

September 9, 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](http://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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**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

*Tune: "Come Thou Fount," (8.7.8.7. double)*

*Words by Pastor Jim Byrd*

*God of glory, Lord of heaven,  
Hear Your children as we pray;  
Bless us with Your gracious presence,  
As we gather on this day.  
May the precious name of Jesus,  
Be adored and magnified;  
By His sacrifice on Calv'ry,  
God's elect were justified.*

*As we gather here for worship,  
May we meet with one accord;  
Let our hearts be joined together,  
Unified to praise the Lord.  
Speak O Lord in sovereign power,  
Quicken those still dead in sin;  
Bring each heart to trust the Savior,  
Cause Your grace to reign within.*

*Holy Spirit, use Your servant  
As he sets forth Christ the King;  
Make Your gospel word effectual,  
To each heart salvation bring.  
When this time of worship ceases,  
And we leave, our homes to go;  
May the praise of the Redeemer,  
Fill our hearts to overflow.*

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**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

*Sept. 14 Amanda Kuehne*

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Winston Churchill said, "Truth is incontrovertible. Panic may resent it, ignorance may deride it, and malice may distort it, but there it is." Let me use similar words with respect to THE TRUTH OF GOD. The gospel is irrefutable! Man's pride may resent it, his ignorance may reject it, and his wisdom may despise it, but there it is. "*The word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you*" (1 Peter 1:25). —Pastor Jim Byrd

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*"Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left; remove thy foot from evil"* (Proverbs 4:25-27).

Based loosely upon the words of Solomon, here is one of Aesop's fables. "A pigeon oppressed by excessive thirst saw a goblet of water painted on a signboard. Not realizing that it was only a picture, she flew toward it with a loud whirr and unwittingly dashed against the signboard, and jarred herself terribly. Having broken her wings by the blow, she fell to the ground and was killed by one of the bystanders."

The mockeries of the world are many, and those who are deluded by them not only miss the joys they looked for, but in their eager pursuit of vanity bring ruin on their souls. We call the pigeon silly to be deceived by a picture, however cleverly painted, but what epithet shall we apply to those who are duped by the false allurements of the world! —Copied

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**THE WORD OF THE LORD**

*"For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the Word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the Word which by the gospel is preached unto you"* (1 Peter 1:24).

We must make a great difference between God's Word and the word of man. Man's word is like a little sound which flies into the air and soon vanishes; but the Word of God is greater than heaven and earth; yea, it is greater than death and hell, for it is the power of God and remains everlastingly. Therefore, we ought diligently to learn God's Word, and we must know certainly and believe that God Himself speaks with us. —Martin Luther

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**CONSTRAINING LOVE**

*"For the love of Christ constraineth us"* (2 Corinthians 5:14-15). All ministers of Christ and all believers in the Lord Jesus are under the strongest and most compelling constraint to do what they do and live as they live; they are motivated by "*THE LOVE OF CHRIST:*" His love for them and their love for Him! It is not the fear of hell, nor a desire for special rewards, nor to establish a righteousness that they engage in worship, works of faith and labors of love. It is Christ's eternal love, which led Him to redeem them by His death and the love of God for Christ and His church and kingdom which is shed abroad in their hearts by the Holy Spirit. "*All the law is fulfilled in one word — "LOVE GOD AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER"*" (Galatians 5:14). It is unreasonable to suggest that an unworthy sinner, loved with an everlasting love, chosen in Christ, redeemed by His blood, and called with a holy, heavenly calling, would disregard the commandments of his Lord and live a selfish, self-centered and worldly life! "*For the love of Christ constraineth us..., that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto Him which died for them and rose again.*"

—Henry Mahan, from our bulletin, 4/2/2000

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*Why was I made to hear Thy voice and enter while there's room,  
When thousands make a wretched choice and rather starve than come?  
'Twas the same love that spread the feast that sweetly forced me in;  
Else I had still refused to taste and perished in my sin.*

—Isaac Watts, 1709

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**TRUE DOCTRINE**

On true doctrine rests the worship of the true and living God. From error in doctrine springs the worship of a false god. There is a tendency among many religious people to undervalue true doctrine, to exalt morality at the expense of the character of God and the teachings of our Lord, and to deny the importance of a sound creed. I do not doubt that a sound creed has often covered an unsound life. But when I hear it said, "Such and such do not believe the doctrines of sovereign grace and substitution, but they love the Lord and are saved," I wonder and ask, "What then was the Bible written for?" Is it no infallible expression of the mind of God? Is it no standard of truth? Are we to believe what appeals to us and deny the rest? God forbid! God's Word declares the oneness of truth and condemns EVERY DEPARTURE FROM THE TRUTH AS A DIRECT ATTACK ON GOD HIMSELF! Do not tell me that a man's heart is right with God when his head contains a creed of error and denies the Person and work of the Redeemer. —Horatius Bonar