

May 17, 2020

SOVEREIGN GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

Of Princeton, New Jersey

Jesus Christ

For by Him were all things created,
that are in heaven, and that are in earth,
visible and invisible ...

And He is before all things,
and by Him all things consist.
- Colossians 1:16-17

Weekly Schedule of Services

Sunday: 10:15 AM Bible Class
11:00 AM Morning Service
Thursday: 7:30 PM Mid-week
Service

*Services Broadcast Live @
www.FreeGraceMedia.com/live*

WEB ADDRESS

Be sure to bookmark our website for daily articles and audio messages:
www.FreeGraceMedia.com

WEEKLY MEETING LOCATION	MAILING ADDRESS
251 Green Lane Ewing, NJ, 08638	7 Birch Street Pennington, NJ 08534 Clay Curtis, pastor

Phone: 615-513-4464 | Email: clay@freegracemedia.com

If you would like to receive this bulletin sent weekly
to your email then send a note to the email address above.

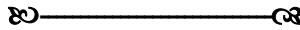
Articles in this bulletin are by the pastor unless otherwise noted.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

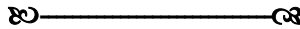
10:15 am. Bible Class
11:00 a.m. Service: Hymns * Scripture Reading * Message* Hymn.
Scripture Today: Ben M **Scripture Thurs:** Scott K
May BDays: Greg C—1st; Martha C—4th; Joyce M—8th; Will C—14th; Jeff M—17th; Chloe D—26th; Lenore R—27th
May Anniversaries: John and Kelsie K—19th; Mike and Jamie Lutz—23rd
May Cleaning: R Keller Family **Grass Cutting:** Ben M

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Until further notice our online live broadcast begins each Sunday at 9am. No Friday night bible classes until further notice.



Proverbs 14: 30: A sound heart *is* the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones.



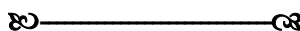
COMFORTING TRUTH

“For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.” (Rom. 11:36).

There is nothing more comforting to believers than God’s sovereignty over all things (Rom. 11:36). Under the most adverse circumstances, in the most severe trials, we believe that God has ordained our afflictions, that God overrules them, and that God will sanctify them for our good and His glory.

There is nothing for which we ought to contend more earnestly than the truth of God’s rule and reign over all things, all creatures, and all their actions (Psalm 135:5-6). The Throne of God, His right to sit on that Throne, and His right to do with His own what He will is what we believe and what we preach. Let us be accused of over-emphasizing the majesty and power of the living God, but never let it be said that we underestimate His glory.

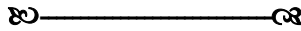
Pastor Henry T. Mahan



GOD WAS IN CHRIST

2 Corinthians 5: 18: And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; 19: To wit, that GOD WAS IN CHRIST, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them;...

The Son of God made flesh was GOD IN CHRIST reconciling the world of his elect unto himself. “Abraham said, “My son, GOD will provide HIMSELF a LAMB for a burnt offering” (Gen 22:8). Christ Jesus is GOD providing HIMSELF a LAMB and GOD HIMSELF IS THAT LAMB. Paul called the church “the church OF GOD, which HE hath purchased WITH HIS OWN BLOOD.” (Acts 20: 28) Think on that, brethren! God dwelt among us. God made himself the Lamb our Substitute. And God accomplished reconciling his elect unto himself WITH HIS OWN BLOOD. What a statement!



Things That Promote Peace – *By Henry Mahan*

“Let us therefore follow after the things which promote peace, and things wherewith one may edify another” -- *Romans 14:19*

1. Be careful to LOVE one another with a true heart. “*Love covers a multitude of sins.*”
2. Avoid a spirit of ARGUMENT AND DEBATE. One may win an argument and lose a friend.
3. Beware of JEALOUSY. Jealousy destroys happiness and builds suspicion.
4. Beware of ENVY. Let us learn to rejoice in another’s gifts, blessings, and happiness. God gives as HE will!
5. Do not MEDDLE in the private lives and domestic affairs of others.
6. Guard against a TOUCHY TEMPER: “For every trifling thing to take offense shows either great pride or little sense.”

7. Learn to KEEP A CONFIDENCE. “*He that repeateth a matter separateth very friends.*”

8. Strive to HEAL DIFFERENCES. “*Blessed are the peacemakers.*”

9. Be always ready to FORGIVE ANYTHING. “*Forgive us our sins AS we forgive those who sin against us.*”



Not To Take For Granted – [*This was written by an unknown brother in another local assembly in the midst of the quarantine we are under from the Corona Virus*] Merriam Webster defines HUG as: a close embrace with the arms especially as a sign of affection: and HANDSHAKE as: a clasping usually of right hands by two people (as in greeting or farewell).

