# **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 April 30, 2023

SUNDAY

Live Streaming (Audio and Video)

WORSHIP - 11:00 AM

Choruses from Chorus Book Scripture Reading: <u>Psalm 82</u> (Bob) Call to Worship: 'Christ Bears the Names of All His Saints' Scripture Reading: <u>1 Corinthians 10</u> (Robert) Hymn # 1- 'O Worship the King' Scripture Reading: <u>Exodus 32</u> (David) Message: 'The Golden Calf' Hymn # 334- 'Be Thou My Vison' Scripture Reading: <u>Psalm 130</u> (Daron) The LORD's Table Hymn # 475- 'Redeemed'

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP** 

'Live Streaming (Audio and Video)

WEDNESDAY 7:00 PM- Studies in Jesus' Miracles 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 # 10- 'O God, Our Help in Ages Past')

hrist bears the name of all His saints, Deep on His heart engraved. Attentive to the state and wants Of all His love has saved.

In Him a holiness complete, Light and perfection shine. And Wisdom, Grace and glory meet, A Savior all Divine.

> The blood, which, as a Priest, He bears, For sinners, is His own. The incense of His prayers and tears, Perfumes the holy throne.

In Him my weary soul has rest, Though I am weak and vile. I read my name upon His breast, And see the Father smile.

### **God's Ministers**

he greater part of men are never called, qualified and commissioned to preach the Gospel. There never was such a condition where the servants of Christ 'always and everywhere' were preaching the Gospel of Christ! Even the apostle Paul *"…assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not."* (Acts 16:7) He was directed into Macedonia!

Men that are called of God do not go 'everywhere.' They go wherever God in His sovereign providence cast their lot. They have no further accountability than to preach as they are directed of God. Furthermore, they are accountable to preach the Gospel wherever God directs them and woe is me if I preach not the Gospel of God! Invariably, as one studies the early history of the church in the Acts of the Apostles, it was most usually persecution which instrumentally drove them abroad, where they went preaching the Word. Traveling merchants and itinerate ministers covered Europe long before 1792. In all the Book of Acts, there is no mention of any current methods: mission societies, evangelistic committees, members telling their ministers where they can or cannot go, to whom they are to preach or not to preach nor what they are to preach. In other words, God's ministers are HIS! And they are answerable in all the above matters only TO HIM.

Stanley Phillips (1932-2014)

## **Believing and Salvation**

#### "And they said, Believe on the LORD Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." (Acts 16:31)

here are many who quote this verse as a proof text to support the notion that believing is a condition for salvation. It is taught as a condition and a promise, the condition being *'believing'* and the promise being *'thou shalt be saved'* if only you believe.

While this may sound plausible to natural logic, it is contrary to what the Word of God teaches. Nowhere in Scripture is salvation conditioned on anything done in us, by us or through us: <u>Titus 3:5</u>; "Salvation is of the LORD." (Jonah 2:9) The command to believe on Christ is not a condition. It is just that: a COMMAND! The salvation that is in the LORD Jesus and worked out by Him by His perfect obedience unto death, is revealed to the heart of those He redeemed causing them to believe, <u>Romans 1:16-17</u>.

In the context, it wasn't Paul and Silas asking the Philippian jailer if he wanted to know what to do to be saved. It was the jailer asking the question and that out of a heart already regenerated by the Spirit of God which caused him to cry out, *"What must I do to be saved?"* If the Spirit of God has already opened the heart, as in the case of Lydia in <u>Acts 16:14</u>, HE awakens the sinner and makes him attentive unto the Gospel and causes him to believe on Christ alone as their "...*wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption.*" (1 Corinthians 1:30) He makes the salvation effectual, NOT the sinner.

There are many today who have made professions based on this Scripture, whose hearts the LORD has never opened and are still ignorant of the one true righteousness of God imputed in Christ by His shed blood when He died. Rather than them being brought by the Spirit to cry out, 'What must I do to be saved?' it has been rather the preacher or 'evangelistic worker,' asking the question 'Wouldn't you like to know how you can be saved?' It is a very subtle deceptive error, dangerous and deadly because it leaves the man, woman or child thinking that they have done something to make their salvation effectual.

Christ said in John 6:44: "No man can come to me except the Father which hath sent me draw him." God makes His command to believe effectual in the hearts of His elect ones, causing them to come to Christ and persuading them of their redemption and justification by His Son's shed blood and righteousness imputed at the cross alone.

In the verse following in <u>Acts 16:32</u>, Paul did not simply say, '**Believe**' he spake unto him and his household the Word of the LORD, teaching them those things that pertain to Christ's honor and glory in salvation fully accomplished by His death for them. It is just such a persuasion that the Spirit gives to those Christ redeemed, causing them to believe, in response to the command to believe and resting in the finished work of Christ alone.

Ken Wimer

### The Love of Christ for His Own

aving loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end. <u>John 13:1</u>

I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. John 17:9-16

As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. John 15:9

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. <u>John 15:13-14</u> A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. <u>John 13:34</u>

Christ...loved the church and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. <u>Eph. 5:25-26</u>

Daily Light on the Daily Path

## Nothing in Us

here is nothing in us nor done by us that we can plead before the LORD for His blessing. As we, in the matter of our justification before God, renounce everything but the person, blood and righteousness of Christ, so in our approaches to the Majesty of Heaven, we must reject everything but the name, the blood and righteousness of Jesus, Who for our comfort said, "Verily, Verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, He will give it you." (John 16:23) When we come before God and look to ourselves, we tremble and wonder why the LORD does not cut us down as cucumbers of the ground. But when by Living Faith we are enabled to look to Christ, we feel something of that humble boldness the apostle speaks of: "Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh." (Hebrews 10:19-20) This New and Living Way [which is Christ and Him crucified] is the Only Way by which we can plead the Promises of God and look to Him for His blessing. Christ and Him crucified is the Only One by Whom a Just and Holy God can meet and bless such guilty sinners as we are; for in Christ: "...mercy and truth are met together, righteousness and peace have kissed each other." (Psalm 85:10)

John Kershaw, 1834