

SERMON NOTES

RESCUE BAPTIST CHURCH

5201 Deer Valley Rd,
PO Box 232, Rescue, CA 95672
Phone (530) 677-1710
John Reeves, Pastor

Email- rescuebaptist232@gmail.com
Website- www.rescuebaptistchurch.com
sermonaudio.com/rbc232
freegraceradio.com

*We Zoom Friday Night Bible Study & Sunday Morning Services send your e-mail address to rescuebaptist232@gmail.com to be added to our list

SUNDAY AUGUST 6, 2023

MARK 5:5-7

When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee. But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, Why doth this *man* thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?



WELCOME TO RESCUE BAPTIST CHURCH

"Sinners are welcome at this church. We are a local body of the Lord Jesus Christ. As you spend time with us, you'll soon discover we're an imperfect church, with an imperfect pastor, yet by God's undeserved grace, we preach, believe, and know the perfect gospel of our never-failing Lord Jesus Christ. We call His name Jesus for He shall, (not might, not maybe) but shall save His people from their sins, and every sinner that trusts in Christ is complete in Him, saved to the uttermost" Hebrews 7:25 (copied)

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Sunday Morning Bible Study 10:00 AM
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Friday Night Bible Study 7:00 PM

OPENING HYMN ARE YOU WASHED IN THE BLOOD PAGE 190

SCRIPTURE READING PSALMS 2:1-12

WORSHIP HYMN COME THOU FOUNT PAGE 2
MESSAGE

CLOSING HYMN THERE SHALL BE SHOWERS OF BLESSINGS PAGE 289

By keeping our hearts diligently, we should the soonest remove the scandals and stumbling blocks out of the way of the world. How the worthy name of our Lord is blasphemed because of the wicked conduct of many who bear His name! What prejudice has been created against the gospel by the inconsistent lives of those who preach it! But if we keep our hearts, we shall not add to the scandals caused by the ways of loose professors. Nay, those with whom we come in contact will see that we have "**been with Jesus**" (Act 4:13). When the majestic beams of holiness shine from a heavenly walk, the world will be awed, and respect will again be commanded by the followers of the Lamb.

~A. W. Pink

"Until we can comprehend what the wrath of God means, by gazing steadfastly into the pit of hell; until we can understand the purity of God amid the perfection of heaven, and so can measure the awful distance between our depraved condition and the perfect holiness of Jehovah, we shall not know how lost we were."
~ C. H. Spurgeon

An Offering & Sacrifice To God

"...a sacrifice TO God for a sweet smelling savour." (Ephesians 5:2)

As I searched a religious poetry book, recently sent to me for my benefit and consideration, to learn as to how the author would speak of the precious blood of God's dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, I came upon the following *ignorant* extract. (Reader, can you discern it for the horrid lie it is? Don't let its pretty rhyme deceive you.) "Why, when He stood offering His blood to wash them from their sin, —They would embrace no saving Grace, but lived and died therein?"

Beloved, the writer of that extract is greatly *ignorant* to think that the blood of our blessed Redeemer was offered to men. What blasphemy! What damning error! To condition the efficacy of God's saving grace upon the creature's embrace!? God forbid that the *reader* or the *writer* ever look to our embrace of Him as the fount of God's saving grace; for it is His everlasting loving embrace of His people that saves us [Jeremiah 31:3]. And yes beloved, we do embrace our precious Lord Jesus, but never forget it, it is His embrace *alone* that saves us. Remember, He said His sheep shall never perish. How come? Because they are in His loving embrace! And because of that being so, He says *nothing* and *no one* shall pluck them out of His mighty hand [John 10:28].