I never realized how much I missed these two things until yesterday when I saw the two of you! Oh my goodness, the things that I take for granted! I have taken for granted the pure and simplistic yet oh so important ability to be ABLE to come to Church! I have taken for granted what it feels like to have the warm embrace of someone that loves you (and the occasional lipstick left on your cheek by a sweet kiss!!!!). I have taken for granted being able to **freely** sit and hear the Gospel being preached!! I have taken for granted what it sounds like to hear the singing of hymns by my brothers and sisters!

I felt like I had been doing such a “good job” of keeping my faith that the Lord was going to see us through all of this, but I must admit that my time frame has been completely different than His time frame for this to be over with. I have listened (at work) to the different theories so many people have about it, I sat down and made 100 face masks to donate, I have read so many different articles, watched a few news stories...but at the end of the day, I fully realize that it does not matter on conspiracies, theories, face masks or articles! It matters when the Lord sees fit for this to end IF and when He chooses! I appreciate you with the way we have handled services, I pray for you daily and I look forward to being able to get that hug, hand shake and kiss on the cheek! I pray for myself that I would learn *not to take* so many things *for granted* and would truly appreciate the freedoms I have to be able to worship the way I choose to worship.



JUST SHUT UP AND QUIT PREACHING

This is what the Jewish leaders told Peter and John to do; "And when they had called the apostles, and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus..." (Acts 4:17; 5:40). This is the main goal of the devil's plotting against the poor preachers of Christ – "Just shut up and quit preaching."

Satan has many devices by which he seeks to accomplish this goal, threats are only one of them. Poor Moses was tempted not to stand before Pharaoh and say, "Thus sayest the Lord," and we are told why - and Moses complained to the Lord about it; "Since I came to Pharaoh *to speak in thy name*, he hath done evil to this people" (Exodus 5:23). The preaching of the gospel is apt to start the threat of persecution of some kind where it never existed before. Is it worth it to shut up and preach Christ no longer just to secure our own safety?

Young Jeremiah was so intimidated by seeing the disappointment on the faces of those he preached to, the Lord had to warn him more than once to pay no mind to it less he yield to the temptation just to shut up and quit preaching (Jer.1:8,17). Are the disapproving faces of man enough to make us shut up and speak no more in the name of Jesus? Oh, how many of us have felt like throwing in the towel right in the middle of a sermon because of it!

There are the feelings of being so inadequate. "Ah, Lord God! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child" (Jer.1:6). I sometimes think of myself, that after studying the Scriptures for over forty years, I know so little as I ought to know; how can I go on preaching? The knowledge I have could be put in a thimble and a large cork put in it. I feel like I should just sit down and shut up and let the more learned do the preaching.

There are the misstatements. Saying things we should never have said, or saying it in a way that was absolutely wrong and therefore completely misunderstood or taken offense to. Poor Moses complained of this, "I am not eloquent," but it was worse than that, 'I can't even get the words out, he said,' "I am slow of speech" (Exod.4:10). If you think this wasn't a

great hindrance to Moses in his being unwilling to preach, read what a time (I say with reverence) the Lord had in sending that man to preach in Exodus chapter four.

Then, there are those times when the preacher sees his own personal failing and falling into sin. There are times when the brethren see some of his faults too, and even they discourage him from continuing to preach. One man told me the apostle Peter was never the preacher after he denied the Lord that he was before. What nonsense! I imagine Satan told Peter that since he had fallen and brought such shame on the Lord, that he might as well shut up and leave the preaching to others. No one is excusing Peter's fall, but it only served to make a better preacher out of him. King David used his awful fall and restoration to encourage himself to teach transgressors the way of the Lord, and even believed that sinners would be converted under his ministry (Ps.51:13).

I think it is a standing miracle that any preacher of the gospel continues to preach for any length of time - considering how Satan tempts them to shut up and speak no more. God give all his preachers grace to say with Peter; 'We cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard,' and to be like those early preachers who, instead of just shutting up and sitting down, or getting a job they felt like they were good at, 'went everywhere preaching the word' (Acts 8:4). Our great Savior is worthy. Spread his fame in spite of all opposition within and without.

Are we experiencing persecution? Do we see the disappointment of some and the disapproval of others? Do we feel our own lack of ability? Are we reminded of our own faults and fallings. And add to this we see so little fruit of our preaching. Yet, "Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace," (Acts 18:9).

Pastor Bruce Crabtree

