

March 03, 2013

SOVEREIGN GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

Of Princeton, New Jersey

Jesus Christ

For by Him were all things created,
that are in heaven, and that are in earth,
visible and invisible ...

And He is before all things,
and by Him all things consist.
- Colossians 1:16-17

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday: 10:15 AM Bible Class
11:00 AM Morning Service
Thursday: 7:30 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

MAILING ADDRESS

7 Birch Street
Pennington, NJ 08534
Clay Curtis, pastor

Phone: 615-513-4464 | Email: clay@freegracemedia.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

10: 15 a.m. Bible Class followed by short break

11:00 a.m. Service

Opening Hymns

Scripture Reading

Message

Closing Hymn

Nursery Today: Urmilla I. **Nursery Thursday:** Debbie D.

If you would like to receive this bulletin sent weekly to your email then send a note to the email address above. Articles in this bulletin are by the pastor unless otherwise noted.

Why No Answer?

Isaiah 50: 2-3

The Lord Jesus asked, “Wherefore, when I came, *was there* no man? when I called, *was there* none to answer?” Sinner, why have you not answered the call of the Redeemer which you hear going out in the preaching of the gospel? Christ says, “Is my hand shortened at all, that it cannot redeem? or have I no power to deliver?” By the work of Christ’s hand, Christ redeemed a multitude on the cross. He has all power in heaven and earth; he is able to deliver; he is able to save to the uttermost all who come unto God by him, seeing he everliveth to make intercession. (Dan 6: 27; Heb 7: 25) Christ says in verse 3, “Behold, at my rebuke I dry up the sea, I make the rivers a wilderness: their fish stinketh, because there is no water, and dieth for thirst. I clothe the heavens with blackness, and I make sackcloth their covering.” So sinner why have you not answered his call? The problem is not with Christ; the problem is that you do not believe Christ. If you do not answer him now, when you stand before Christ in the Day of Judgment (and you will) what will you answer him then?

HEARKEN UNTO GOD!

Isaiah 46: 1-4

Anything a man puts confidence in other than Christ is an idol. An idol does not have to be made into an image; it may be only in the imagination of a man's heart. (Eze 14: 3) Bel and Nebo were the chief idol gods in Babylon. They were hauled away on wagons. Can you picture those weary horses burdened under the heavy load as they pulled the wagons loaded with those broken statues? Christ bears the burden of his people. But anything other than Christ will not only fail to bear our burden, it will itself become a heavier burden upon us. (Is 2: 20-22) In these four verses God declares that he has, is and shall always carry those he has made. Now, let's hearken unto God.

God is the Eternal I AM

God changes not. As he was the first moment he opened the heart of his child to behold his glory in the face of Christ Jesus, so he is now. (Mal 3: 6) At times our hearts are ablaze with zeal for him. But even when we are smoking flax, even though our weary steps may falter, God our Father is the same in his love and grace, in his power and protection, in his promises and truth, in his faithfulness and care of those he has everlastingly loved. Believer, our God has made an everlasting covenant in our hearts and it is impossible for God to lie. Therefore all who have fled for refuge to Christ have strong consolation: Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. (Heb 6: 18; 13: 8)

I Have Made You

Whatever confidence is made of man will go to the dust when man goes to the dust. Then what a fearful thing it will be to face holy God without an Advocate! Yet, even you who are yet rejecting Christ were made of God because in God "we live and move and have our being. Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device. And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent." (Acts 17: 28-29) God says, "Hearken unto me!"

Those born of him spiritually, God says, "I have made you." (Heb 3: 14; Is 43: 21) We were made in his purpose of grace when he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world. When Christ descended into the womb of the virgin then were all his children in him. (Ps 139: 16) On the cross, Christ made us the righteousness of God putting away all our sin and in the new birth, we were made the righteousness of God in Christ: justified, sanctified, complete in Christ. (Deut 33: 27; 1 Cor 6: 11; Col 2: 10) What peace to know that none can unmake what God has made!

I Will Carry You

When the Spirit of God regenerated us, he made us to see just how real Christ bore us and carried us: “Surely he hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.” (Is 53: 4-5; 1 Pet 2: 24) Through all our days of rebellion, our Savior carried us when as yet we did not even know he was doing so. (Is 63: 9; Deut 1: 31) He carried us to hear his gospel, making us his new creation, creating us in righteousness and true holiness. All these many days it is Christ who has carried us. He promises when these bodies become too racked with sickness to carry us, “Even to your old age I AM HE; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you.”

Every poor sinner who is yet without Christ must bear all themselves: the weight of guilt, the weight of your idols (for they cannot carry you), and the burden of the law. Yet Christ says, “Come unto me, all *ye* that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.” (Mt 11: 28-29) The great Shepherd of the sheep “shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry *them* in his bosom, *and* shall gently lead those that are with young. (Is 40: 11) Do you see how much better the true and living God is than any idol? God says, “Hearken unto me!” “There is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me. Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. (Is 45: 21-22)

I Will Deliver You

Believer, our gracious Father already “hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.” (Col 1: 13) As he carries us from the womb to old age so often we have had the sentence of death in ourselves “that we might not trust in ourselves but in God who raiseth the dead.” Yet through all our trials, God “delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver *us*; (2 Cor 1: 10) Out of all affliction and temptations, out of the hand of every enemy, from this body of sin and death, from death eternal, and at last from the grave and all corruption our great God and Savior has and shall deliver us out of all. And God shall deliver us into something: that new heaven and new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness (Rev 21: 1-6)

Therefore our unchanging God and Savior says, “Hearken unto me!” So the next time all those distracting voices try to turn us aside, hearken unto his voice! (Ps 73: 26) “For this God *is* our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide *even* unto death.” (Ps 48: 14)