

March 24, 2019

Atonement: Setting Things Right

Free Grace Presbyterian Church

SOME THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION

The legendary “Rabbi” Duncan concentrated it all into a single unforgettable sentence, in a famous outburst to one of his classes: “D’ye know what Calvary was? what? what? what?” Then, with tears on his face—“It was *damnation*; and he took it *lovingly*.”

J.I. Packer
British Reformed theologian

C h r i s t
redeemed us from
the curse of the law by
becoming a curse for us—
for it is written, “Cursed is
everyone who is hanged
on a tree...”

Galatians 3:13

The next day he
saw Jesus coming
toward him, and said,
“Behold, the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin
of the world!”

John 1:29

He himself bore
our sins in his body
on the tree, that we
might die to sin and live to
righteousness. By his
wounds you have been
healed.

1 Peter 2:24

There is a captivating beauty in the sacrificial love of a God who gave *himself* for his people. It is this that first draws many believers to the Lord Jesus Christ, and this that will draw us to him when he returns on the last day to vindicate his name and welcome his people into his eternal kingdom. That the Lord Jesus Christ died *for us*—a shameful death, bearing our curse, enduring our pain, suffering the wrath of his own Father in our place—has been the wellspring of the hope of countless Christians throughout the ages.

Steve Jeffrey, Michael Ovey, Andrew Sach
British physicist; theologian; neuroscientist

For our sake
he made him to be
sin who knew no sin, so
that in him we might
become the
righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21

And just as it is
appointed for man to die
once, and after that comes
judgment, so Christ, having
been offered once to bear the
sins of many, will appear a
second time, not to deal with
sin but to save those who are
eagerly waiting for him.

Hebrews 9:27-28

The essence of sin is we human beings substituting ourselves for God, while the essence of salvation is God substituting himself for us. We...put ourselves where only God deserves to be; God...puts himself where we deserve to be.

John Stott
British Anglican pastor and theologian

If we have any assurance of salvation, it is because of Christ’s atonement; if any joy, it flows from Christ’s work on the cross. The atonement protects us from our native tendency to replace religion with morality and God’s grace with legalism. Apart from Christ’s atoning work, we would be forever guilty, ashamed, and condemned before God.

Mark Dever
pastor of Capital Hill Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.

GOD SUMMONS US BY HIS GRACE

Leader: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

People: For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

Leader: In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

People: Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Psalms 95

We bow down before the Lord, our Maker

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

1 All cre - a - tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us
 2 Thou ru - shing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heav'n a -
 3 Thou flo - wing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for thy Lord to
 4 And all ye men of ten - der heart, for - gi - ving o - thers, take your
 5 Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -

sing Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou bur - ning sun with gol - den
 long, O__ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou ri - sing morn in praise re -
 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou fire so mas - ter - ful and
 part, O__ sing ye, Al - le - lu - ia! Ye who long pain and sor - row
 ness, O__ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fa - ther, praise the

beam, thou sil - ver moon with sof - ter gleam, O__ praise him, O__
 joice, ye lights of eve - ning, find a voice, O__ praise him, O__
 bright, that giv - est man both warmth and light, O__ praise him, O__
 bear, praise God and on him cast your care, O__ praise him, O__
 Son and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One, O__ praise him, O__

praise him, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

Biblical worship is always a response to God's gracious revelation of himself to his people. Hence, all our worship services begin with a Scriptural call to worship God.

"Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah"



1. Hal - le - lu - jah, praise Je - ho - vah, O my soul, Je -
 2. Hap - py is the man that choos - es, Is - rael's God to
 3. Food he dai - ly gives the hun - gry, sets the mourn - ing
 4. Hal - le - lu - jah, praise Je - ho - vah, O my soul, Je -



ho - vah praise; I will sing the glo - rious prais - es of my God through
 be his aid; he is blest whose hope of bless - ing on the Lord his
 pris - ner free, rais - es those bowed down with an - guish, makes the sight - less
 ho - vah praise; I will sing the glo - rious prais - es, of my God through



all my days. Put no con - fi - dence in princ - es, nor for help on
 God is stayed. Heav'n and earth the Lord cre - a - ted, seas and all that
 eyes to see. Well Je - ho - vah loves the right - eous, and the stran - ger
 all my days. O - ver all God reigns for - ev - er, through all ag - es



man de - pend; he shall die, to dust re - turn - ing,
 they con - tain; he de - liv - ers from op - press - ion,
 he be - friends, helps the fa - ther - less and wid - ow,
 he is King; un - to him, thy God, O Zi - on,



and his pur - po - ses shall end.
 righ - teous - ness he will main - tain.
 judg - ment on the wick - ed sends.
 joy - ful hal - le - lu - jahs sing.

