It makes about as much sense as a man saying, “If I marry this woman, must I live with her?”  If he doesn’t want to worship, confess, and follow Christ, he should make no profession of believing Christ.

*- Joe Terrell*

\*\*\*\*\*

GROWTH

Peter warned of *“falling from your own steadfastness” (II Peter 3:17).*And what will prevent that? *“But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ” (II Peter 3:18).*Only growth will prevent this fall.  Growth in the knowledge of Christ and growth in grace go together. Where you have the one you will have the other.  Growth in grace is the only kind of growth where you become smaller rather that larger.  You grow down in your estimate of yourself.  You grow in your sense of your need of His grace. But you also grow upward. You love God more and more for who He is!  And you grow outward in your love to the brethren.  Your heart is enlarged toward them, and toward all men!  If I am not growing in grace, I am not living.  I will end up falling from my own steadfastness.

Lest any be discouraged, remember, it is growth in grace. It takes grace to grow in grace. And God’s grace is absolutely free. Let’s begin by asking for grace to grown in grace.

\*\*\*\*\*

There are two systems under which all men look the same – law and grace.  All who are under the law look the same: guilty.  So their end is the same: destruction.  All who are under grace look the same: righteous.  So their end is the same: blessing.                                                         *- Joe Terrell*