

June 24, 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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THE BLOOD OF CHRIST ALONE

Tune: "Am I A Soldier," (CM)

Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

*Let no one entertain the thought,
That works can save the soul;
The blood of Jesus Christ alone,
Can make the sin-sick whole.*

*A holy God demands that we
Be free from sinfulness;
Without defilement, guilt or shame,
In perfect righteousness.*

*With efforts of our own to save,
Now let us all be done;
God grant us faith to only trust
The merits of His Son.*

*Behold His sacrificial death,
In Christ salvation see;
'Tis by His sin-atonement blood,
God saves eternally.*

*So cease attempts to save yourself,
And leave them all behind;
By faith come now to God the Son,
In Him acceptance find.*

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"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).

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

June 27 Terri Thomas
28 Nancy Byrd

June 30 Wendy Kuehne
Glenda Fliehman

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We extend our sympathy to the family of Iretta Parker who passed away Thursday morning. Carolee Busch will be in rehab for a few more weeks. Visit her or address any cards to: Woodland Oaks, 1820 Oakview Road, Rehab - room #8, Ashland, KY 41101. There will be NO SERVICE Wednesday night, July 4th.

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LIVE UNTO THE LORD

"For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's" (Romans 14:8). Oh, pray then, that you may be enabled to "live unto the Lord,"—to live truly, usefully, and acceptably to Him whose you are, and whom you are bound by every tie of love and gratitude to serve! Pray that you may have grace to travel onward through life—with Christ acknowledged in every step—entwined with every affection—as the source of each joy, and the sharer of each sorrow of your personal history. Let your walk be one of firm, unshaken faith in your Savior-God! Go to His inexhaustible fullness with every need! Go to His tender sympathy with every sorrow! Go to His prevailing grace with every infirmity! Go to His precious blood with every sin! Draw all your strength and grace from Christ—and seek earnestly the aid and anointing of the Holy Spirit, and—whether in prosperity or in adversity—you will be able to accomplish that which will bring glory to God, happiness to those around you, and peace and comfort and serenity to your own soul. —copied

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"As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters" (Song of Solomon 2:2). These are the words of Christ the Bridegroom concerning His bride the church. In this world she is "among thorns," those who are prickly toward her, yet she is beloved of the Lord. She is lovely and unspeakably delightful in the eyes of the Savior even as He is unspeakably precious in the eyes of His redeemed ones for He is "the Rose of Sharon and the Lily of the valley" (v. 1). His people are adorned in unparalleled beauty for all are clothed with His righteousness. Remember the words of Christ to His people. "And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these" (Matthew 6:28-29). His righteousness is our raiment and we did nothing to make ourselves beautiful; our righteousness is the imputed beauty of Him who is "THE Lily of the valley." His people are lovely lilies planted by sovereign grace in the garden of the Lord. —Pastor Jim Byrd

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SALVATION: ACCOMPLISHED AND MADE KNOWN

I rejoice to focus on the Savior and His completed work of redemption and salvation. In the stead of His people, Christ bore the curse of the law we had broken being made a curse in our stead to satisfy God and put away our sins. The Shepherd paid the debt His sheep owed to divine justice; all legal requirements for salvation have been finished by our Representative. A great transaction took place upon the cross between the Surety of the elect and a holy God. The Father is pleased with the work of His Son which was evidenced in that He raised Him from the dead and enthroned Him at His own right hand.

While redemption, reconciliation, the putting away of sin and the bringing in of everlasting righteousness were accomplished by the work of Christ for us, there must also be a work of God within us by which we are brought to believe, love and rejoice in this glorious Savior. Salvation must be made known to the sinner and that revelation is wrought within us by the Spirit of grace. He must quicken spiritually dead sinners, apply the blood of Christ, and grant faith in the dear Savior. "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; that being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life" (Titus 3:5-7).

Now, as to that work of grace performed within us by the Spirit which results in our believing Christ, does that in any way add to the work of the Redeemer for us? Of course not. Note those words just quoted, "which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour." The grace of God communicated to the sinner in regeneration flows out of, is founded upon and is because of the work of Christ for us in redemption. The Spirit's work does not make us righteous; it does not put away our sins and it does not make us accepted before God. Christ's work alone did all of that. The Savior had promised to send the Holy Spirit to us as a result of His death. "It is expedient for you that I go away." "I go away" was a reference to His voluntary sacrifice which was "expedient," absolutely necessary to save us from eternal death, ruin and destruction. "For if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you. And when He is come He will reprove...of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment" (John 16:7-8). The work of the Spirit within, therefore, is because of the cross-death of Christ for us. Just as surely as there had to be the one to save us, there has to be the other to reveal the Savior and His finished salvation to our hearts. Since the Lord Jesus redeemed His people, each one will experience a work of grace within, performed by the Spirit, who brings us to believe the Savior. —Pastor Jim Byrd