

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, June 18, 2023

10 am: "The Righteousness of God's Law" | Matthew Series
Matthew 5:20-28 | Lesson 14
Bill Parker

11 am: "The New Covenant in Christ" | Jeremiah 31:31-40
Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

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Paths of Righteousness

"He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name sake" (Psalm 23:3). The good Shepherd of the sheep leads His flock in those righteous paths ordered of the Father and established by the Son. *"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delights to walk therein" (Psalm 37:23).* Christ is that good man, sent of the Father to take every step necessary to *"finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy" (Daniel 9:24).* In *Psalm 40:8* Christ said, *"I delight to do Thy will O God."* He, *"who for the joy set before Him, endured the cross, despised the shame" (Hebrews 11:6),* that He might lead His sheep in righteous paths. *Micah 6:8* defines those paths – *"He has shown thee O man what is good; and what does the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and love mercy and to walk humbly with thy God."* Those who walk the path of justice look to Christ's righteousness imputed alone for salvation. Those who walk the path of mercy bow the knee at the mercy-seat crying, "Lord, propitiate for me." Those who walk the path of humility do so knowing their deservedness of eternal death.

Does my walk equal this talk? Only if my motive is grace and gratitude for the law and justice Christ satisfied for me, the propitiation He made for me and the gift of eternal life He earned for me when He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. I follow Him in paths of righteousness when I follow His voice in *Isaiah 30:21* – *"And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, this is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left."* The good Shepherd leads us in paths of righteousness. He is before us. If we hear a word behind us, we have turned to the right or left. We seek to follow the Shepherd. His direction is always the same – *"I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh to the Father but by Me" (John 14:6).* Walk ye in the righteous paths.

—Winston Pannell

“Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.”

--Hebrews 10:38-39

“My Sins Are Not Hid From Thee” (Psalm 69:5)

King David was inspired by the Holy Spirit to write many psalms, some of which are classified by Bible scholars as messianic, meaning that David spoke both of himself literally and of the Lord Jesus Christ typically and prophetically. *Psalm 69* is a messianic psalm. When we read verses like *Psalm 69:5*, which says, *“O God, Thou knowest my foolishness; and my sins are not hid from Thee,”* we can easily see how such language applies to David as a sinner saved by the grace of God in Christ. Like all true believers, David confessed that he in himself was a foolish man who had no wisdom but Christ and the Word of God in Christ. He confessed that, even as justified by God based on the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ and though not charged with his sin by God (*cf. Psalm 32:1-2; Rom. 4:6-8; 8:33-34*), in himself he was still a sinful man. He knew his sins were not hidden from God’s view (*2 Sam. 12:9; Psalm 51:4*). But how could these words in any way apply to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Who in Himself was (and is) the sinlessly perfect Godman Who did not sin and knew no sin? The answer can only be found within the context of Holy Scripture which reveals from the beginning that God the Son, the second Person of the Trinity, was appointed in the everlasting covenant of grace by God the Father to be the Surety, Substitute, and Redeemer of His chosen people, having their sins imputed (charged, accounted) to Him, and to die in their place to satisfy the justice of God for them. As one writer stated, “David might truly say this, but not our Lord, unless he refers to our sins imputed and laid to His charge. He was made to be sin for us (*2 Cor. 5:21*)” (Henry Mahan, *With New Testament Eyes*, Vol. 2, page 43). Foolishness can never be applied to Christ Himself, for He is Himself the very Wisdom of God (*Prov. 8:22-36*). But it is true that sinful men charged Him with foolishness, and He bore the foolishness of all the sins of His people on the cross (*1 Cor. 1:21-27*). Jesus Christ was never made to be a sinner, and He was never corrupted or contaminated with the sins of His people, but He bore in Himself all the guilt and punishment of all the sins of His people imputed to Him. This is how He Himself could truly and rightfully say, *“MY sins are not hid from Thee.”* Our sins became His sins by imputation.

—Pastor Bill Parker

Prayer Requests

Patricia Pannell, Alex Wages, Audrey Asher, Kathy Robinson, Lori Ann Loosier, Leon Drake, Akemi Okada, Sue Parker, the mission in Malawi, Africa.

Hymns

June 18th services

- Look to the Lamb of God - 216
- Hiding in Thee - 282

Birthdays

Jennifer Vanzandt - June 20th | Nick Parr - June 22nd | Mark Pannell - June 24th

Call to Worship

(Tune – How Firm a Foundation – p. 268)

**Great Father of glory, how rich is Thy grace!
What wonderful love is displayed in Thy face!
In Jesus Thy image, with brightness we view
And hope to be formed in that likeness anew.**

**Oh wonder of wonders! Astonished I gaze
To see in a manger, the Ancient of Days!
From sin to release us, that yoke so long worn
My God, my Creator, of Mary was born!**

**For unworthy sinners, my Lord bowed His head
For unworthy sinners, He suffered and bled
My spirit rejoices; the work is all done!
My soul is redeemed, my salvation is won!**

**Great Father of glory, how rich is Thy grace!
What wonderful love is displayed in Thy face!
In Jesus, Beloved, we're washed in His blood
And with confidence come to the throne of our God.**