Praise the LORD!
 Praise the LORD, O
 my soul! I will
 praise the LORD
 as long as I live;

I will sing praises
 to my God while I
 have my being.
 Psalm 146

GOD SANCTIFIES US BY HIS GRACE

God declares our problem

For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them...” If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Galatians 3
1 John 1

We acknowledge our sin, admitting that we do not abide by everything he has commanded

We use this time in God's presence to confess our sins and our need for God's grace, silently, personally before him alone. We invite you to join us in sorrow over your sin and joy in his grace and mercy in Jesus Christ.

We confess our sins in order to give glory to God. We confess our failures, our rebellion, our striving after our own glory so that we can proclaim the glory of his grace to us in Jesus Christ, who became sin that we might become the righteousness of God.

God declares that we are no longer under a curse for he has reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”... For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Galatians 3
Colossians 1

We wonder at the One who set things right between us and God by his blood

"Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder"



1. Let us love and sing and won - der,
 2. Let us love the Lord who bought us,
 3. Let us sing, though fierce temp - ta - tion
 4. Let us won - der; grace and jus - tice
 5. Let us praise, and join the cho - rus



let us praise the Sa - vior's name!
 pit - ied us when en - e - mies,
 threat - ens hard to bear us down,
 join and point to mer - cy's store;
 of the saints en - throned on high;



He has hushed the law's loud thun - der,
 called us by his grace, and taught us,
 For the Lord, our strong sal - va - tion,
 when through grace in Christ our trust is,
 here they trust - ed him be - fore us,



he has quenched Mount Si - nai's flame: he has
 gave us ears and the gave us eyes: he has
 holds in view the con - qu'ror's crown: he who
 jus - tice smiles and asks no more: he who
 now their prais - es fill the sky: "Thou hast



washed us with his blood, he has washed us with his blood, he has
 washed us with his blood, he has washed us with his blood, he has
 washed us with his blood, he who washed us with his blood, he who
 washed us with his blood, he who washed us with his blood, he who
 washed us with thy blood, thou hast washed us with thy blood, thou hast



washed us with his blood, he has brought us nigh to God.
 washed us with his blood, he pre - sents our souls to God.
 washed us with his blood, soon will bring us home to God.
 washed us with his blood, has se - cured our way to God.
 washed us with thy blood; thou art worth - y, Lamb of God!"

For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them."... Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree."
 Galatians 3

GOD SPEAKS WITH US BY HIS GRACE

¹³Behold, my servant shall act wisely;
he shall be high and lifted up,
and shall be exalted.

Isaiah 52:13–53:14

¹⁴As many were astonished at you—
his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—

¹⁵so shall he sprinkle many nations.
Kings shall shut their mouths because of him,
for that which has not been told them they see,
and that which they have not heard they understand.

53:¹Who has believed what he has heard from us?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

²For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
and no beauty that we should desire him.

³He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

⁴Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he opened not his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he opened not his mouth.

⁸By oppression and judgment he was taken away;
and as for his generation, who considered
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people?

⁹And they made his grave with the wicked

sanctification

making the holy holy

perseverance

held secure

glorification

the full enjoyment of
God

advent

coming

Immanuel

God with us

incarnation

veiled in flesh the
Godhead see

Messiah/Christ

appointed,
empowered, sent

Savior

the great rescuer

epiphany

God revealed

love

Christ died for us

hope

assured confidence

grace

love undeserved

sin

not the way it's
supposed to be

redemption

ransomed

and with a rich man in his death,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;
he has put him to grief;
when his soul makes an offering for guilt,
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;
the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.
¹¹Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,
make many to be accounted righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.
¹²Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,
because he poured out his soul to death
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and makes intercession for the transgressors.

