December 8, 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.***

‘Tis not that I did choose Thee

For, Lord, that could not be

This heart would still refuse Thee

Hadst Thou not chosen me

Thou from the sin that stained me

Hast cleansed and set me free

Of old Thou hast ordained me

That I should live to Thee.

Your love had no beginning

No cause in me was found

That you should choose to save me

A sinner strongly bound

But grace not earned or sought for

Was purposed for my soul

For me, salvation wrought; for

Christ paid the dreadful toll.

‘Twas sovereign mercy called me

And taught my opening mind

The world had else enthralled me

To heav’nly glories blind

My heart owns none before Thee

For Thy rich grace I thirst

This knowing if I loved Thee

Thou must have loved me first.

(Tune: The Church’s One Foundation” p. 186)

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There will be a Christmas party for the adults at Doug and Faith Hacker’s home (505 Chinoe Road) this Friday, Dec. 13that 7:00pm.  Please  note the change that all food and drinks will be provided.

Birthdays

8th– Camden Proffitt                   9th– Chuck Mohr                   9th– Ben Small

12th– Lisa Gillispie                           14th– Christie Small

*“The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.”                                                         - Proverbs 13:4*

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If a man or woman could be indifferent about their spouse being intimate with someone else, that would be a dead give-away that they do not really love their spouse.  If a man or woman could be indifferent about someone speaking ill of and saying things that are not true about their spouse, we would reach the same conclusion, they do not really love their spouse!  If I can accept that which accounts for spiritual adultery…looking for something outside of the covenant of grace, and can keep my mouth shut when my Lord is being lied upon and slandered, I fear it says the same thing…I have no real love for the Lord.  “If I have not loved before, help me to begin today.”

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“There is a wide difference between your religion and mine,” said a Christian lady to one in whose spiritual condition she had long been interested. “Indeed,” said he, “how is that?”  “Your religion,” she replied, “has only two letters in it, and mine has four.”

It seems that this gentleman was one of that numerous class seeking to get to heaven by their doings, by attention to ordinances and ceremonies, by what the apostle, in the ninth of Hebrews, terms “dead works.”  But he did not understand about the “two letter” or the “four”.  His friend had often spoken to him, and on the occasion to which our anecdote refers she had called to take her leave of him for some time, as she was about to go from home.

“What do you mean,” said he, “by two letters and four?”  “Why, your religion,” said the lady “Is D-O; whereas mine is D-O-N-E.” This was all that passed.  The lady took her leave, but her words remained and did their work in the soul of her friend – a revolutionary work, verily. The entire current of his thoughts was changed. DO is one thing; DONE is quite another.  The former is legalism; that latter is Gospel.                       *– Author Unknown*

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The sovereignty of God is the stumbling block on which thousands fall and perish; and if we go contending with God about His sovereignty it will be our eternal ruin. It is absolutely necessary that we should submit to God as an absolute Sovereign, and the Sovereign of our souls; as one who may have mercy on whom He will have mercy and harden whom He will.

*- Jonathan Edwards*

PRAYER AND FORGIVENESS

*“And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses.”                                                                         - Mark 1:25-26*

You cannot truly pray and have an unforgiving spirit.  You are simply going through an empty and meaningless ritual which God does not hear and ensures that your sin will not be forgiven.  Be quick to forgive, not simply when someone asks for your forgiveness, but when you remember that they did you wrong!  In doing this, God will quickly forgive your trespasses, even before we are aware of our need for forgiveness. Shakespeare was not an inspired writer, but what he said was true…. “To err is human.  To forgive is divine.”

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NEITHER DO I CONDEMN THEE

I either heard or read somewhere, that a particular preacher never preached from *John 8:1-11*,because he could not reconcile how this adulterous woman, taken in the very act of adultery by some sanctimonious Pharisee, was saved by Christ on the very spot, without her first asking for mercy, or reaching out by faith to the Savior.

But I see no issue with anything.  First, if God’s Word says she is no longer condemned, then she is no longer condemned, whether we can reconcile it with our thoughts or not.  Second, she was obviously one of God’s elect in Christ, because we are told in *Romans 8:1*that, *“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus”*, so the only way for her to not be condemned at this time, was because she was eternally united to Christ. And lastly, this is how every believer is saved – the saving comes first (in eternity), and then the calling, the repentance, the faith (in time) as evidence that God has saved you.  *“Who hath saved us*(first)*, and called us with a holy calling*(second)*, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began” (II Timothy 1:9).*

So we see this sister of ours was in Christ Jesus before the world began, her sins were put away by the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world, and Christ can pass judgment right there on the spot – *“Neither do I condemn thee, go and sin no more” (John 8:11).                     – Brian DuFour*

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If any man ascribes anything of salvation, even the very least thing, to the free will of man, he knows nothing of grace, and he has not learned Jesus Christ rightly.                                                                    *- Martin Luther*