

February 9, 2020

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

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Ewing, NJ, 08638

MAILING ADDRESS

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Pennington, NJ 08534
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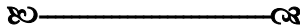
Articles in this bulletin are by the pastor unless otherwise noted.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

10:15	am.	Bible	Class
11:00 a.m. Service:	Hymns * Scripture Reading	* Message*	Hymn.
Scripture Today:	Greg C	Scripture	Thurs: Ben M
Nursery Sun:	Joyce M; Carol D	Nursery	Thurs: Christine K
Feb BDays:	Mike L—14 th ; Christoff A—23 rd ; Kristyn K—25 th	February Cleaning:	
	Kalyn, Lauren, Donna		



Proverbs 14: 18: The simple inherit folly: but the prudent are crowned with knowledge.



TRUE GROWTH

When religious folks talk about growing as believers they usually mean they stopped committing certain outward acts of sin and started performing religious deeds. They speak with pride in what they have accomplished. Is that the spiritual growth of the Bible? When God grows his child it is a work of God alone through the gospel of Christ crucified. It is very gradual. God makes his child *“grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ”* (2 Pet 3: 18). It is growing in the knowledge of why Christ had to live and die under the law. Christ gave the law righteousness for his people. Then Christ laid down his life in place of his people, satisfying the justice of God which demanded our death. It was the only way God could show mercy to ruined sinners and be just. The more we behold the light and glory of Christ the more sinful we see ourselves. It is like someone standing in a condemned house as the morning slowly dawns. Gradually they see more and more that the old house is totally dilapidated. We see sin in our outward acts but in our best deeds, too. We see sin in our thoughts but we see the sin that we are, too. We see more and more that Christ is All and we are nothing but sin. This growth does not cause pride but humility. Someone pointed out that it is like the progression we hear from the apostle Paul. First he wrote, *“I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.”* (1Co 15:9) Then *“Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ.”* (Eph 3: 8) In old age, *“This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.”* (1Ti 1:15)

GOSPEL FISHING

"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a net" - Matt. 13:47 "I will make you fishers of men" - Matt. 4:19. Fishing in the old days was done primarily by net. Men would cast a large net in an area thought to be populated with fish; the net would then encircle and capture them. Modern fishing uses many devices such as rod & reel, hooks, lines, bait and artificial lures. There is much cunning, trickery and guile involved in modern fishing techniques with bait being the most important thing. Artificial lures (man-made bait) are most often used to allure the fish into being caught. If the fish don't bite one type of lure you then try another and another and another. Modern religion is just like modern fishing, using every type of allurements in order to entice men into the Kingdom. Every day someone comes up with something new; some new scheme, gimmick and enticement trying to find something that folks will swallow; something, anything to get men interested in God. Music, entertainment, programs; fun and games are widely used as enticements. The enticements (perusable words) of man's wisdom, worth and power with God, are the greatest allurements and many swallow hook, line and sinker. But true preaching, which is the power of God unto salvation, does not use enticements at all. True preaching is as a net.

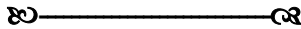
The old way, yea, the only way...God's way, is for a man to stand before a group of people (fish) and declare God's Word. *"Thus saith the Lord"* is the power of God. Nothing added, nothing taken away. No gimmicks, tricks or soul-winning tactics, but simply preaching the Truth, God's Word, the Gospel of Jesus Christ and Him crucified. God uses His Word as a net to apprehend His elect. The Gospel lays hold upon all the elect and they become the Lord's captives. Saul of Tarsus didn't just 'see the light' but it is written, *"suddenly, there shone round about him a light from Heaven"* (Acts 9:3). That light is Christ. Christ apprehended Saul! And the Lord does the same to all of His elect. His Holy Spirit overshadows and lays hold of every one of His sheep through the preaching of the gospel. No allurements are needed when the power of God is exerted. We simply cast the net of God's Word and the Spirit of God brings men to Christ.

Why don't some men use this net but rather use man-made allurements? Because they themselves were never apprehended by the net. Had they experienced the power of God they would know and use it. Had they truly been apprehended by the gospel of Christ, they would know what apprehends men. - Pastor Paul Mahan



GOD'S DEVIL ON GOD'S CHAIN

Take note that right after Jesus was baptized and the Holy Spirit descended upon him, right after the heavenly voice was heard confirming Jesus as the Son of God, then it was that the Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness alone to be tempted to sin by the devil. Just as God prompted Satan to focus his demonic attention on Job, so he put his Son in the way of Satan's temptation in order to demonstrate by his sinless response to it that he was a fitting and qualified Saviour of his people. Never forget that Satan is God's devil to accomplish God's purposes in demonstrating salvation accomplished. Though utterly evil as he is, Satan is only ever able to do that which God permits for his purposes of grace. *Pastor Allan Jellet*



A GLORIOUS PARADOX

Believers on the one hand are nothing but sin, and on the other hand they have no sin. This is one of the great mysteries of the gospel that keeps God's people humble, yet hopeful. It causes them to cast all their care on the One that cares for them. It leads them to have no confidence in the flesh, yet to come boldly before the throne of grace. It is the reason they can mourn and rejoice at the same time. It shows them their inability to satisfy any part of God's law, and it frees them from the condemnation of the law. It causes them to bow in humble worship as mercy beggars, yet they hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end. They are nothing yet have everything. They are hell deserving, yet heaven bound. They are in abject poverty, and they are infinitely and eternally rich. To the natural man, these things are a contradiction. To the child of God... they are his life. *Pastor Greg Elmquist*