

From Matthew 5: ⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God. ⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. ¹² Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you. ¹³“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. ¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all *who are* in the house. ¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Sunday: What does it mean to be pure in heart? How do you know if you are pure in heart? If we cannot see God, then what does Jesus mean by saying, “they shall see God”? **Pray** for a seasoned deacon or two to assist Atlanta, Ga., RPC with diaconal issues. **Pray** for the continued growth of Anugraha (Bangalore, India) RPC.

Monday: What are ways in which we can be peacemakers? **Pray** for Houston, Tex., RPC’s pastoral search, that God will make it clear to them and to the man who it should be; also, **pray** that, in God’s timing, this mission church would continue to grow. **Pray** for the missions services at Airdrie (Scotland) RPC this week. **Pray** for the spread of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in Texas.

Tuesday: How could one be persecuted for righteousness’ sake? Have you ever suffered for the cause of Christ? **Pray** for Dallas Tex., RPC’s finances as they transition their pastor to full-time ministry. **Pray** for Gainesville, Fla., RP Fellowship.

Wednesday: How is it that Jesus’ followers are the salt of the earth? Give thanks for God’s establishment of the outward-facing ministries of Covenant Fellowship (Wilkinsburg, Pa.) RPC—Kidzone, Trail Life, Grace & Truth Pollinator Garden and Orchard, Transform the Triangle (a neighborhood clean-up day), weekly food distribution, and other; **pray** for strength for those who lead these ministries.

Thursday: How is it that Jesus’ followers are the light of the world? In what ways can you be a light to your neighbors and friends? Praise the Lord with Elkhart, Ind., RPC for the blessing of five new babies in their congregation; also, **praise Him** for the blessing of a covenant child, Brady Lu, who was received into communicant membership. **Pray** for the outreach event tomorrow at Cullybackey (Northern Ireland) RPC; it’s the launch of a new book, *Forgotten Covenanters*.

Friday: What do vv. 14-15 tell us about the nature of the church and how it is to operate? **Pray** for the senior students at the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary (RPTS); **pray** that they will finish strong and that the Lord will guide them into future ministry opportunities. **Pray** that the Lord would use the distribution of 7500 brochures by North Edinburgh (Scotland) RPC for conversions to Christ.

Saturday: Are you letting your light shine to others? Pray for the nine covenant children God has blessed Evangelical (Toronto, Ont.) RPC with; **pray** that in their early days, they would come to profess faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

Pray for tomorrow’s service at Atlanta RPC, that visitors would come and be blessed.

Atlanta Reformed Presbyterian Church

The Lord’s Day
April 9, 2023

Meeting every week at
574 Western Avenue
(corner of Western and Walnut Street)
Atlanta, Georgia
Worship at 3:30 PM

Pastor Frank J. Smith, Ph.D., D.D.

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https://atlanta-rpc.org

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Proclaiming the Kingship of Jesus Christ

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions

The Call to Worship

Psalm 99:1

*The Invocation

*Psalm 8A

“O Lord, Our Lord, in All the Earth”

Scripture Reading

I Peter 1

*Psalm 137

“By Babel’s Streams We Sat and Wept”

Pastoral Prayer

*Psalm 16B

“Preserve Me, O God, For in You Do I Trust”

Scripture Text

Ezra 10:1-17

The Sermon

“Ezra’s Solution” (Part 1)

*Prayer

*Psalm 51C

“No Sacrifice Dost Thou Desire”

*Benediction

*Psalm 72C [stanzas 11-12]

“Now Blessed Be Our God Alone”

* *Congregation will please stand.*

We are so glad that you could join us today! Please be sure to return next week and bring a friend.

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions & Answers

“**Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it. Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.**”—*Psalm 127:1.*
“**Remove not the ancient landmark which your fathers have set.**”—*Proverbs 22:28.*

Q. 36. What are the benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification? A. The benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification, are, assurance of God’s love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Ghost, increase of grace, and perseverance therein to the end.

Q. 37. What benefits do believers receive from Christ at death? A. The souls of believers are at their death made perfect in holiness, and do immediately pass

into glory; and their bodies, being still united to Christ, do rest in their graves till the resurrection.

Q. 38. What benefits do believers receive from Christ at the resurrection? A. At the resurrection, believers, being raised up in glory, shall be openly acknowledged and acquitted in the day of judgment, and made perfectly blessed in the full enjoying of God to all eternity.

For your convenience, a tithe box is located at the back.

Theme: Ezra gives the solution to the inter-marriage problem.

I. Repentance

A. Summary of the events

B. Lessons to be learned

1. A progression/chain of repentance
2. The covenant forms the context
3. Fear and punishment
4. Hope

II. The Trials

A. The situation

B. Lessons to be learned

1. Methodology of church discipline

2. Importance of church discipline

Application—rest in Christ as your hope