

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, March 23, 2025

10 am: "Exposing the Betrayer"

Matthew 26:17-25

Matthew Series | Lesson 96

Bill Parker

11 am: "The Remnant of Israel"

Isaiah 10:20-23

Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

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Election does not prevent the salvation of anybody who wants to be saved. But the distinction needs to be made between a mere desire to escape hell and the desire to be saved from sin. The desire to be saved from hell is a natural desire – nobody wants to perish. The desire to be saved from sin is a spiritual desire resulting from the convicting work of the Holy Spirit, and God's electing grace is the very mother of this desire. To represent election by saying that God has spread the Gospel feast, and a man comes to the table hungering for the bread of life; but God says "No, this is not for you, you are not one of my elect," is to misrepresent the Holy Doctrine. Here is the truth – God has spread the feast, but the fact is nobody wants to come to the table. "They all with one consent began to make excuse." God knew just how fallen nature would act, and He took no chance on His table being filled, so, He tells His servant to go out and compel them to come (Luke 14:23). Were it not for the redemptive work of Christ there would be no Gospel feast; were it not for the compelling work of the Holy Spirit there would be no guests at the table. A mere invitation brings nobody to the table.

—Copied

Reconciliation

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, Who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.” (2 Corinthians 5:17-19)

In our fall in and by Adam, we became enemies of God in our minds ***“by wicked works” (Col. 1:21)***. These wicked works include the best efforts of fallen sinners to be reconciled (at peace with and restored unto God) by works of the law. Unregenerate men call these efforts “good works,” but God calls them evil deeds and fruit unto death (John 3:19-20; Rom. 7:4). The truth of the Gospel of God’s grace is that God is reconciled to His chosen people only by Jesus Christ through the blood of His cross which is Christ’s righteousness imputed to them. God’s elect are commanded in the Gospel to be reconciled to God on that same ground – ***“For He hath made Him to be sin for us, Who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him” (2 Cor. 5:21)***. There is no other way of reconciliation (peace) with God and sinners. —Pastor Bill Parker

Prayer is God's appointment, the Spirit's gift, the believer's privilege, and the scourge of Satan! Therefore, prize it and use it! God is well-pleased, and receives with pleasure, approbation, and delight all who approach His throne of grace, sensible of their needs in the name of Christ crucified. Hence faith in Christ becomes the only way of access to God. All other avenues are stopped up! The sword of justice is brandished to keep every other way to the tree of life closed. In Christ, we may come with boldness to the throne of grace; there is no obstacle, no hindrance, in this way. The sword of justice is sheathed, the law magnified, the ransom price paid, the devil dethroned, sin expiated, wrath endured, God well-pleased, sinners redeemed, enemies reconciled that the Lord God might dwell among them!

—William Huntington

Looking Unto Jesus

“Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:1-2)

I know it is difficult to do this. There is a natural proneness to pore over our many, many sins and shortcomings. One feels at times a secret liking to indulge in gloomy thoughts. But we must look away from self; for if we do not, we shall become anxious, doubting, and gloomy! We must run the race, not looking at our imperfections, short-comings, and failures but looking unto Jesus. He knows what we are. He knew what we would be before He called us by His grace; yes, before He shed His blood for us! He loved us, as sinners. He died for us, as sinners. He called us, as sinners. He saves us, as sinners. He will have all the glory of saving us, and He will get great glory by doing so, because we are such great sinners; and we cannot, do anything to repay Him for His wondrous love! Salvation is by free grace from first to last! Believe this, and it will raise up your drooping mind!

—James Smith

**THE NEXT LORD’S SUPPER AND CHURCH
DINNER WILL BE ONE WEEK FROM TODAY
ON SUNDAY, MARCH 30.**

Hymns

March 23rd services

Come Thou Fount - 17

Jesus Paid it All - 125

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 – Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus – p. 378)

**I see the blessed Savior uplifted on the tree.
The law holds Him its captive, that sinners might go free.
His blood poured out in mercy; it does for sin atone.
I hear Him cry, “It’s finished!” The work is fully done!**

**I see the mighty victor arising from the grave;
Death, hell, and Satan vanquished; this mighty God can save.
Christ took His place in heaven upon the throne above.
To Him all pow’r is given to save the souls He loves.**

**I trust You, Jesus, Savior; I bow before Your throne.
By sov’rign mercy saved me, and took me for Your own!
Your blood, my only cleansing; Your righteousness, my robe.
You are my only Refuge; I have no other hope.**