

January 6, 2019

TODAY: 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 BEGIN ANOTHER YEAR**

*Tune: Doxology (LM)*

*Words by Pastor Jim Byrd*

*With humble hearts we gather here,  
And so begin another year;  
Another year, to us obscure,  
But by Thy grace we shall endure.*

*To us the future is unknown,  
But trusting Thee, we journey on;  
Relying on Thy providence,  
We face this year with confidence.*

*By day and night our Refuge be,  
And cause each soul to trust in Thee;  
To look to Christ for all we need,  
Who bled and died for all His seed.*

*Without Thy presence and Thy care,  
To take one step, we would not dare;  
Be Thou our Guardian and our Guide,  
And evermore with us abide.*

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*“God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about Him” (Psalm 89:7).*

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We extend our sincere sympathy to Jane Walker. Her brother Simon Back, age 58, passed away last Monday morning from a heart attack and her sister Kathy Crain, age 60, passed away last Monday night from a stroke she had Sunday. Joint funeral services were yesterday.

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**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

*January 7 Patricia Trabant  
Aiden Parker  
9 Matthew Kuehne*

*January 11 Barbara Marsh  
Jim Byrd  
12 Caleb Malone*

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Please remember to pick up your dishes left from the last fellowship dinner.

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**BEGINNING A NEW YEAR**

*“Ye have not passed this way heretofore” (Joshua 3:4).* How solemn is the reflection that with a new cycle of time commences, with each traveler to Zion, a new and untrodden path! New events in his history will transpire—new scenes in the panorama of life will unfold—new phases of character will develop—new temptations will assail—new duties will devolve—new trials will be experienced—new sorrows will be felt—new friendships will be formed—and new mercies will be bestowed. How truly may it be said of the pilgrim journeying through the wilderness to his eternal home, as he stands upon the threshold of this untried period of his existence, pondering the unknown and uncertain future, *“Ye have not passed this way heretofore!”* Reader! if you are a believer in the Lord Jesus, you will enter upon a new stage of your journey by a renewed surrender of yourself to the Lord. You will make the cross the starting-point of a fresh setting-out in the heavenly race. Oh, commence this year with a renewed application to the *“blood of sprinkling.”* There is vitality in that blood and its fresh sprinkling on your conscience will be as a new impartation of spiritual life to your soul. Oh, to begin the year with a broken heart for sin, beneath the cross of Immanuel, looking through that cross to the heart of a loving, forgiving Father. Do not be anxious about the future; all that future God has provided for. *“My times are in Thy hand” (Psalm 31:15).* *“Casting all your care upon Him, for He careth for you” (1 Peter 5:7).* *“Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and He shall sustain thee: He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved” (Psalm 55:22).* Let it be a year of more spiritual advance. *“Speak to the children of Israel that they go forward” (Exodus 14:15).* Forward in the path of duty—forward in the path of suffering—forward in the path of conflict—forward in the path of labor—and forward in the path to eternal rest and glory. Soon will that rest be reached and that glory appear. This new year may be the jubilant year of your soul—the year of your release. Oh spirit-stirring, ecstatic thought—this year I may be in heaven!

—Octavius Winslow, 1808-1878

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**HUMMINGBIRDS AND BUZZARDS**

Nancy and I enjoy feeding and watching the birds in the backyard. In a few months, the hummingbirds will return for the sweet nectar of lovely flowers and the sugar-water in our colorful feeders. Of course, there are also other birds that fly about; soaring high overhead, we sometimes see buzzards. They have no interest in the beautiful flowers with their delicious juice that is readily available for any bird that desires to have it. Buzzards are in search of that which is dying or dead; they live on and enjoy that which is associated with death. While the hummingbirds fill themselves with sweet and pleasant things, buzzards only find satisfaction with that which is putrid and corrupt. Of this you may be certain, each bird searches for and finds what it desires.

What are you looking for? The natural man, dead in his sin, is in search of things which provide no real life. He seeks after the decaying and corrupt things of this world. The spiritual man, on the other hand, created by the power of God, finds the gospel of Christ to be sweet to the soul. He looks into the Word of God and draws forth that which brings satisfaction to his heart. He says to others what he has experienced himself: *“O taste and see that the LORD is good” (Psalm 34:8).* Where do you find your true joy? In the living things of God, or the dead things of this world?

—Pastor Jim Byrd

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*“Noah planted a vineyard: and he drank of the wine, and was drunk; and he was naked in his tent” (Gen 9:20-21).* Some condition for Noah, the only righteous man, the preacher of righteousness, to be found in! BUT WHAT IS MAN? Look at him where you will, and you see only failure—in the garden of paradise, he fails; in the church, he fails; he fails everywhere and in all things. His true name is not MISTAKE, but FAILURE. His advantages are great, his privileges are great; but he can only display failure and sin because there is no good thing in him. *“Noah was a just man and perfect in his generation, and Noah walked with God” (Gen 6:9).* Grace had covered all his sins and clothed his person with a spotless robe of righteousness. Noah displayed and exposed nakedness, but God did not see it; for He looked not at Noah in the weakness of his condition, but in the full power of Christ’s divine and everlasting righteousness. *“We may have boldness in the day of judgment, because AS HE IS, SO ARE WE IN THIS WORLD” (1 John 4:17).*

—Scott Richardson