

# 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, May 3, 2026

10 am: "Redemption and the Law Satisfied" | Lesson 9

Ruth 3:12-4:8

Bill Parker

11 am: "The Fountain of Living Waters" | Jeremiah 2:13

Bill Parker

## Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

-[Sermon Audio](#)

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## Contact

[www.rofgrace.com](http://www.rofgrace.com)

[www.sermonaudio.com/reignofgrace](http://www.sermonaudio.com/reignofgrace)

[www.facebook.com/reignofgrace](http://www.facebook.com/reignofgrace)

email  
info@rofgrace.com

phone  
229.432.6969

address  
1102 Eager Drive

**"For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men."(Romans 14:17-18)**

**"Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost." (Romans 15:13)**

## How Can I Be Joyful?

If the Holy Spirit enables us to be honest, it is a fact that there can be no real inward joy when we evaluate ourselves. Whenever we look within, we get discouraged because all we see is corruption. Yes, we do believe Christ, but we do not pray enough, we do not read the Bible as much as we ought, we don't love the Lord like we should, we do not love each other like we are supposed to; our hearts are sometimes cold and seemingly lifeless. Every thought, every deed, every motive, every imagination is polluted by sin. Who among us can find any comfort in our own conscience with regard to our relationship with a holy God upon the basis of anything within us? Let this be established, the heart can only be genuinely comforted when we look away from self and cast the eyes of our souls upon Christ Jesus the Lord. He is our hope, our joy, our confidence, our righteousness and our salvation. When we look only to Him, then each of us can say with the prophet, **"I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness" (Isaiah 61:10)**. It is not a sign of spiritual maturity to be constantly looking within yourself in search of personal holiness. The Spirit of God, however, brings needy sinners to look to Christ for all things. The first and last command to us poor sinners is this – **"Behold the Lamb of God."** Let us live our lives **"looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith,"** and then we will have a greater measure of joy and contentment while making our pilgrimage through this vile world. How can we be joyful in this world? Here is the answer – **"Rejoice in the Lord."** —Pastor Jim Byrd

## What Determines Moral Truth?

I was reading an article on the internet last week that posed this question – “What determines moral truth? Is it rooted in emotion, reason, tradition, or divine authority?” Well, the only right answer to this question is that by divine authority, God alone determines moral truth. But ever since our fall in and by Adam, fallen, sinful human beings have rebelled against God’s sovereign right to determine moral truth and have aspired to determine truth for ourselves. This was shown in the Garden of Eden by the tree of the knowledge of good and evil – **“And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die” (Gen. 2:16-17)**. That tree set forth God’s sovereign right as Creator and Lord to determine what is good and what is evil. When Adam ate of that forbidden fruit, he declared his independence from God and sought to set his own standard of good and evil. By this act of sin and rebellion, he brought the whole human race into a state of sin, depravity, and spiritual death. Men have since aspired to declare their independence from God and determine for themselves moral truth, good and evil. It can be summarized in a statement found in the book of Judges – **“every man did that which was right in his own eyes” (Jdg. 21:25)**.

Nowhere is man’s natural pride and rebellion seen than in his thoughts about God, salvation from sin, and issues of righteousness. It is seen in all false gospels of salvation conditioned on the works and wills of sinners rather than salvation conditioned all on the Lord Jesus Christ Who is the only Way, Truth, and Life without Whom and without Whose righteousness no one can come to God and be saved or accepted (**John 14:6**). God has determined to set forth and reveal HIS truth, the only truth, by His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Without Him, all that we think and do for salvation (justification, redemption, sanctification) is a lie. Christ said, **“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32)**, and that is the truth as revealed in the glorious Person and finished work of Christ as the Lord our Righteousness. All truth in matters of salvation and righteousness must be measured by this Gospel truth.

—Pastor Bill Parker

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### Prayer Requests

Patricia Pannell, Audrey Asher, Kathy Robinson, Lori Ann Loosier, Leon Drake, Judy Fletcher, David Tennyson, Monica Hayes, Patsy Parr, Phyllis Payne, Glenn Tennyson, Mason Flynn, Banks Margeson, Jermaine Harpe, the mission in Malawi, Africa.

### Hymns

- When I See the Blood - 232  
- At the Cross - 129

## **Call to Worship**

**(Tune – I Love Thy Kingdom – p. 188)**

**Behold the throne of grace,  
His promise calls us near;  
There Jesus shows His lovely face,  
And lives to hear our prayer.**

**That rich, atoning blood,  
Which at the cross we see,  
Provides for those who come to God  
An all-sufficient plea.**

**Thy mercy, Lord, bestow,  
Thy presence and Thy love;  
We ask to serve Thee here below,  
And reign with Thee above.**

**Abiding in Thy faith,  
Our will conformed to Thine;  
Let us victorious be in death,  
And then in glory shine.**