May God grant His grace, to the *reader* and *writer* alike, to ever trace the reason of our believing on Christ, even now, to God alone! **"For by grace are ye saved through faith; AND THAT NOT OF YOURSELVES [not of your embrace of Him, but His embrace of you! GRACE, SALVATION, FAITH]: IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD: Not of works, lest any man should boast"** (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Rejoice beloved! Our Lord sets forth, ever so blessedly, the reason you find yourself believing on Him; He says "*My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I [do not offer, but rather] give [I GIVE!] unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish*" and "*neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one*" (John 10:27-30). I'm so thankful beloved, that we're "*sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ [unto God the Father] once for all*" and that His people, His elect "*are kept by the power of God through faith [through Christ, through God's faithful glorious never failing Son] unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time*" (Hebrews 10:10; 1 Peter 1:5).

Reader, have your eyes seen His Salvation? [Luke 2:30]. If they have, you will be made to know that when He stood for His people, He wasn't offering His blood TO them, but rather He "*hath given Himself [His blood, His body, His person] for us an offering—a [satisfying once for all] sacrifice TO God*" (Ephesians 5:2). **"For by one offering He hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified"** (Hebrews 10:14). AMEN!

—Joseph Murphy

SOMEONE IS LYING!

WHO is spreading lies across America and throughout the world? Who is it that is telling around that the Lord Jesus Christ ransomed some who are not ransomed? Redeemed some who are not actually redeemed? Atoned for the sins of some whose sins are not covered? Purged the sins of some whose sins have not been purged? Became a Substitute for some who must yet answer unto God for themselves? Died for the sins of some who must yet die for their own sins? And prays for some who shall never benefit from His prayers?

WHO dares to utter such blasphemy against the living God? Who would so impugn and malign God in His wisdom and purpose, holiness and justice, love, power and grace? Who would be so irreverent and impudent as to speak, or even believe such things?

WHO? The vast majority of preachers throughout the world – most of our religious neighbours and those who preach to them! Pity them but do not excuse them... they ought to be ashamed of themselves! To say that Christ suffered and died for those who had already been in hell 4,000 years when He died, or to say that His soul was made an offering for sin for those whom God knew – being omniscient – would never believe the gospel when they heard it, or that God ever purposed anything that He shall not bring to pass, is a confession of one's ignorance of the God of the Bible.

~Maurice Montgomery

PLEASING GOD

So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. (Rom. 8:8-9)

What Child of promise is there, one truly born from above, that has not the desire to please the God Who has everlastingly loved him, bought him with holy blood, and now seals him unto the day of redemption? A believer is ever mindful of the frailty of a body that is spiritually dead and has no desire to please God because of sin, but rejoices in the Spirit which is life because of Christ's righteousness. He observes a present evil, a law of sin which is in his fleshly nature, but is ever thankful through Christ Jesus that with the mind he serves the law of God.

A Christian, though constantly falling short to rightly follow after that which is good and pleasing to God, fears not the wrath of the Holy Judge because there is now no condemnation to that sinner if he is in Christ Jesus. A believer, because he is not condemned, is dealt with as a child of promise. That Child may be chastened (and often is), but that chastening is not because the Father is condemnably displeased, but because He loves His own for the sake of Christ. If the sinner pleases God, that pleasure was secured by grace through faith by His beloved Son at Calvary. In Christ above, the Father is pleased with every redeemed sinner.

~Marvin Stalnaker 12/4/94

ANNOUNCEMENT

- We will come to *The Lord's Table* (DV) after a short message following our afternoon meal.

"Cast not away therefore your confidence"
(Hebrews 10:35).

