



CHRIST *the*
REDEEMER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Taking Gathered Worship Home

To God Be The Glory

To God be the glory, great things He has done;
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

Refrain

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Refrain

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain

Words: Fanny Crosby
Music: W. Howard Doane

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Family and Individual Devotions

Meditations in the Book of Hebrews

The Life of Faith-Rooted in God's Promises,
Running to the New Jerusalem

Week of September 30, 2007

The first chapter of Hebrews has established God's Son as the supreme prophet exalted even above the angels. We now know that through the Son the radiance of God's glory is revealed, God's image is displayed and our sins are purged. Through the Son we are saved. "**Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved**" (Acts 4:12). The begotten Son of God is the foundation for our Christian life. A new life that is forever lived to the glory of God. "**Therefore, if anyone is in Christ he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.**" (2 Corinthians 5:17). This is a new life that is far removed from the self-serving one we had previously lived. Unfortunately, it is also a new life that is frequently neglected.

Sunday 9/30

Read: Our new life in Christ is neglected because of our continued sin. This is a battle in which every Christian is engaged. In **Romans 7:19** Paul laments how he does not do what he wants to do, but instead does evil. Scripture teaches us that this inability to do what we know is right results from the sin that still dwells in us (**Romans 7:20**).

Application: Sin is either an act of commission, where we do something against the specific command of scripture, or it is an act of omission, where we fail to do what scripture tells us to do. In order to equip our self to avoid sin, we must know what scripture has to say. **Psalm 119:9-11** instructs us to cleanse our self by taking heed of God's word, by seeking God, and to hide God's word in your heart so that we might not sin against Him.

Pray: You would understand the futility of living on your own strength and rely on the word of God to direct your thoughts, words and deeds.

Monday 10/1

Read: The concept of seeking and heeding the word of God can be stated another way. Consider **James 1:22**, "**But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves**". In this context it is helpful to consider the word "seek" as "hearing", and the word "heed" as actually doing something based on what you have heard. **Hebrews 2:1** tells us that not heeding what we have heard amounts to treating our salvation with neglect.

Application: Put you faith into action, bring life to your salvation. Accomplish this by doing that which you have heard. **James 2:17** further tells us that faith without works is dead. In other words, hearing without doing is lifeless.

Pray: For insight into Gods word that will bring life to the knowledge God has given you. That you will understand your salvation is a call to action.

Tuesday 10/2

Read: So what does God require of us? The most succinct outline of our duty to God comes from **Micah 6:8**. Here, we are told three things. To "**do justly**", "**love mercy**" and to humbly "**walk with God**". To "**do justly**" means to do be virtuous with thoughts and actions based on the moral excellence of Gods word. To "**love mercy**" means to act graciously and compassionately towards others, to be kind, and not vengeful. To humbly "**walk with God**" requires we submit to Him conforming our will to His will.

Application: In all of your dealing you are to do the right thing. We are to display the fruit of the Spirit, "**Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control**" towards other. We are no longer to live according to our own desires but seek Gods glory in all things.

Pray: Your life would reflect Gods justice, mercy and will.

Wednesday 10/3

Read: In the past three days we have seen the ease, even the propensity, for man to neglect his salvation. There are many ways to foster the great salvation we have in Christ. We have already established the need for the *knowledge* of Gods word. If we appreciate the need for knowledge, *prayer* follows quite logically. Knowledge of scripture comes from God, while our prayers are to God. We receive knowledge from God, we communicate our adoration, confession, thanksgiving and intercession to God.

Application: Just as we should eagerly seek the truth of scripture from God we should be just as zealous about responding back to God in *prayer*. This allows us to adore and praise His name for who He is and what He has done, confess our continued failure to seek and heed His word, ask forgiveness, give thanks and intercede for the needs of others and our self.

Pray: That you would be diligent about prayer, regularly speaking with God.

Thursday 10/4

Read: *Fellowship* is another effective way to nurture your salvation. When Christians come together there is a sharpening of the countenance of each other (**Proverbs 27:17**). Fellowship provides us the opportunity to come together for encouragement and to "**spur one another towards love and good deeds**" (**Hebrews 10:24-25**).

Application: Christian fellowship is undeniably enjoyable. Not only is it pleasant, it is also a command of scripture. By failing to fellowship we are committing a sin of omission. Take the time to meet with others for the mutual edification of all.

Pray: For good Christian fellowship. That you would eagerly pursue opportunities to meet with other believers.

Friday 10/5

Read: *Service* should be a natural outcome if our lives have become selfless rather than selfish. Service comes through the sharing of what God has given us, both material goods and our spiritual gifts. It requires the giving of our time and the use of our God given talents for the expansion the Christ's church.

Application: Service is perhaps the ultimate reflection of your desire to give heed to the great salvation you have in Christ. This does not mean that you can serve without giving due attention to other aspects of your salvation. Rather, service will flow from a heart steeped in the knowledge of Gods word, by consistent communication with God through prayer, and through the enjoyment and edification provided by Christian fellowship.

Pray: For a well rounded and balanced diligence to make your salvation sure.

Saturday 10/6

Read: In the hierarchy of the heavenly kingdom, God reigns supreme, followed by the angels. Finally there is man. The words of **Psalms 8** quoted in **Hebrews 2:6** asks the question "**What is man that you are mindful of him?**" God answered that question by sending Christ to become man. Christ took on humanity to restore our dignity and place in creation.

Application: Through the humanity and sacrifice of Christ we have been restored. Those who have called upon Christ for their salvation have been adopted into the heavenly kingdom, purified of their sins and given a boldness and confidence that allows them to enter into the presence of God.

Pray: Give thanks and praise to God for allowing you to come into a heavenly fellowship with Him.