

May 12, 2019

Hell: Depart from Me
Free Grace Presbyterian Church

SOME THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION:

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."
Matthew 13:47-50

Jesus Christ is the person who is responsible for the doctrine of eternal perdition.

W.G.T. Shedd
19th century Presbyterian theologian

We shall speak about hell with reluctance, with grief, perhaps even with tears—but speak about it we must.

Anthony Hoekema
20th century theologian

Why does anyone believe in hell in these enlightened days? Because Jesus plainly taught its existence. He spoke more often about hell than he did about heaven. We cannot get around this fact...If we are serious in our understanding of Jesus as the incarnate Son of God, we must reckon with the fact that he said plainly that some people will spend eternity in hell.

Leon Morris
Australian NT scholar

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Matthew 25:41-46

Logically and biblically, a gospel of salvation for some means condemnation for others; eternal life for believers implies death for unbelievers; God's presence for the righteous involves his absence from the unrighteous.

Philip Johnston
British OT scholar

"The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear."

Matthew 13:41-43

GOD SUMMONS US BY HIS GRACE

Leader: Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

People: **When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.**

Psalm 146

Leader: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

People: **whose hope is in the Lord his God,**

Leader: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever.

People: **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.**

We sing praise to our God, our help, our hope

“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



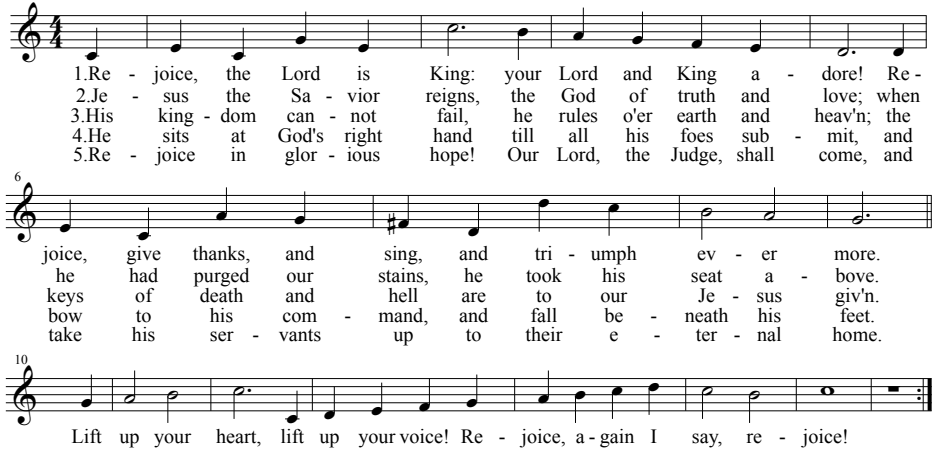
man de - pend; he shall die, to dust re - turn - ing,
 they con - tain; he de - liv - ers from op - press - ion,
 he be - friends, helps the fa - ther - less and wid - ow,
 he is King; un - to him, thy God, O Zi - on,



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.

The gospel draws us into communal life with other people. Worship is a first-person-plural activity. It is extremely significant that in worship otherwise remarkably different people offer praise together, listen together, and profess one faith together.

"Rejoice, the Lord is King"



1. Re - joi - ce, the Lord is King: your Lord and King a - dore! Re -
 2. Je - sus the Sa - vior reigns, the God of truth and love; when
 3. His king - dom can - not fail, he rules o'er earth and heav'n; the
 4. He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub - mit, and
 5. Re - joi - ce in glor - ious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall come, and

6
 joi - ce, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er more.
 he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove.
 keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n.
 bow to his com - mand, and fall be - neath his feet.
 take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home.

10
 Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!

Rejoice in the Lord
 always; again I will
 say, rejoice.
 Philippians 4

GOD SANCTIFIES US BY HIS GRACE

God calls us to sorrow over our sin

For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite."

