Shreveport Grace Church

2970 Baird Road · Shreveport, LA 71118 Tel: 318.687.4943 | Mob: 318.834.4395 | Fax: 318. 318.671.4434 pastor@shreveGrace.org www.shreveGrace.org, Scripture Alone · Grace Alone · Christ Alone

December 31, 2023

SUNDAY

Live Streaming (Audio and Video)

WORSHIP - 11:00 AM Choruses from Chorus Book Scripture Reading: Psalms 117; 118 (Robert) Call to Worship: 'King of Glory, Sovereign God' Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 3 (Bob) Hymn # 222- 'There Is a Fountain' Scripture Reading: Exodus 34:29-35 (David) Message: 'The Shining Glory of God' Hymn # 192- 'According to Thy Gracious Word' The LORD's Table Hymn # 266- 'Fade, Fade, Each Earthly Joy'

OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP

'Live Streaming (Audio and Video)

WEDNESDAY

7:00 PM- Studies on the Names and Titles of Jesus in Scripture FRIDAY 7:00 AM- International Worship (Malawi)

10:00 AM- Bible Study in French

SATURDAY

8:00 AM- Fellowship in Christ

SUNDAY

7:00 AM- International Worship (Malawi)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Ken Wimer, Pastor (318) 687-4943

PO Box 5028, Shreveport, LA 71135

E-mail: pastor@shreveGrace.org

Audio Messages Available 24/7 On-Line

www.shreveGrace.org and www.sermonaudio.com/shreveportGracech

Radio Broadcasts every Sunday Morning (CST):

9:00 KWKH AM Radio 1130, Shreveport, LA area or LIVE streaming @ http://1130thetiger.com/listen-live

Call to Worship

(Tune # 126- 'Rock of Ages ')

ing of Glory, Sovereign God, Gracious Source of all that's good! Thou hast made my soul anew. Wrought in me to will and do. On Thy head the crown I set, Cast my honors at Thy feet. Boasting, LORD is not for me. What I am, I am through Thee. Let me not usurp Thy praise. Due alone to Thy Free Grace! Strength and merit I disclaim. Nought is mine but sin and shame. Self-abased, O may I feel. My depravity of will! Cause me, more and more, to see, My incessant need of Thee. Know myself (what well Thou know'st), Viler than the vilest dust. Cause me, LORD, to understand. Take my heart into Thy hand. Make me pliant to obey, Passive as the yielding clay. Mightily in me fulfill, All the pleasure of Thy will. Yes. however sin oppose, What Jehovah wills He does. Day by day, His power I prove. Saved by His Constraining Love. Called by His Effectual Word. Self-destroyed and God-restored!

Identifying Characteristics of God's Elect

1 Thessalonians 1:4-10

he Truth of God's electing grace in Christ might face opposition but for those embraced by the LORD, it stands as a comforting and blessed Truth. This truth, revealed in God's Word, forms the bedrock of salvation's work: **"As many as were ordained to eternal life believed."** (Acts 13:48) Merely denying this Truth or brushing it aside doesn't negate its validity. Scripture calls for us not just to be assured of our calling and election [2 Peter 1:10] but also provides insights into identifying ourselves as part of God's elect: **"knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God"** (1 Thessalonians 1:4)

Here are six qualities characteristic of God's elect:

1. Embracing the Gospel that exalts the sole supremacy of the LORD Jesus Christ—manifest not just in words but also in power and the Holy Spirit brings a deep **assurance**, <u>1 Thessalonians 1:5</u>. This stems from the Spirit's transforming work within the heart.

2. The determination to follow only leaders and teachers who faithfully preach the unadulterated Truth of Christ, even amidst great opposition because of the work of God within, <u>1 Thessalonians 1:6</u>. Only following them as they follow Christ, <u>1 Corinthians 11:1</u>.

3. Conduct, motives and methods become a living testimony, adorning the Gospel that glorifies Christ, <u>1 Thessalonians 1:7</u>. These actions not only set an example for fellow believers but also mirror the Saving Grace of God in sinners united with Christ.

4. Your life becomes a living witness of the Gospel, spreading its message wherever you go, causing others to hear and rejoice, <u>1 Thessalonians 1:8</u>. When Christ dwells in your heart, it becomes evident to those around you. You can't but help to speak up and testify of His Grace for you and in you.

5. Rejecting idolatrous rituals and embracing true worship of the Living God becomes an evident trait, <u>1 Thessalonians 1:9</u>. A genuine love for everything that honors Christ as the True Doctrine—the God in flesh, the One Who secured righteousness for God's elect on the cross—is the Cornerstone of the Faith.

6. Anticipating Christ's return as the ultimate redemption, the Singular Hope that defines believers, marks those who long for His arrival to be fully and finally delivered from every effect of sin and corruption, <u>1 Thessalonians 1:10</u>.

Ken Wimer

Those for Whom Christ Died

rue Bible doctrine teaches us that the LORD Jesus Christ was given by the Father as the PERFECT SAVIOR, not merely as a helper to salvation. This means that all those for whom this Savior suffered and died are fully and completely saved by Him. In regard to the entire matter, their salvation is in no way the result of any disposition, merit nor acquisition on their part.

The Scriptures call this Truth an "eternal redemption" [everlasting] that the Savior obtained for His people "...when he had by himself purged our sins." (Hebrews 9:12; 1:3) This passage of Scripture establishes without question that those who ultimately are left in their sins were never the objects of the sacrifice that He accomplished. In other words, the Savior did not give Himself up to die for any others than those who, by Him, obtained this everlasting redemption when He laid down His life for them.

Cesar Malan, 1817

Looking to the LORD for the New Year

Snares and dangers may beset, For we are but travelers yet. As the way indeed is hard, May we keep a constant guard. Neither lifted up with air, Nor dejected to despair. Always keeping Christ in view, He will bring us safely through. Joseph Hart

Faith Toward Christ

his one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind... I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. <u>Phil 3:13-14</u>

Father, I will that they...whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me. John 17:24

I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. 2 Tim. 1:12

He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. Phil. 1:6

Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus. <u>Heb 12:1-2</u>

Daily Light on Daily Path