Sermon

Atonement: Setting Things Right 50¢ Words: The Vocabulary of Faith

Rev. Per Almquist

Why do we use so
much Scripture in
our worship?

All Scripture is
breathed out by
God and profitable
for teaching, for
reproof, for
correction, and for
training in
righteousness, that
the man of God
may be
competent,
equipped for
every good work.
2 Timothy 3

GOD STRENGTHENS US BY HIS GRACE

God confirms to us that he has set things right between us, that we have peace with him through the death of Jesus Christ, as we proclaim his death by celebrating the Lord's Supper

We celebrate God's free grace to us in Jesus Christ by observing the Lord's Supper each Sunday. We invite to the Lord's Table all those who are baptized followers of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and his body, the Church. By eating the bread and drinking the cup you are acknowledging that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for your salvation. If you have any doubts about your participation, please speak to one of the elders after the service.

"Upon A Life I Have Not Lived"



1. Up - on a ___ life I have not lived, up - on a



4 death I did ___ not die; an - oth - er's life, an - oth - er's death, I stake my whole e - ter - ni - ty.



7
2. Not on the tears which I ___ have shed, not on the
3. Lord, I be - lieve; O deal ___ with me as one who



9 sor - rows I ___ have known; an - oth - er's tears, an - oth - er's ___ griefs; on these I
has thy Word be - lieved; I take the gift, Lord look on ___ me as one who



11 rest, on these ___ a - lone. O ___ Je - sus, Son of God, I
has thy gift ___ re - ceived.



13 build on what thy cross has done for ___ me. ___



15 There both my life and death I read, my guilt, my par - don



17 there I ___ see, ___ there I ___ see.

Our invitation to the feast of God comes at a price: the precious blood of Jesus his Son. We are outsiders, enemies, excluded. But Jesus takes the judgment we deserve. He becomes the ultimate outsider—pushed out of the world onto the cross; forsaken by his Father. As a result we become insiders, friends, included.
Tim Chester

"Here is Love"



1. Here is love, vast as the o - cean, lov - ing kind - ness as the
 2. On the mount of cru - ci - fix - ion foun - tains o - pened deep and
 3. Bond and pledge of sweet com - mun - ion, all Christ's be - ne - fits di -



4 flood, when the Prince of life, our ran - som, shed for us his pre - cious blood. Who his
 wide; through the flood - gates of God's mer - cy flowed a vast and gra - cious tide. Grace and
 vine, here, ye saints, is of - fered free - ly in the bread and in the wine. Here is



9 love will not re - mem - ber? Who can cease to sing his praise? He will
 love, like migh - ty riv - ers, poured in - ces - sant from a - bove; heav - en's
 love, dis - played in splen - dor, bo - dy bro - ken, blood out - poured; signs and

1, 2



13 ne - ver be for - got - ten through - out heav'n's e - ter - nal days.
 peace and per - fect jus - tice kissed a guilt - y world in love.
 seals of mer - cy of - fered at the ta - ble of the



20 Lord. Here is love, dis - played in splen - dor, bo - dy bro - ken, blood out - poured; signs and



25 seals of mer - cy of - fered at the ta - ble of the Lord.

God loves us not
 because Jesus
 died for us; rather
 Jesus died for us
 because of the
 Father's eternal
 and
 unconquerable
 love for us.
 Timothy George

Knowing that Christ has set things right between us and God, we long to share that good news with others

The Gideons

The gospel is not just about us and God. It calls us to reach out to others, sharing with them the good news that we have heard. We are not alone in this. Today we hear of brothers and sisters in Christ who are living out the gospel in this way, inviting us to participate by praying for them, joining them in their efforts, and in our own lives.

Because he has made atonement for us, given us peace with God, we give our tithes and offerings to God

We give our offerings to God as a public demonstration of our faith, putting our money where our mouths are. In this action we show what we claim, that our lives are organized around God and lived for him instead of ourselves.