Isaiah 57

We come to the Lover of our souls in sorrow over our sin

"Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

1 Je - sus, lo - ver of my soul, let me to thy bo - som fly,
2. Oth - er ref - uge have I none, I help - less hang on thee;
3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want; here more than all I find;
4. Plen - teous grace with thee is found, grace to cov - er all my sin;

5
while the near - er wa - ters roll, while the tem - pest still is high:
leave, oh leave me not a - lone, still sup - port and com - fort me!
raise the fall - en, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
let the heal - ing streams a - bound; make and keep me pure with - in:

9
hide me, O my Sa - vior, hide, 'till life's storm is past;
All my trust on thee is stayed, all help from thee I bring;
Just and ho - ly is thy name; I am all un - right - eous - ness;
thou of life the foun - tain art, let me take of thee;

13
safe in - to the ha - ven guide, re - cieve my soul at last.
cov - er my de - fense - less head in the shad - ow of thy wing.
false and full of sin I am, thou art full of truth and grace.
spring thou up with - in my heart, for all e - ter - ni - ty.

God declares his truth and grace in Christ Jesus

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death...For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8

contrite

[kən'trit, 'käntrit]

feeling remorse—
guilt, regret, and
sorrow—for our sin

We rest in the finished work of Jesus Christ

"It is Finished"



1. Hark, the voice of love and mer - cy sounds a - loud from Cal - va - ry!
2. "It is fin - ished," o what plea - sure do these charm - ing words a - ford.
3. Fin - ished all the types and sha - dows of the cer - e - mon - ial - law.
4. Tune your harps a - new, — ye ser - aphs, join to sing the pleas - ing theme.



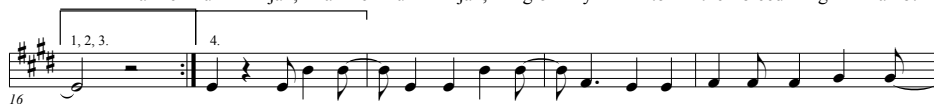
See, it rends the clouds a - sun - der, shakes the earth and veils the — sky!
Heav'n - ly bless - ings with - out mea - sure flow to us from Christ — the — Lord.
Fin - ished all that God had pro - mised; death and hell no more — shall awe.
Saints on earth, and all in hea - ven, join to praise E - man - uel's name.



"It is fin - ished, it is fin - ished," hear the dy - ing Sav - ior cry.
"It is fin - ished, it is fin - ished," saints the dy - ing words re - cord.
It is fin - ished, it is fin - ished: saints from hence your com - fort draw.
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, glo - ry to the bleed - ing Lamb!



"It is fin - ished, it is fin - ished," hear the dy - ing Sav - ior cry.
"It is fin - ished, it is fin - ished," saints the dy - ing words re - cord.
It is fin - ished, it is fin - ished: saints from hence your com - fort draw.
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, glo - ry to the bleed - ing Lamb!



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, glo - ry to the bleed - ing Lamb!



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, glo - ry to the bleed - ing Lamb!

When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.
John 19

GOD SPEAKS WITH US BY HIS GRACE

⁵This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering—⁶since indeed God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, ⁷and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels ⁸in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ⁹They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, ¹⁰when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed. ¹¹To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power, ¹²so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Thessalonians 1:5-12

Sermon

Hell: Depart from Me
50¢ Words: The Vocabulary of Faith

Rev. Per Almqvist

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

atonement

setting things right

propitiation

wrath lovingly satisfied

reconciliation

enemies no longer

forgiveness

sin's double cure

resurrection

life victorious

church

the fullness of Christ

heaven

dwelling place of God

We experience heaven as we sing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost "For All the Saints"



1. For all the saints who from their
 2. Thou wast their rock, their for- tress,
 3. O may thy sold- iers
 4. The gol- den eve- ning
 5. But lo! there breaks a yet more
 6. From earth's wide bounds, from o- cean's



la- bors rest, who thee by faith be- fore the
 and their might; thou, Lord, their Cap- tain in the
 true, and bold fight as the saints who no- bly
 in the west; soon, soon to faith- ful war- riors
 glo- rious - day; the saints tri- um- phant rise in
 far- thest coast, through gates of pearl streams in the



world con- fessed; thy name, O Je- sus, be for-
 well - fought fight; thou, in the dark- ness drear, their
 fought of old, and win with them the vic- tor's
 comes their rest; sweet is the calm of par- a
 bright ar- ray; the King of glo- ry pass- es
 count- less host, sing- ing to Fa- ther, Son, and



e - - ver blessed: Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu.
 one true light: Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu.
 crown of gold: Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu.
 diad- em the blest: Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu!
 on his way: Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu.
 Ho - ly Ghost: Al - le - lu - ia Al - le



lu - - - - - ia.

