

May 12, 2008

SERMONS FOR SUNDAY

May 18, 2008

a.m. *"Making God a Liar"*

Scripture: 1 John 1:7-10

p.m. *"The Lord's Prayer for You"*

Scripture: John 17:10-12

Christ's Saving Work

Don Hatch

The saving work of Jesus Christ bridged the gap of sin that separates man from God. Christ is the way, truth and life that makes man free from sin and causes us to focus on His life, death, burial, resurrection and ascension to the right hand of the Father.

The Bible affirms that Jesus died according to prophecy in the scriptures (1 Cor 15:3). God's eternal plan for man's salvation was an offering of the perfect lamb (Jn 1:29, 35; Heb 9:22). Only the blood of the perfect Son of God remits sin. Christ's sinless life made Himself the sacrifice God required and He was willing to die on man's behalf (Rom 5:1-11). Jesus took upon Himself the penalty for all of man's sin (Gal 3:1-14; Rom 6:23). Sinners are reckoned to be righteous when they are in Christ (2 Cor 5:18-20). They are cleared of every charge by the blood of Jesus (1 Jn 1:5-10). Jesus' atoning act vindicated divine justice and extended divine mercy to all who will accept Jesus as the Son of God and who are faithfully obedient to Him (Rom 3:21-30). Christ's atonement for sin is the means for reconciliation of man with God. Jesus' blood was poured out for remission of sins (Matt 26:28). He reconciled mankind to God by His death (Rom 5:10). He took away the sins of the world (Jn 1:29). He knew no sin, but became sin on man's behalf to deliver him from the evil world (2 Cor 5:21). In Jesus man has redemption and forgiveness according to the riches of His grace (Eph 1:7). Jesus sacrificed Himself that man might live (Heb 9:26). Corruptible things such as silver, gold or vain traditions of men cannot atone for man's sins. The Blood of Jesus, the Lamb of God, was shed to redeem man (1 Pet 1:13-19). The importance of the cross in God's plan of salvation is paramount (1 Cor 5:14, 15; Heb 2:9). The gospel message is to preach Christ crucified (1 Cor 2:2).

As significant as the death of Christ is to Christianity there would be no benefit unless Jesus Christ was raised from the dead. For the blood of Jesus to be effectual [produce the desired results] the resurrection had to take place. God's eternal purpose was for Jesus to become man's Saviour by coming forth from the tomb. This is sublimely set forth in the gospel (Heb 7:25; 9:11-26; 10:19, 20). Jesus died that man might be able to return to fellowship with God. Christ's death was greater than all other sacrifices of bulls, goats or ashes of heifers for it obtained eternal redemption. As High Priest Jesus entered into heaven and offered His blood to put away sin, dedicating for man a new and living way to God. Jesus had to appear before the face of God on mankind's behalf to justify us by His blood (Rom 4:25). The saving of man from the wrath of God is through Christ. When Jesus was resurrected by the glory of the Father He ascended to the right hand of the Father (Acts 2:35-37). Thus, justification was validated by His resurrection and blood. Jesus taught that justification was inseparable from

His resurrection (Jn 11:25). Jesus' resurrection, never to taste of death again, is proof that God accepted His sin offering for man and His followers are promised everlasting life with a proviso [clause in a document making qualifications, conditions or restrictions] of being obedient unto death (Rev 2:10; Rom 6:1-11). The resurrection assured man that there would be a judgment and that the world would be judged by His coming (2 Tim 4:1-5; 2 Cor 5:10). At judgment the faithful will hear "well done thou good and faithful servant" (Matt 25:32). The resurrection assures man that the faithful followers are guaranteed victory in Christ (Rom 8:31-39). Saints and sinners will be resurrected, each to receive benefit or damnation in accordance to having been baptized into Christ for remission of sins (Rom 6:1-11; Jn 5:26-29). The victory spoken of in the scriptures is victory over death with the corruptible becoming incorruptible, the mortal becoming immortal (1 Cor 15:50-58). All Christian beliefs rest on the resurrection. Jesus overcame and brought to naught him who had the power of death, the devil (Heb 2:13-18). The resurrection was a pledge by God that His people will ultimately triumph over death through Jesus Christ. If Christ was not alive the dead could never live; if He is not the resurrection they can never be raised; if He does not have the keys of hell and death then man is unredeemed. But He broke the bars of death and gates of hell to set man free. He has been resurrected by the glory of the Father.

