

March 10, 2013



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

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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: Michelle L. Nursery Thursday: Carol D.

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NO LICENTIOUSNESS

Ephesians 4:17-32

Grace does not cause or promote licentiousness, but true godliness (vv. 17-24). The gospel of the grace of God and the grace of God experienced in the soul teaches believing men and women to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present evil world for the glory of Christ. We are totally free from the law; but believers are not lawless. Saved sinners seek to glorify God in all things. If your religion promotes, permits, or allows room for lasciviousness, greed, and deceitful lusts, your religion is not the religion of grace. Grace teaches people to bridle their passions and their tongues (vv. 25-29). And grace causes saved sinners to fear the thought of grieving the Holy Spirit (v. 30). In a word, grace makes people gracious. "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (vv. 4:31-32).

Don Fortner

ENEMIES RECONCILED, FRIENDS SAVED

Romans 5: 6-10

Trust and confidence that our salvation is secure is because of what Christ has done for us by his death and what Christ continues to do for us by his life. Those who have been quickened, called and converted to faith in Christ by the Spirit of God are given this assurance in the passage before us.

Remember What We Were

We were without strength, ungodly, sinners. (Eph 2: 12) While we were dead in our sins we were the “un” of everything God is: God is holy, we were unholy; God is just, we were unjust; God is righteous, we were unrighteous. By our first birth, we were what God hates and we hated God. (Col 1: 21.) Someone might object, “I’ve never been that way”. You may think not because you see yourself as moral. But your heart has deceived you. You may think you have never been God’s enemy, because though you are not for Christ, you are not outwardly rebellious against the truth. But according to the words of Christ, neutrality in this warfare is enmity. (Mt 12:30) Not to be on Christ’s side is to be against Christ; not to be separate from God’s enemies is to be God’s enemy; not to love him is to hate him; not to be his, is to be Satan’s. (Rom 8: 7) No sinner can be a friend of God until we learn, in some degree, that by nature and practice we are “enemies of God by wicked works.”

What He Did For Us While We Were Enemies

When we were yet sinners, Christ died for his elect. God proved that his love toward those he everlastingly loved is beyond change of any kind. The love of God in Christ for each individual beloved child passes knowledge. (Eph. 3:18-19) Not even our deplorable condition could alter the love of God for us. It was because before we sinned in Adam, God loved us and put us in Christ who promised to lay down his life and bring us to God. God does not love his children because Christ died for us or because we believe on him. It was because God loved us that he gave us to his Son. And God “commendeth” his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. God’s love for us in Christ is the envy of devils. The angels stand in amazement at it. Do you brethren? (Jer 31: 3) Every elect child is accepted by what God the Father has done for us

in Christ, while as yet we were enemies (Eph 1: 6; Ro 3:25; Eph 2:13; Heb 9:12.)

What He Shall Do For Us Now That We Are Friends

“Much more, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him, for if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.” If God justified and reconciled us to himself by the death of his Son when we were ungodly enemies, now that we are his friends we shall be saved by our risen Redeemer. By his life, Christ sends the gospel to us. He sends the Holy Spirit to make us alive, plant the truth in our hearts and give us faith to believe on Christ. Therefore, we believe we shall be saved from wrath through him. (Rom 8: 1, 15-17) By Christ’s life, he saves us from our infirmities. (Rom 8: 26-27) Our living Head works all things together in heaven and earth for our good because he is the Firstborn Son among many brethren to whom God the Father has entrusted the well-being of his whole house. (Rom 8: 28-31) By his life, he shall save us by giving us all things, spiritual and temporal, that is needful for our salvation. (Rom 8: 32) It is by his life that no one shall be able to charge his elect. (Rom 8: 33-34) By his life, he shall save us from anything that would separate us from him. (Rom 8: 34-39; Heb 4:14,15; 7:25; Rom 5: 2-3)

Conclusion of the Matter

You who are born of God are complete and accepted by God because of Christ’s death. You shall be saved because of Christ’s life. Fear only God. If Christ accomplished our reconciliation when we were his enemies, being now his friends, Christ will save us by his life. Our living Redeemer will complete what he has begun in us because we are his friends. Because he lives, we shall live also. (Jn 14: 19)

Luke 10:16 He that heareth you heareth me; and he that despiseth you despiseth me; and he that despiseth me despiseth him that sent me.