

May 27, 2018

TODAY: Bible Classes - 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship - 10:15 a.m.
Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m.
Messages by PASTOR JIM BYRD
INTERNET: SermonAudio.com
Visit our website at: www.13thstbaptist.org
(webcasting live during listed service times)
WEDNESDAY: Mid-week Service - 7:00 p.m.
Message by PASTOR JIM BYRD

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MY TIMES ARE IN THY HAND
Tune: "I Love Thy Kingdom Lord," (SM)
Words by W. F. Lloyd (1791-1853)

My times are in Thy hand;
My God I wish them there;
My life, my friends, my soul I leave,
Entirely to Thy care.

My times are in Thy hand;
Whatever they may be,
In joy or pain; 'tho dark or bright,
As best may seem to Thee.

My times are in Thy hand;
Why should I doubt or fear?
My Father's hand will never cause
His child a needless tear.

My times are in Thy hand;
Jesus, the Crucified;
Those hands my cruel sins had pierced
Are now my guard and guide.

My times are in Thy hand;
I'll always trust in Thee,
And, after death, at Thy right hand
I shall forever be.

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

May 28 Larry Smith
29 Jim Smallwood
30 Taylor Robinette

May 30 Dorothy Terry
31 Ron Kuehne
June 1 Connie McSweeney

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We extend our sympathy to the Horan family. Billie's mother, Barbara Jean Hileman, passed away last week; her funeral was Friday.

We extend our sympathy to Carolee and all the family upon the home-going of brother Lloyd Busch early Wednesday afternoon. His funeral was yesterday. Lloyd was a charter member of this church and has been a great patriarch and blessing to his earthly family and a blessing to his church family as well. I know I speak for brothers Mahan and Parker when I say it has been a privilege to be his pastor. He loved to hear the gospel of the sovereign grace of God to unworthy sinners through the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ. God enabled him to set an example before us of faithfulness and commitment to the truth for many years. In the midst of sadness, we rejoice that He is with Christ and no longer plagued by the infirmities of the flesh. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints" (Psalm 116:15).

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Our annual church picnic will be held at Armco Park, site #9, on June 15th. The church will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, buns and drinks. We will begin serving at 5:30 p.m. and continue throughout the evening for those who cannot get there until later. Plan now to attend.

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ORDAINED TO ETERNAL LIFE

"And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the Word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed" (Acts 13:48). The Jewish hearers in Antioch were not interested in the gospel of grace. They spoke against those things proclaimed by Paul, "contradicting and blaspheming" (v. 45). They openly reviled the message of justification by the righteousness of Christ (v. 39). Paul then announced to them that the gospel of saving grace would go forth triumphantly throughout the nations (v. 47). Many of the Gentiles were filled with joy when they heard those words and were brought to believe the gospel.

1. Who are these that were "ordained to eternal life?" "As many as." They are the people given to Christ in the election of grace (see John 17:2).
2. Why are they saved? They were "ordained to eternal life." "Ordained" means pre-appointed, predetermined, pre-assigned and predestined.
3. To what were these ordained? "Eternal life," that is, a saving knowledge of God in Christ Jesus (see John 17:3).
4. What did "as many as were ordained to eternal life" do? They "believed."

Faith is not the cause or the condition of salvation. Belief is the fruit and effect of divine foreordination. Faith is the gift of God (see Eph 2:8-9). —Pastor Jim Byrd

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CHRIST'S PRAYER FOR HIS OWN

"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also that shall believe in me through their Word" (John 17:20). The entirety of the salvation of sinners, from election before time began to glorification when time shall be no more, is sure to all believers. How can this be said? It is not because of our goodness, worthiness or fidelity, but because "the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD" (Psalm 37:39). Our salvation is built upon the steadfast, immovable foundation of the everlasting covenant of grace. Remember the words of David concerning that covenant? It is "ordered in all things and sure; for this is all my salvation, and all my desire" (2 Samuel 23:5). The salvation of the Lord's people is certain because of the victorious cross-death of Christ that satisfied justice for all the Father gave Him in the election of grace. This salvation is effectually made known and applied to sinners by the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit; we are preserved in the faith by His constant presence with us. Such a glorious salvation to the people of God is guaranteed because of the immutable oath and promises of God. Though there is an abundance of corruption and sin in our natures, a world of temptation around us and legions of devils set in battle-array against our poor souls, yet God has given us the faith of His elect, evidence that we belong to Him. As sure as Christ Jesus prayed this prayer unto His Father on earth, we have always had a place in His loving heart and all of His sheep are borne upon the almighty shoulders of our glorious Shepherd. Be confident, therefore, we will most certainly be brought to everlasting glory someday and ascribe salvation to our God and unto the Lamb throughout the happy ages of a never-ending eternity. When will our home-going take place? It will happen when the Savior prays this prayer for us individually. "Father, I will that they also whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory" (John 17:24). Upon our Great High Priest presenting that request to the Father, we will be transported from this world and enter into the glorious presence of the Lord Jesus Christ where we shall abide forevermore. —Pastor Jim Byrd

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"The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart: and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come. He shall enter into peace: they shall rest in their beds, each one walking in his uprightness" (Isaiah 57:1-2).