Jesus is coming again. Jesus told His disciples that He was going to go away but that He would return to receive them (Jn 14:1-5). Jesus' return is anticipated by the church (1 Thes 4:13-18). The coming of Jesus will be essential to our salvation. He went to glory and promises to take the faithful to glory (Jn 17; Col 3:4). Jesus is the complete source of our fellowship with the Father. Jesus takes away sin and He will appear again to them who wait for His return (Heb 8:28). The scriptures affirm that Jesus went to the right-hand of the Father and will at the Father's command come to call the redeemed to eternity. At the second coming of Jesus "the books" will be opened and also "the book of life" (Rev 20:11-15). Those who have their name in the Lamb's book of life will rejoice in the salvation given to them (Phil 4:1-4). Jesus will never set foot on the earth again. He will come and the dead in Christ will be caught up in the clouds to meet Him in the air and ever be with the Lord. Nothing comforts the souls of the redeemed as much as the assurance that Jesus is coming again (1 Thes 4:13-18).

FAMILY CARE

A Message from Our Shepherds

The elders would like to thank you for all your financial support and prayers for our many missionaries. Without your continued support, the word of God would be seriously hampered in many parts of the world. Matthew 28:18-20: And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen.

The elders appreciate all of your efforts as members of this congregation in spreading the gospel of our Lord throughout the world. We have tried to be very selective in the countries and the missionaries of those places that we want to evangelize. You should continue to pray for the efforts of our missionaries: Oleg and Natasha Yakimenko (St. Petersburg, Russia), Dennis and Beth Johnson (Chennai, India), Roland and Rose Mohsen (Paris, France), Glen

and Kuin Tattersall (Launceston, Australia), Wil and Telanda Sadler (Germany), Ted Lingren (Sisophon, Cambodia), and Charlie and Mary DiPalma (Kangayam, India).

You help orphans and widows through Christ Haven Children's Home (Keller, TX), Foster's Home for Children (Stephenville, TX) and through JB and Ivy Paul (Bitragunta, India). You also financially support Terry and Pam Laurence at the Bear Valley School of Preaching in Colorado and the teaching at the 21st Century Global Missions, Mississippi.

We assist missionaries in other ways than just financially: Gary and Nadya Workman are provided a room for their books while they are away preaching and teaching in the Ukraine. We sponsor Ian and Mabel McPherson (Devonport, Australia) in organizing their U.S. financial support to their bank account.

We do a good job of evangelizing through the printed word as we support Wayne Jackson with the Christian Courier on the Web and supporting Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution (Arlington, TX). Mission Printing is one of our favorite works because it is a 'hands on' project that gives everyone an opportunity to be busy about the Lord's work. Please come in the Jr. Auditorium and help out on Sunday afternoons at 4:00pm and enjoy the fellowship.

Bother Don Hatch does a good job of writing a weekly article for the Dallas Morning News. This is a fine way to advertise our worship services. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit, Gal.5:25. Carolyn and I have been privileged to have Dennis and Beth Johnson with us for a few days while they seek more support for their great efforts in directing the Chennai Teacher Training School, India. We wish them well and God's speed.

~Richard L. Renfro

SOWING THE SEED OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IN 2008

Is One Church As Good As Another?

Jesus taught that truth is required for being free from sin (Jn 8:32). Is a church which teaches error as good as one which teaches the truth?

Those who taught a different gospel were rejected by God, Christ and the Apostles (Gal 1:6-11). Is teaching only a part of the truth of the gospel of salvation as good as teaching the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:27)? Traditions of men are vain worship.

Are those who teach traditions of men as good as those who teach the commandments of God (Mat 15:1-11)? God established a scheme of redemption. This plan focused on the perfect sacrifice of Jesus as the means for redeeming man from sin.

Is a church which does not teach God's plan of salvation as good as one which does? Is one church as good as another?

~ Don Hatch; article to appear in the May 16, 2008 issue of the Dallas Morning News

How Do You Measure Up?

Therefore, brethren, we are debtors – not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, those are sons of God.

For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.”

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs – heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

Romans 8:12-17

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

Sunday, May 18, 2008

Front foyer: Richard & Carolyn Renfro; Brandon & Kenica Thomason

Back foyer: Nancy Pond; Roberta Price

Sunday, May 25, 2008

Front foyer: Robert & Cathy Taylor; Ilene Ashworth, Carol Swinney

Back foyer: Paul & Bernice Guisinger

Family News:

MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet **today** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium.

MENS' GATHERING/DEVOTIONAL

The **Monday morning** gathering will meet at 6:00 a.m. in the Annex.

