

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, October 6, 2024

10 am: "Hosannah in the Highest"
Matthew 21:1-11
Matthew Series | Lesson 75
Bill Parker

11 am: "Furnished Unto Good Works" | 2 Timothy 3:16-17
Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

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“Just As If I’d Never Sinned”?

Some have said that to be “justified” is to be “just as if I’d never sinned.” But the truth is justification deals completely with the fact that I HAVE sinned. God being just, His justification has to have a just basis. When Paul wrote in *Romans 8*, “*It is God that justifies,*” he immediately followed with “*it is Christ that died.*” The death of a sinless Substitute for sin is necessary for God to justify a sinner. Justification is clearly an act of God. He declared all His people as having been “*justified freely through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.*” All in Him are now without sin, but justification does not excuse sin or in any way diminish its vileness and offensiveness to God. No, justification declares the sinner righteous and also declares the Justifier as righteous.

—Pastor Gary Shepard

When Your Vows Fail

And I tell you what, there never will be, there never can be, a particle of creature work or merit in sanctification. Nothing will do but the finished work of Christ. The hope must go of any betterness in self before we have any manifestive hope in Christ. When the Lord is pleased to bring manifestive sanctification into your conscience, you will know something of being drawn by the cords of a man, and with the bands of love. When your vows fail, when your promises fail, and all seems to fail, then you will know something of being sanctified in Christ Jesus and that there is no holiness but in and from Him.

—William Gadsby

God Does Deal in Credit

I heard a man who was preaching on the subject of imputed righteousness say that when it comes to our justification before God, “God does not deal in credit.” The Gospel truth is that when it comes to a sinner’s justification before God, God most certainly does deal in credit. In our justification, God credited our sin-debt to Christ Whom God made to be our Surety. Christ our Surety stood in our place having our sin-debt charged, accounted, credited, imputed to Him. And, having made Christ to be our Surety, God sent His Son into the world, as our Substitute, to redeem us (pay our sin-debt in full) with the price of His blood. Also, having made Christ to be our Surety, Substitute, and Redeemer, God charged, accounted, credited, imputed His righteousness to us. Our sins cannot be credited to our account (**Rom. 8:33-34**) because they were credited to Christ’s account, and He paid the debt in full for us.

The fact that God credited our sin to Christ does not deny, negate, nor diminish the fact that He had to come in time and pay our sin-debt with His blood (His death on the cross). And having paid that debt, He was raised again because of our justification (**Rom. 4:25**). The fact that God has credited Christ’s righteousness to us does not deny, negate, nor diminish the fact that we, in our experience, must be born again by the Spirit and brought to faith in Christ and repentance of dead works. For a man to preach a message on the subject of imputed righteousness, and to claim that “God does not deal in credit” is the ultimate contradiction. It is a denial of the true Gospel of God’s free and sovereign grace based upon Christ being made sin for us that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him (**2 Cor. 5:19-21**).

—Pastor Bill Parker

Oh, precious Lord Jesus, cause Thy people to rejoice in Thy full and finished salvation. By Thee, all that believe are justified from all things (**Acts 13:39**). Here then, Lord, give Thy people grace to rest. Let there be nothing wavering, nothing unsettled in our faith because everything in the covenant of grace is **“ordered, and sure in all things”** (**2 Samuel 23:5**). Oh, for faith, in lively exercise, to believe **“the record God hath given of His Son”** (**1 John 5:10-11**). **“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee, because he trusteth in Thee”** (**Isaiah 26:3**). Let all Thy faithful, therefore, of this present hour, as were the disciples of old, be strong in the grace which is in Christ Jesus, and, like them, be filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

—Robert Hawker

Lord’s Supper

I want to express our gratitude to the ladies and the men who work hard to make our fellowship dinners a success. Last week was a great time of worship and fellowship in the Lord, and He used you to bless us with great food and a wonderful time with each other. We all thank the Lord for you! —The Pastor

Birthdays

Sandy O'Connor - Oct. 6th

Prayer Requests

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

Hymns

October 6th services

-The Solid Rock - 272

-Blessed Assurance - 255

Call to Worship

(Tune: Immortal, Invisible – p. 34)

(Words by Pastor Jim Byrd)

**Christ Jesus the Savior came down from above,
In covenant mercy and infinite love;
The Lord of creation a Servant became,
To save all His people from sin, guilt and shame.**

**Enthroned in His beauty and all glorious,
The God of creation was made like to us;
The Word was made flesh and laid glory aside,
What grace and affection for His chosen bride.**

**Our Prophet, High Priest and our eternal King,
Descended from heaven salvation to bring;
Em-man-u-el came, the Lord with us on earth,
Behold a great myst'ry - the dear Savior's birth.**

**O what a Redeemer is Jesus our Lord,
He paid all our sin-debt, to God we're restored;
Redeemed by His blood, He our ransom has paid,
And clothed in His beauty His saints are arrayed.**