

December 4, 2011



WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday: 10:15 AM Bible Class
11:00 AM Morning Service
Thursday: 7:00 PM Mid-week Service

WEB ADDRESS

Be sure to bookmark our website for daily articles and audio messages:
www.FreeGraceMedia.com

WEEKLY MEETING LOCATION

Rocky Hill Firehouse, 2nd floor
150 Washington Street
Rocky Hill, NJ 08553

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Pennington, NJ 08534

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If you would like to receive this bulletin sent weekly to your email then send a note to the email address above.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

10:15 a.m. Bible Study
Short Break
11:00 a.m. Service

- Opening Hymns
- Scripture Reading
- Message
- Closing Hymns

ANNOUNCEMENTS: We will plan to have service on Sunday, December 25 at 11 a.m. Remember to ask the Lord's direction in our finding a new place to meet.

December Birthdays

Cheryl D'Armiento—3rd; Anthony D'Armiento—26th

Brethren when we read "in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him," remember that the words "fulness" and "complete" are the same. There is no greater news than this! Believer, you are as complete in Christ as Christ is the fullness of the Godhead bodily (Col 2: 9-10).

MERCY SOUGHT, MERCY FOUND

Matthew 8:1-2

These are shocking words, "there came a leper." Leprosy was so horrible that lepers were quarantined. If a leper came near another person he had to cry "*Unclean, unclean.*" Can you picture this scene? As the people stand clear for fear of touching this leper finally he gets to the Lord Jesus Christ "and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean." I picture the crowd silent in suspense. What will the Master do? "And Jesus put forth *his* hand, and TOUCHED him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed." Mercy is obtained when mercy is truly sought. May we see in this leper what it is to truly seek mercy in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Come to Christ in Desperate Need

Leprosy is one of the best representations of the plague of sin: sin makes everything we touch unclean, sin is incurable by us and sin means death. The leper realized his desperate case. Do you? You may not have leprosy but you have a disease worse than that, you have the disease of sin. Do you know your need of cleansing? Do you know that without Christ you will surely perish forever? Before any sinner will seek mercy, he must first have this desperate need. Seeking mercy is to come to Christ with a need none but Christ can cure.

Come to Christ in True Humility

The leper came and worshipped him. Luke says, "Seeing Jesus, he fell on his face." Christ is worshipped with a heart broken and contrite. When the Spirit of God gives a new heart then we see who and what we are in the Light of who Christ is. Our best deeds are filthy rags; Christ is Holy and Righteous. We are full of uncleanness; Christ is the Fountain open for cleansing. Seeking mercy is to come *down*: down from pride, down from self-righteousness, down from self-sufficiency, all the way down to the feet of Christ. Has your heart been broken and humbled at the feet of Christ? (Mt 5: 3-6). Only when we become poor in spirit will we repent from ourselves, fall on our face and worship Christ (Job 42: 5-6).

Come to Christ Submitting in Faith

The leper said, "Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean." As bad as his disease was yet Christ had said, "Ask, and it shall be given you" (Mt 7: 7). He came making no demands but casting himself on the will of another, "Lord, if thou wilt." Are you depending on your will or the will of God? Salvation glorifies the will of the Lord not our will (Ro 9: 15-16). The leper acknowledged Christ's sovereign right to give or withhold grace according to his own sovereign pleasure. Mercy seekers come to Christ believing he is able to do what no one else can, "thou canst make me clean." Do you believe Christ is who he says he is?—the Son of God. Do you believe Christ has

finished the work of salvation so that there remains nothing for you to do? Do you believe that if it is his will Christ can make you clean? Come to Christ submitting to his will, believing on him (Heb 11:6).

Mercy Found

The God of all grace has never rejected a sinner who cast himself upon the King, Christ Jesus.

*I can but perish if I go,
I am resolved to try;
For if I stay away I know,
I must forever die.*

*But if I die with mercy sought,
When I, the King have tried;
This were to die (delightful thought!)
As sinner never died.*

"And Jesus put forth *his* hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed" (Mt 8: 3).

Brethren, do nothing to be seen of men. But do everything knowing that men do see. "Adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things" (Titus 2:10).

Patience includes both our immediate dealings with others, as well as constancy in teaching them the truth, constancy in showing them faithfulness, and constancy in waiting on God to make the gospel effectual in their hearts.