EAGER AVENUE GRACE CHURCH

That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 5:21

Worship Services

Sunday, February 2, 2025

10 am: "Watch and Be Ready" Matthew 24:36-45 Matthew Series | Lesson 90 Bill Parker

11 am: "Sowing and Reaping" Galatians 6:7-8 Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.
-<u>Sermon Audio</u>
-<u>Facebook</u>
-YouTube

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This will be sound religion – To rest all upon the everlasting mountains of God's love and grace in Christ, to live continually in the sight of Christ's infinite righteousness and merits. These things are sanctifying. Without them the heart is carnal, and in those sights to see the full vileness, yet littleness of sin (in comparison to Christ's righteousness), and to see all pardoned; in those sights to pray, hear, and so forth, seeing your polluted self, and all your weak performances, accepted continually; in those sights to trample upon all your self-glories, self-righteousness, privileges, as abominable, and be found continually in the righteousness of Christ only, rejoicing in the ruins of your own righteousness, the spoiling of all your own excellencies, that Christ alone, as Mediator, may be exalted in His throne. Mourn over all your duties however glorious, that you have not performed in the sight and sense of Christ's love. Without the blood of Christ on your conscience, all is dead service —Thomas Wilcox (Heb. 9:14).

The Great Change Within

Before a sinner is born again by the Holy Spirit, he consists of nothing but fallen human nature, void of spiritual life. He is spiritually dead and nothing but sinful flesh with all the darkness, desires, aspirations, and motives of sin. He cannot bear or bring forth anything spiritual, for "that which is born of the flesh is flesh" (John 3:6). There is nothing about him, in him, or from him that God accepts. However, "that which is born of the Spirit is spirit" (John 3:6). When one of God's elect is born again by the Spirit, he is given new, spiritual life, which he did not have before. Spiritual life is the work of God the Holy Spirit. It comes from the Lord Jesus Christ on the ground of HIS obedience unto death to redeem us from sin and produce righteousness for us. The sinner born again by the Spirit is literally resurrected from the dead. This new spiritual life consists of all the light, desires, aspirations, and motives of true godliness. The spiritual man can now bear and bring forth the fruit of God's power and grace in Christ, all to the praise of the glory of God's grace. He now has a warfare within himself because of the power, influence, and contamination of the sinful flesh, but he is now dominated in his tenor of life by the Holy Spirit and the spiritual life within through which Christ lives and works to bring forth fruit unto God. People seek to describe and define this great change in many different ways. Some do not go far enough, and some go too far, but the fact is this – It is a change brought about, not by the sinner's will or efforts, but by the will and power of Almighty God (John 1:11-13). It is known by its effects, mainly in driving the regenerated sinner to believe, rest in, and follow the Lord Jesus Christ as his only hope of salvation.

—Pastor Bill Parker

Is God's grace meritorious? YES, but not based upon sinful, fallen man's merits, for he has none. Grace is based on the merits of the obedience unto death of the Lord Jesus Christ. Would God freely give to His elect any blessing of grace apart from His justice being satisfied by Christ? NO! "That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 5:21).

The Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross in fulfillment of all the requirements and conditions of the everlasting covenant of grace. It was absolutely impossible that an innocent person—absolutely considered as such—should suffer under the sentence and curse of the law, for the law denounced no punishment on any such person. Guilt and punishment are related; and where guilt is absent, condemnation cannot be. It was because the Holy One of God was made guilty, meaning as He stood Surety and Substitute of God's elect and by their sins being imputed to Him, that He could righteously be smitten in their place. Yet even that had not been possible unless the spotless Substitute had first assumed the office of suretyship; and that, in turn, was only legally valid because of Christ being the Representative (High Priest) of His people, God's elect given to Him before the foundation of the world. The sacrifice of Jesus Christ owes all its validity from the covenant: the holy and blessed Trinity, by counsel and oath, having appointed Him and His finished work on the cross to be the true and only propitiation (sin-bearing sacrifice accomplishing satisfaction) for sin. —Copied

"O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms. For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods." (Psalm 95:1-3)

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Birthdays

Rosa Jones - Feb. 4th

Hymns

February 2nd services

- -I Love to Tell the Story 431
- -My Faith Looks Up to Thee 359

Prayer Requests

Patricia Pannell, Alex Wages, Audrey Asher, Kathy Robinson, Lori Ann Loosier, Leon Drake, Judy Fletcher, David Tennyson, Monica Hayes, Mike Loosier, Patsy Parr, Phyllis Payne, the mission in Malawi, Africa.

Call to Worship

(Tune – O For a Thousand Tongues – p. 46) (Words by Pastor Jim Byrd)

O what a good and perfect Gift, The Father gave in love; To save our souls, His Son He sent, Down from His throne above.

What other good and perfect Gift, Compares with that dear One? By Him our ransom price was paid, Salvation fully done.

Since Jesus died upon the cross, And met the law's demand; This good and perfect Gift now sits, Enthroned at God's right hand.

So bless the Lord, and thank Him for His good and perfect Gift; Join heart and voice to worship Him, And to Him praises lift.