

December 29, 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

Services Broadcast Live @
www.FreeGraceMedia.com/live

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
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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. Articles in this bulletin are by the pastor unless otherwise noted.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

10:15 a.m. Bible Class

11:00 a.m. Service

Opening Hymns

Scripture Reading

Message

Closing Hymn

Announcements: B'Days: Cheryl D.—3rd; Debbie D.—17th; Anthony D—26th; Wedding Anniversary: Joe and Abby Z—2nd **Nursery Today:** Cheryl D.
Nursery Thurs: Michelle L.

HOLD UP MY GOINGS IN THY PATHS

Psalm 17: 5: Hold up my goings in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not.

Without scrupulously or superstitiously observing "days, and months, and times, and years," few of us altogether pass by so marked an epoch as the dawning of another year upon our path without some acknowledgment of it both to God and man. When we open our eyes on the first morning of the year, we almost instinctively say, "This is New-year's day." Nor is this, at least this should not be, all the notice we take, all the acknowledgment we make of that opening year of which we may not see the close. When we bend our knees before the throne of grace, we mingle with thankful acknowledgment for the mercies of the past year, both in providence and in grace, earnest petitions for similar mercies to be experienced and enjoyed through the present. Last evening witnessed our confessions of the many, many grievous sins, wanderings, backslidings, and departings from the living God during the year now gone; this morning witnesses our supplications for grace to hold up our goings in his paths, that our footsteps slip not through the year just come. Tears are most suitable at the burial of the dead; hopes and desires at the birth of the living. The past year was the departed sire, worn out with age and infirmity; the present year the newborn babe in the arms of the smiling nurse. It is still, however, mid-winter. To-day, the first of the present year, differs little in outward appearance from yesterday, the last of the past. But the thoughtful, prayerful mind takes little notice of wintry skies. It feels that the old, worn-out year has sunk into its grave, with all its trials and afflictions, and that a new year has come in its place, with its new hopes and new mercies; and if it bring new trials, yet that the promise still stands, that new strength will be given to meet and overcome them. Refreshed and strengthened at the throne by such or similar

communing with the God of all our mercies, we go down to meet our families, and are at once greeted on all sides with, "I wish you a happy new year," a greeting which we as warmly and affectionately return. Almost every friend, well-nigh every acquaintance that we meet with in the course of the day, greets us with the same kind wish. Now in all this there may be a great deal of formality, lip-service, and traditional usage; but there may be also a good deal of sincerity, kindness, and affection. We are not, surely, so shut up in miserable self as to have no desire for the health and happiness, the temporal and spiritual welfare, of our families, our friends, or even our acquaintances. And if we desire their good, we need not be backward or unwilling to express it in a few words of friendly greeting. "Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted;" "Be pitiful, be courteous;" "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men," are precepts imbued with all the spirit of the gospel, and may be, indeed, should be, attended to without the least sacrifice of that faithfulness which becomes those who would daily walk in the fear of the Lord. There may be a form of kind words as well as "a form of sound words;" and as we may use the latter in perfect harmony with the doctrines of the gospel, so we may use the former in perfect harmony with the spirit of the gospel. JC Philpot

A New Year with Christ our Captain

Joshua 5: 13: And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries? 14: And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant?

With this New Year may we who believe remember that Christ Jesus is the Captain of the host of the LORD, our Captain, and we his soldiers. Our warfare is unlike any other. The enemies we face are not flesh but powers and principalities, rulers of the darkness, spiritual wickedness in high places. We have absolutely no strength of ourselves for this warfare. Yet, it certain we shall be victorious. Every enemy shall be made Christ's footstool: some by his effectual grace, others by his just judgment, but all shall. Our one weapon is the gospel. Christ is the Power who makes this weapon mighty to the pulling down of strongholds. Our charge is simply to blow the gospel trumpet. May we begin this New Year on our face with Joshua asking, "What saith my Lord unto his servant? And may we continue the whole year through with full assurance in Christ our Captain upon whose shoulder the government rests.

A BELIEVER'S PEACE

Where does a believer find real and genuine peace? On what foundation can we rest and say in truth, "It is well with my soul?" I'll tell you; it lies in this—that we are justified by faith and not by works. Christ Jesus stood in my stead before God. I was guilty with nothing to pay, doomed to Hell; and Christ took my place! He died for me! How can I perish? How can I be punished for sins which have already been laid on Christ and for which He has suffered? God demands of me that I keep His holy law perfectly. I cannot do it. But Christ has kept it for me. He kept it, magnified it, and made it honorable in my flesh. What more can God demand of me? I am washed in the blood of Christ Jesus; I am clothed in the righteousness of Christ Jesus; I am risen and seated at His right hand in Christ Jesus. You may ask, "How is all this yours?" I reply, "By the grace of God, through the merits of Christ, revealed by the Spirit of God THROUGH FAITH!" God said, "*He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life.*" I do believe, I sincerely believe in Christ; therefore, I have eternal life. *Pastor Henry T. Mahan*

ACCORDING TO HIS PROMISE

2 Peter 3: 10: But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

Not one word God has spoken has gone unfulfilled and not one shall. The day of the Lord will come as unexpectedly as a thief in the night. Are you ready? Not knowing the day, we would be wise to cast our care upon Christ now while it is the day of salvation. This world is telling you to chase your dreams. But if we accomplished all our dreams in this world and die without Christ they will prove to be as worthless as dreams of night. Jane Bonar wrote, "Farewell ye dreams of night, lost in this dawning bright." Nothing we see now will remain as it is—"the heavens shall pass away with a great noise and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." Therefore, those will prove fools who scoff at, or are indifferent to, the promise of Christ's return. Seek Christ now while he may be found.

Brethren, by electing, redeeming, regenerating grace of the triune God, in Christ Jesus our Redeemer, we are complete, justified, sanctified, and righteous—"Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation;...Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen."