

January 22, 2017

## 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 @  
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<b>WEEKLY MEETING LOCATION</b>	<b>MAILING ADDRESS</b>
251 Green Lane Ewing, NJ, 08638	7 Birch Street Pennington, NJ 08534 Clay Curtis, pastor

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

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

**10:15 am. Bible Class 11:00 a.m. Service: Opening Hymns \* Scripture Reading \* Message\* Closing Hymn**

**Nursery Today:** Debbie D; Christine K **Nursery Thurs:** Alyssa L

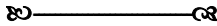
**BDays:** Vincent D-18th; John K-27th; **Anniversaries:** Scott and Christine K—2nd

Brother Eric Lutter will bring both messages this morning. I am scheduled to preach in Springfield, Missouri. Pray for us that God will give us boldness to speak the truth of our Redeemer as we ought.

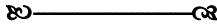


### SUNDAY'S READING IN PROVERBS

**Proverbs 3: 7: Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. 8: It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.**



“The more entirely we live, not to ourselves, but to Him who died for us, the more powerfully shall we realize what it is to have ‘*joy and peace in believing*’ (Rom. 15:13). *JC Ryle*



### **The Problem and The Solution**

*Pastor Henry Mahan*

We won't make much headway in finding a solution if we don't understand the problem. A cure is not likely to be found if we have no knowledge of the disease. In the matter of salvation, the problem is man's sin; the solution is God's grace. The disease is moral depravity and spiritual inability; the remedy is God's mercy in Christ.

If a man is near-sighted, he only needs corrective glasses, but if he is blind, he needs the miracle of sight! If a man is sick, he only needs medicinal aid, but if he is dead, he needs the miracle of life! If man has only strayed from the way, he needs directions, but if he is completely lost, he needs to be found!

So here is the question that must be settled by preachers and people alike: "What happened in the garden?" When one feels obliged to come to some conclusions on the subjects of election, irresistible grace, and particular redemption it would be wise for him to first determine the condition of the sinner who is to be saved.

If man was only wounded by the fall he needs only assistance; if he is dead in sins, he needs to be resurrected and that by the purpose and power of the God of life. If fallen man still has his moral ability and power of choice, then let us wait for him to choose and seek God, but if fallen man loves darkness and will not come to Christ, then Christ must love and come to him.



## CHRIST ALONE - THE SINNER'S ONLY HOPE

*"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21*

Our only hope of salvation is the Lord Jesus Christ. Salvation is in Christ alone, in Christ completely, and in Christ only. In fact, he is God's salvation. You cannot be saved without him; and you cannot be saved if you try to mix your own works, feelings, emotions, or experiences with faith in him. The Lord Jesus Christ is able to save you from the guilt of sin, the power of sin, and all the consequences of sin. He is all sufficient. His name is called "Jesus" because "he shall save his people from their sins". He is the only one who has power in himself to forgive sin. He is exalted "to give repentance and remission of sins" to the Israel of God.

The Lord God found a ransom for sinners in his own dear Son, and purposed to save his people by the sacrificial death of his Son as their Substitute from eternity. In the fullness of time, the Son of God became a man to accomplish the salvation of chosen sinners. "Being found in fashion as a man, he became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross". Thus, by the sacrifice of himself according to the will of God, the Lord Jesus Christ put away all the sins of his people, obtained eternal redemption for them, and established the only grounds upon which God can be both just and the Justifier of all who believe (Rom. 3:24-26).

There is no other possible way of salvation. God's own beloved Son would never have been crucified to redeem and save us if salvation could have been obtained in any other way. Indeed, the apostle Paul reasons that if we could have been saved in some other way "then Christ is dead in vain" (Gal. 2:21). Infinite wisdom found a way to save us. Infinite grace provided the great sacrifice. Infinite love brought the Son of God to lay down his life for his people. Why? Because there was no other way for God to both satisfy his justice in the punishment of sin and forgive his people of all their sins. Christ alone is and must be our Savior. "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). If you believe on Christ, you may be confident that your sins are forgiven by his blood and that God looks upon you as being perfectly righteous. He has promised to save all who trust his dear Son. Indeed, if you now trust the Son of God, it is because you are already born of God and have everlasting life (John 3:36). *Pastor Don Bell*



It will help us solely rely upon Christ if we think about what a weighty responsibility he gave us when he said with one spirit and one mind strive together for the faith of the gospel while at the same time we think about how powerless we are to do it without him.



**HONOR GOD—Part 2 of 5**  
**1 Samuel 2: 30**

*(This sermon had an intro with four divisions. I am publishing each section over the next few weeks.)*

**1 Samuel 2: 30...them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed.**

Eli failed to honor God when he did not make his sons stop eating the sacrifices in a dishonorable way, along with other abominable things they were doing. This is our responsibility even if our children are lost, as were Eli's sons. (1 Sam 2: 12) Did God really expect Eli to command his sons to obey him in the house of the LORD even when they did not know the LORD? Of course!

In God's house, God teaches his people the one way of salvation is Christ. That is who the offerings and sacrifices in the temple pictured. God the Father chose his Son to be the High Priest, the Offering, the Altar, the Temple of God and God chose a people in his Son. Unlike Eli's sons, God's Son fulfilled all his purpose, redeeming his people from the curse of the law. God the Holy Spirit regenerates each one, making us the habitation of God and of Christ through faith.

The purpose of gathering together in this place is to hear that you and I are born sinners, alienated from God, without Christ and without hope in this world. We are helpless to make ourselves be born again, helpless to bring ourselves to believe on Christ, helpless to make ourselves righteous or sanctify ourselves. In other words, our purpose for gathering together is to hear the gospel preached which declares salvation is of the Lord, apart from our works. Nothing is more important!

Therefore, in God's house, God will have us to, at least outwardly, keep the order God commands so we can hear this glorious message. Christ said through the apostle Paul, "Let all things be done unto edifying...For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints...Let all things be done decently and in order." (1 Cor 14: 26, 33, 40)

So God will have us who are his children, who God has placed in authority—pastors, husbands, fathers, mothers—to teach those in our sphere of influence. God will have us rebuke any and all who are a distraction from Christ, who attempt to put a blemish upon Christ.

Always remember, we cannot make God's word effectual in the heart. But that is not our responsibility. Our responsibility is to have our children under the sound of the gospel of Christ, to teach them Christ, and as long as we are able, to make sure they do not become distracted or become a distraction from Christ.