"Blessed indeed,"
 says the Spirit,
 "that they may rest
 from their labors."

Revelation 14

GOD STRENGTHENS US BY HIS GRACE

We glory in the revelation of Jesus Christ, giving ourselves, our tithes, and our 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.

Confronted with his glory, we confess Jesus Christ as Lord and come to him in prayer that his glory would be revealed in us

*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.*

As we give our offerings to God, we respond to his word to us in the reading and preaching of Scripture by offering ourselves to God again with renewed faith, love, gratitude, and commitment.

The sacraments are reminders of the historical reality of Christ's redemption. They embody concretely the reality of our faith... By faith the sacraments present to our senses the touch of the unseen, the foretaste of heaven's feast with the Lord.
Edmund Clowney

God gives us a taste of heaven—his love, life, and light as he dwells with us—as we celebrate 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 with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging to our church that you are in covenant with God. You also acknowledge 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. Wine and bread are the elements of the supper as instituted by Jesus Christ and so we follow his example.

Matthew 25:31-46

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’

“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”


"To See the King of Heaven Fall"



1. To see the King of ___ hea - ven fall in an - guish to ___ his knees, the
2. To know each friend will fall a - way and hea - ven's voice be still, for
3. What took him to this wretch - ed place; what kept him on ___ this road? His



5 Light of Hope of ___ all the world now ov - er - whelmed with grief. What
hell to have its ___ venge - ful day up - on Gol - go - tha's hill. No
love for A - dam's curs - ed race, for ev - 'ry bro - ken soul. No



9 name - less hor - rors must he see, to cry out in the gar - den: "Oh
words de - scribe the ___ Sav - ior's plight, to be by God for - sa - ken till
sin too slight to ___ o - ver - look, no crime too great to ___ car - ry, all



13 take this cup a - way from me, yet not my will ___ but
wrath and love are ___ sat - is - fied and ev - 'ry sin ___ is
min - gled in this ___ poi - soned cup, and yet he drank it



16 yours, yet not my will ___ but yours."
paid, and ev - 'ry sin ___ is paid.
all. The Sav - ior drank it all.

Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will."
Matthew 26

GOD SENDS US WITH HIS GRACE

We sing out of the glory of God revealed in Jesus Christ

“Glorious and Mighty”

Sing to the LORD,
bless his name;
tell of his salvation
from day to day.
Declare his glory
among the
nations, his
marvelous works
among all the
peoples!...
Splendor and
majesty are before
him; strength and
beauty are in his
sanctuary.

Psalm 96

1. Maj-es-ty, your glo - ry is shin - ing bright - er than the
2. Maj-es-ty, you fash - ioned the heav - ens, your de - crees can
3. Maj-es-ty, we'll sing with cre - a - tion when you come a -

4 moon and the stars. Mar-vel - ling, we ho - nor and fear you a -
nev - er be changed. O - ver all the plans of the na - tions your
gain in the clouds. Ev - 'ry knee will bow down and wor - ship the

7 bove all gods. Glo - ri-ous and might - y, you're awe-some in beau - ty;
judg-ments reign. one true God.

13 joy - ful songs we raise. Glo - ri-ous and might - y, you're awe-some in

19 beau - ty, great - ly to be praised!

We go in the blessing of the God revealed in glory in Jesus Christ

John 1

Leader: May the Word, which became flesh and dwelt among us, reveal his glory to you, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. May you receive from his fullness grace upon grace.

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.*

500 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

atonement

setting things right

propitiation

wrath lovingly satisfied

reconciliation

enemies no longer

forgiveness

sin's double cure

resurrection

life victorious

church

the fullness of Christ

heaven

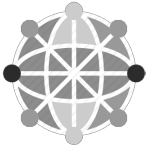
dwelling place of God



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)
Brian Cosgrove
Ken Morris



Credits

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Hell is the enjoyment of your own way forever.

Dorothy Sayers
"The Divine Comedy"

broken people
bound together in Christ
for God's glory