"Is your confidence in Christ, and only in Christ? If my confidence has anything to do with anything I have done to recommend me to God, it is a false hope, and the quicker I get rid of it the better! *'For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have NO confidence in the flesh'* (Phil. 3:3). By God's grace, His enlightened children, those who truly believe the gospel, WILL continue in the faith; WILL NOT be moved away from Christ who is our hope. WE WILL NOT CAST AWAY OUR CONFIDENCE. *'We are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul'* (Heb. 10:39). Those who were '*chosen in Christ*' by God the Father, those who were '*quickened*' by God the Holy Spirit, place their complete trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and His PERFECT WORK of redemption. Our confidence is in Jesus Christ who *sanctified* us when He offered Himself as a perfect sacrifice for our sins (Heb. 10:10). Our confidence is in Jesus Christ, who *perfected forever them that are sanctified* (Heb. 10:14). Our confidence is in Jesus Christ who suffered and bled and died, '*Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification*' (Rom. 4:25). Our confidence is in Jesus Christ, Who is seated at *the right hand of the Majesty on high*, RIGHT NOW, making intercession for His blood-bought children. Our confidence is in Jesus Christ, Who has ALL POWER in heaven and earth, Who upholds ALL THINGS by the word of His power. Our confidence is in Jesus Christ, Who not only holds ALL those for whom He died in His sovereign hand of eternal love, but promises each one of us that absolutely NOTHING can separate us from His love. Once again I ask you, is your confidence in Christ, and only in Christ?" ~Gene Harmon

Suffering as a Christian

1 Peter 4:12-19

Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. Yet if *any man suffer* as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf. For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

Cure for Care

Matthew 6:19-34

Our Lord knows our hearts. He knows how quickly we turn off warnings against worldliness and how easily we excuse our pursuit of earthly things. Knowing our hearts, our Lord here nips in the bud every excuse we might offer for these things in Mat 6:25-34.

Here is a cure for our earthly cares.

First, our Savior tells us in Mat 6:25 that we ought never be possessed of an overly anxious spirit. — "*Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?*" Four times in these verses he says, "*Take no thought.*"

Prudent provision and care about earthly responsibilities is right. We are to work and provide for our families. But greed, worry, and tormenting care over earthly things is wrong.

To cure us of care and teach us to trust him, the Lord Jesus here reminds us of God's providential care of everything he has created. He sends us to the birds of the air for instruction. — "*Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?*"

In Mat 6:27 he reminds us of the utter uselessness of worry, "*Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?*"

Then, in Mat 6:28-30 he sends us to the fields to observe the flowers to rebuke our disbelief. — "*And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?*"

In Mat 6:31-32 our blessed Savior tells us that any failure to implicitly trust our heavenly Father is utterly shameful. — "*Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.*"

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In Mat 6:33 he gives us a great, precious promise. — "*But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*" — "*For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly*" (Psa 84:11). — "*And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose*" (Rom 8:28).

In Mat 6:34 our Savior seals up his instruction on this subject with a universally known and acknowledged fact, saying, "*Sufficient to the day is the evil thereof.*" Why carry trouble before it comes? Attend to today's business and leave tomorrow's worries to tomorrow's troubles. If tomorrow comes, the Lord will be with you. If he sends trouble, he will give you grace sufficient. "*Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.*"

Any attempt to explain the wondrous things here declared by our Lord would be, at least on my part, utter folly. They are too sweet and delightful to need comment. Rather, let them be rolled over in our hearts, praying that God the Holy Spirit will effectually seal them to our hearts.

Contemplate with joy the eternal love of God in Christ to our souls. All that is contained in creation, providence, redemption, grace, and glory to come are countless tokens of that love and goodness!

Loved in Christ with an everlasting love (Jer 31:3), chosen in Christ by immutable grace, blessed in Christ with all blessings of grace and salvation from eternity, accepted in Christ from everlasting (Eph 1:3-6; 2Ti 1:9), preserved in Christ and called (Jud 1:1).

Surely, his goodness to us in time, in every work of providence, cannot be doubted. His compassions never fail. His faithfulness is indescribably great. His mercies are new every morning. Yes, "*the Lord is good to them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him*" (Lam 3:22-25). He who redeemed us with his precious blood will never forget to take care of us. May he give us grace to leave all our concerns with him and be anxious only to be found in his kingdom, robed in his righteousness, and accepted as one with him.

Let us take no thought for tomorrow, knowing that "*whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's*" (Rom 14:8). ~Don Fortner