

# 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, September 25, 2022

10am: "Christ and the Fruit of Righteousness" | Lesson 95  
Christ in the Old Testament  
Lamentations 3:1-26  
Bill Parker

11am: "Blessed Union With Christ (2)" | Ephesians 1:3-6  
Bill Parker

## Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

-[Sermon Audio](#)

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## Good Works

***“For we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”***

***(Ephesians 2:10)***

The good works which the child of God performs for the glory of God are not really our works, per se, but works done by the powerful leadership of the Spirit and due to the grace of God freely given us in Christ Jesus. We read of our ***“work of faith and labor of love” (1 Thes 1:3)***. If the Lord ordained our works of faith and love, and if He performs them in us, how can they be called ours? Here is the reason: they are done through our abilities as the Lord has gifted us and makes use of our faculties to the praise of His great Name. The glory, therefore, for any good thing that we perform, must not go to the worker, but to the true Origin of all good works, the God of all grace.

—Pastor Jim Byrd



## Bible Conference

**OUR CONFERENCE IS LESS THAN A MONTH AWAY – October 14-16**, with Bothers Gary Shepard and Richard Warmack. The schedule will be Friday (10/14) at 7:00 p.m.; Saturday (10/15) at 10:00 a.m.; and Sunday (10/16) at 10:00 a.m. There will be food served on Friday before and after the service, on Saturday evening, and on Sunday after the service. All meals will be catered. More details are forthcoming.

## Hymns

### September 25th services

Immortal, Invisible - 34  
O God, Our Help - 10

## Prayer Requests

Winston and Patricia Pannell, Alex Wages, Audrey Asher, Frank Dell, Cathy Robinson, Lori Ann Loosier, Leonard Qualls, Cassie Broxton, Judy Fletcher, James Mwali and the mission in Malawi, Africa.

In the Scriptures, we see that salvation by God's free and sovereign grace based on the glorious Person and finished work of Christ as the Surety, Substitute, Redeemer, Life-giver, and Preserver of God's elect is an all-glorious and all-encompassing truth. It spans both eternity and time where what God has purposed, decreed, and declared in His eternal mind, is worked out and accomplished in time as He *"worketh all things after the counsel of His own will"* (Ephesians 1:11). We are creatures of time, and we can only think in terms of time. But let us not try to bring God down to our level. God suspends time. He is not subject to time, and He has predestined and controls all things in time *"to the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the Beloved"* (Ephesians 1:6). The

*"Beloved"* here is the Lord Jesus Christ in the glory of His Person (God manifest in the flesh) and the power of His finished work (accomplishing righteousness by His death in time whereby God has justified all of His chosen people). We see then that ALL THINGS IN ETERNITY AND TIME are founded upon, revolve around, and lead to the glory of God in and by the Lord Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. The cross of Christ is the crux of all eternity and time. And what God has accomplished in time did not change His eternal mind. The cross of Christ did not change God's mind towards the people He chose in Christ before the foundation of the world. The cross of Christ revealed what God's mind always was and always will be towards His elect. *"But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by Whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world"* (Galatians 6:14).

—Pastor Bill Parker

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*"Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept Thy word" (Psalm 119:67). "It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes" (Psalm 119:71).* The children of God almost always flourish more in trials and difficulties, than in the sunshine of health and prosperity. *"I know, O LORD, that Thy judgments are right, and that Thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me" (Psalm 119:75).* —William Tiptaft

## Call To Worship

(Tune – Brethren We Have Met to Worship – p. 15)

**Glory, glory, I'm forgiven; all my sins are washed away.  
Christ, by His great blood atonement, all my sin has put away.  
Sin imputed to my Savior when He died upon the tree  
As the Substitute for sinners,  
God will not impute to me.**

**Glory, glory, I'm accepted, robed in Christ own righteousness;  
I'm a child, an heir of heaven, saved by God's almighty grace.  
Christ's obedience to the Father is imputed now to me;  
In God's sight I'm pure and holy,  
He declares me so to be.**

**Glory, glory, I'll not perish, in Christ's hands I am secure;  
He who saved me, sure, will keep me; by God's grace I shall endure.  
This is not a vain presumption; I just take Him at His word;  
Christ has sworn, "They shall not perish  
Who believe on Me their Lord."**

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## There is Power in the Blood of Christ!

We know the value and the power of Christ's blood (His death for the sins of God's elect imputed to Him) from the credit it had for the putting away and the cleansing of the guilt and the establishment of righteousness for God's elect, before it was actually shed in time. We know it also from the God-given faith and the reliance that true believers had on it in all ages, Old and New Testament. The blood of Christ was applied from the foundation of the world, though it was not shed till the fullness of time. The Old Testament saints had the benefit of the promise of redemption before the accomplishment of the sacrifice of Christ for redemption. The cleansing we have now is upon the account of the blood of Christ already shed. The cleansing the Old Testament believers had then was upon the account of the blood of Christ in time to be shed: the one respects it as past, the other as future. We must distinguish the virtue from the work of redemption. The work was appointed in a certain time, but the virtue was not restrained to a certain time, but was communicated to believers from the foundation of the world, as well as extended to the last ages of the world. This fact alone shows the necessity of Christ coming in time to fulfill all righteousness for His people, and the true power and value of His blood as the payment for all the sins of all of God's people (*Gal. 4:4-6; Heb. 2:14-17*).

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