Having peace with God through Jesus Christ, we come to God in prayer for all things

During this time we live in faith, trusting in the power of his grace, placing our lives and our church in his hands. We ask that he would work in us and through us for his glory.

The Gideons International is an association of Christian business and professional men and their wives dedicated to telling people about Jesus through associating together for service, sharing personal testimony, and by providing Bibles and New Testaments.

GOD SENDS US WITH HIS GRACE

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not...But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

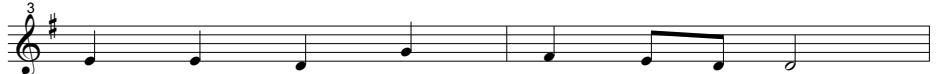
Isaiah 53

We rejoice in our Savior, worshipping him who gave himself for us

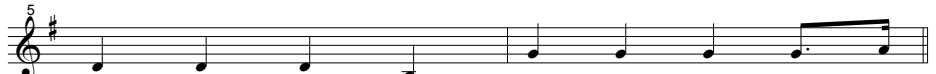
"Man of Sorrows! What a Name"



1.Man of Sor - rows! what a name
 2.Bear - ing shame and scoff - ing rude,
 3.Guil - ty, vile, and help - less we;
 4.Lift - ed up was he to die,
 5.When he comes, our glo - rious King,



for the Son of God who came
 in my place con - demned he stood,
 spot - less Lamb of God was he;
 "It is fin - ished!" was his cry;
 all his ran - somed home to bring,



ru - ined sin - ners to re - claim: Hal - le -
 sealed my par - don with his blood:
 full a - tone - ment! Can it be?
 now in heav'n ex - al - ted high:
 then a - new this song we'll sing:



lu - jah, what a Sav - ior!

We live in the glorious reality of our atonement

Leader: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.

People: Amen

Please stay and join us for a time of refreshment and enjoying each other's company.

This is a time to share in life together as the gospel calls us as we reconnect with those we know and as we meet someone new.

50¢ WORDS

THE VOCABULARY OF FAITH

revelation

God spoke

inspiration

God-breathed

trinity

3-1-1

holiness

separation

righteousness

the way it should be

sovereignty

ultimate kingship

providence

kingship in action

kingdom

living the reign

salvation

ultimate rescue

election

God's choosing

predestination

the love before time

calling

lovingly summoned

regeneration

made alive with Christ

repentance

turning

faith

confident trust

justification

made right

adoption

beloved children

sanctification

making the holy holy

perseverance

held secure

glorification

the full enjoyment of God

advent

coming

Immanuel

God with us

incarnation

veiled in flesh
the Godhead see

Messiah/Christ

appointed, empowered,
sent

Savior

the great rescuer

epiphany

God revealed

love

Christ died for us

hope

assured confidence

grace

love undeserved

sin

not the way
it's supposed to be

redemption

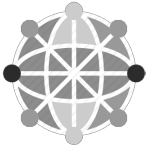
ransomed



Welcome to Free Grace

We are a broken church full of broken people. We know we need God's free grace. Some of us have accepted this grace, some are exploring what it's all about. All of us are still trying to understand it. We are a church that seeks to proclaim this free grace of God with both our words and our lives. Not satisfied with simply talking about it, we want to live it out. We invite you to come, explore, and live God's free grace with us.

Our Connections



Free Grace is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), a family of churches that seeks to be faithful to the Scriptures, true to the Reformed faith, and obedient to the Great Commission of Jesus Christ.

Our Leadership

Free Grace is lead by her elders, men called by God and set apart by the church to care and lead her as individual members, families, and as a whole. Our elders are:

Rev. Per Almquist (pastor)
Kevin Kidd
Ken Morris



Credits

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Connor Crawford, *voice*; Meredith Stevens, *voice*; Shane Stevens, *percussion*; Beth Almquist, *piano*

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"Man of Sorrows! What a Name" Public Domain. Words and Music: Philip Bliss, 1875.

What practical impact does the
atonement have for life?

If Jesus Christ be God, and died for me,
then no sacrifice can be too great
for me to make for him.

C.T. Studd

late 19th–early 20th century British cricket player
and missionary

broken people
bound together in Christ
for God's glory