

Prayer Requests and Announcements

13 November 2022

Sermon Title: Why the World Needs the Church

Scripture: John 17:14-16

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mike Kenney: Mike's wounds are healing remarkably well! Reconstruction has begun on his left arm, he is able to walk some, also. A hand specialist will be to repair his thumb on Tuesday. All surgeries performed so far have been very successful, and he is increasing in strength.

Earl and Linda Kenney: Tuesday, Earl is to have cancer surgery on his nose; Linda has had stomach flu.

Carla Clayton: Recovering from shoulder injury and eye surgery.

Benny Newton: Benny passed away yesterday. His family would appreciate our prayers.

Lawson Nabors: Battling with influenza and is to have ear surgery soon, also.

Frieda Wilson: Heart catheterization procedure went well and appreciates for our prayers!

Jesse and Sharon Owens: Jesse is diagnosed with 1st stage Dementia, Sharon fell, breaking her pelvis.

Anthony Masseur: Recent oral surgery to remove wisdom tooth and two others.

Derek Bakker: Derek has recovered from influenza, he is doing well now.

Ongoing Prayers

Earl and Linda Kenney	Heath Smith	Ingelise Myrick	Naomi Waitrous
Carla Clayton	Maxine Robinson	Pete Hankins	Sue Watley
Darlene Hannah	Ashley McGriff	Darrell McCormick	Charlotte Rashun
Paul Myrick	Bruce Roland	Maxine Robinson	

A Word of Encouragement for the Week Ahead

"We can afford to follow Him to failure. Faith dares to fail. The resurrection and the judgment will demonstrate before all worlds who won and who lost. We can wait." ~ A.W. Tozer

"They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful."

(Revelation 17:14, ESV)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The congregation in attendance this morning is asked to gather at the front of the auditorium immediately after morning services for a group photo to be sent to brother Alex Patton.
- Welcome back Wade and Joanna Phillips! Thank you for your labor and faith in the Lord!
- The Creekwood Church of Christ will host their annual Song Fest, November 20th (Next Sunday) from 6:00 PM-7:30 PM. We will cancel evening services on that day for this event, and the elders are encouraging all among us who wish to attend the Song Fest to do so. The church is located at 1901 Schillinger Rd Mobile, Alabama.

Who is the Person Who Doesn't Need God's Grace?

Thinking about Romans 4:4

By Jameson Steward

Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. (Romans 4:4)

In continuing his example of Abraham, Paul refers to "him who works." Who is this person "who works?" What is Paul talking about? "Him who works." Who then is the "worker?" He can be no other than the man who has earned acquittal as "wages." He is the man who has successfully completed his task before God and in whose debt God is. He's the man who has moved grace right out of the picture by successfully performing the task laid on him by God. And who is that but the sinless man? The "worker" is not just an obedient man but the sinlessly obedient man. To what other man does God owe acquittal? - McGuigan, Romans, 141

The one "who works" has earned payment from God - he has put God in his debt. God owes him something.

What person would God "owe" an innocent verdict at Judgment? Well, the person who had done nothing wrong - the person who had never sinned!

If you never sin, you don't need God's grace to be pronounced innocent - because you have earned the verdict of "innocent."

Of course, you probably recognize where Paul is going with this point, the same as me.

Not even Abraham was a sinless man - so he had not put God in his debt. God did not owe him "righteousness" (Romans 4:1-3).

Paul continues to drive home this point - if you have sinned, you cannot stand on your own record and be pronounced "innocent" by the Judge.

If you have sinned, you cannot "earn" your way back into the righteous column.

Paul continues to move us toward Jesus Christ as the only way of salvation and justification (Romans 1:16-17).

A Note from your Preacher

The above article has been taken from a recent Pod Cast entitled "Centered on Christ." Each week for the next several weeks, Lord willing, our *Prayer Requests and Announcements* will feature a brief devotional styled article such as the one above either from myself or another writer whose teachings are sound in the faith. Enjoy! - DP