SINGING SESSION

The **Sunday afternoon** singing session will meet in room #116 at 5:15 p.m.

LADIES

See the bulletin board in the back foyer for “thank you” notes regarding Ladies ½ Day.

39ers

May's 39er gathering will remain on the regular schedule, **Monday the 19th** at 6:30 p.m. The fish fry will be rescheduled due to folks being out of town.

WITH SYMPATHY

Our hearts are heavy for the family of **Maurine McWilliams**. Maurine (former Belt Line member) passed away last week at the age of 101; services were held at Ben Brown Funeral Home on Saturday.

Our prayers go up for the family of Erma Lee Baker whose sister from Kaufman, **Wanda Weatherly**, passed away last Wednesday.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Justin Hardegree and Annelise Garner would like to announce that they will be married this summer, on July 19th. More details to come...

Samantha Howard has graduated to obtain her Registered Nursing license.

Amanda LaFerney graduated from North Texas State University; commencement exercises were held yesterday on the campus.

Also, we have received an invitation from **Chris Mathews** who will be graduating on the Dean's list from the Air Force Academy in Colorado on May 28th.

We pray for you all and your new endeavors; we're proud of you!

FOSTER'S HOME FOR CHILDREN

It's time again for the “Gleaning for Children” campaign. Pick up a green can from either foyer to fill with your extra change; they will be picked up in September. God bless you for participating!

PRAYER CONCERNS

√**Nancy Batot** was able to be with us in worship yesterday.

√**Melissa Beverly** is now home from the hospital & doing well.

√**Bob Bingham** will begin radiation treatments next week.

√**Donna Meyer** is doing well after her fall; she has various doctor appointments at this time.

√**Billie Prince** is also home now & doing better.

√**Maxine Prude** will undergo more tests.

√**Linda Lynd** (Marcella Porter's sister) is in a hospital in Lubbock for a brain biopsy.

√**Bill Roses** (Polly's husband) will have part of a lung removed due to cancer.

Continue to remember those who are recuperating or suffering with long-term illnesses, including: Bob Bradley, Fauna Garrett, Judy Hancock, Garldean Latham, Frances & Jack LaFerney, Georgia Meyer, Tom Prince, AC Prude, Jan Smithson, Frances Tipton, Thomas West, Brad Anderson (Bill Paschall's friend), Paul Batot (Mike's dad), Frank Garrett (Fauna's husband), Chelsea Sutton (the Garrison's granddaughter), & our shut-ins.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Be sure and mark your calendar -

- May 19: 39ers in Annex at 6:30 pm
- May 30 thru June 1: Colleyville Gospel Meeting
- June: Summer Youth Series
- June 4-Aug 27: Wed. Night Summer Series
- June 16 – 18: Vacation Bible School
- July: Cisco Youth Camp

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

Sunday morning:

- Shellie Pearce

Sunday evening:

- Betty Ruckman

LORD'S TABLE/MORNING

Front Table

- Brandon Thomason
- Grady Fowler
- Jerry Baker
- Mike Garrison
- Rob Farmer
- Stan Selby
- Derrol Allen
- Marvin Brown

Rear Table

- Nathan Allen
- JC Ross
- Robert Taylor
- Robert Bickel
- Max Melton
- Bill Paschall
- Bobby Bowen
- Roy Martin

SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS

- Richard Renfro
- Darrell Allen
- Max Melton

SCRIPTURE READING

- Mike Batot
1 John 1:7-10

SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS

- Ty Harvey
- Garl Latham

LORD'S TABLE/EVENING

- Thomas Rathbun
- Robert Ruckman

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

- Bill Paschall

FOR THE RECORD: WEEK ENDING ATTENDANCE & BUDGET

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	94	90	96	125
A.M. Worship	160	192	170	210
P.M. Worship	90	91	93	112
Wed. Class	91	93	93	110
Ladies Bible Class	27	-	28	35
Contribution	\$6414	\$4977	\$5422	\$5400

MISSIONS

21st Century Global Missions
Charlie & Mary DiPalma - India
Roland & Rose Mohsen – France
JB & Ivy Paul – Bitragunta, India
Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
Glen & KuinTattersall – Australia
Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko - Russia
Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
Christ’s Haven Children’s Home - Keller, TX
Foster’s Home for Children – Stephenille, TX
Ian & Mabel McPherson – Tasmania Australia
Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web
Ted Lingren - Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution
Terry & Pam Laurence – Bear Valley School of Preaching
Dennis & Beth Johnson - Chennai Teacher Training School – India