

**GROW
IN
GRACE**
NEWSLETTER

Volume 45, No. 19, May 12, 2020 / Southside Baptist Church / P.O. Box 1594 / 1028 South Water Avenue, Gallatin, TN 37066 (615) 452-5951 / **The Grow in Grace Newsletter is a WEEKLY Bible Study**, plus local church news notes—designed first and foremost for members and those attending services at Southside Church; and is sent forth with the desire to aid one and all, (including friends far and wide), in the experience of 2 Peter 3:18. ***"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD JESUS CHRIST!"***

In preparation for COMING TO THE LORD'S SUPPER during our 10:45am Worship Service, May 17— We would do well to come **ASTONISHED that the Holy Wrath of God was **PROPIATIATED** (perfectly satisfied!) by **GOD HIMSELF!****

THE WORD OF GOD IS CLEAR: "God is a just judge, and God is angry with the wicked every day!" (Psalm 7:11) "God is jealous, and the LORD revengeth; and is furious; the LORD will take vengeance on His adversaries, and He reserveth wrath for His enemies!" (Nahum 1:2) In the New Testament, GOD REMAINS THE SAME, **"For the wrath of God is revealed** from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness" (Romans 1:18).

From the beginning, God warned that disobedience would bring death. Sin pays wages— 'the wages of sin is death!' (Romans 6:23) Thus, in holy justice God is steadfast in His wrath against sinners— the sinner ABIDES UNDER the holy wrath of God! (John 3:36) The prophet Nahum states, "The LORD is slow to anger and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked." [And the LORD will by no means leave the guilty unpunished!] (Nahum 1:3) God cannot and will not simply overlook sin. He is holy and will not just pretend sin didn't happen.

NOTICE: God will punish SINNERS - not sin - but SINNERS in the lake of fire **and in the presence of** the LAMB OF GOD! (Revelation 14:8-11; 20:11-15; 21:8) YES, GOD IS LOVE— however,

His love is holy and cannot be given at the expense of His holiness or justice.

THERE IS COMING A DAY WHEN the world will seek to hide from the WRATH OF THE LAMB! (Rev. 6:14-17)

Christ's Substitutionary Work on the Cross Made JESUS the Object of God's Wrath!

On the cross Christ, who had no sin, was experiencing sin for sinners. *** "For He [GOD, the Father] made Him [JESUS] who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Corinthians 5:21). *** "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a **curse** for us (for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree')" (Galatians 3:13) *** "Surely He has **borne our griefs** and carried our **sorrows**. . . He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. . . **the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. . . it pleased the LORD to bruise Him;** He has **put Him to grief**. When You **make His soul an offering for sin**" (Isaiah 53:6-8, 10) *** "**And He (JESUS) is the propitiation for our sins**" (1 John 2:2).

The word 'PROPITIATION' means to turn away wrath by sacrifice. JESUS came to earth to become the sinners' sacrifice. CHRISTIAN: Jesus absorbed and SATISFIED God's holy wrath, which you/we deserved. **Jesus was Actually Forsaken!**

Jesus, as Man, had lived in continuous fellowship with the Father - "And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him." (John 8:29). **Yet, now, at the cross His fellowship with the Father was broken.** There was a thick darkness covering the day (verse 45).

Jesus was experiencing the wrath of God, the wrath which we deserved, as our substitute. The word He uses for this, He takes from Psalm 22:1, ***FORSAKEN!*** "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" **Notice that Jesus speaks as Man to God, not as Son to Father.** His prayer addresses, "My God, My God," not "My Father." Jesus was functioning as a man functions and died on the cross functioning as a man. "The question has been asked, **'How can God forsake God?'** The answer must be that God the Father deserted the Son's human nature! . . ." (William Hendriksen, New Testament Commentary on Matthew, page 971).

On the cross Jesus never ceased to be who He always was and is— God. *"God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself"* (2 Corinthians 5:19). AT THE SAME TIME, Jesus functioned as a man, really and fully man— and He died as a man, experiencing suffering and death and the unknown as a man. *JESUS was forsaken that God might never leave nor forsake us!* (Hebrews 13:5; Romans 8:31-39)

"In God's mysterious yet amazing action, the future judgment was brought forward and experienced by Christ the sinner's substitute in order that all who belong to Him might be justified here and now and escape the wrath to come. **What happened to our Lord on the cross during those three hours of uncanny darkness and dereliction was absolute hell! *'My God, my God, why have You forsaken Me?'***" (Mark 15:34). He endured the awful judgment of God in body, mind and spirit.

That figure on the cross was still a human being. Even though His appearance 'was marred beyond human likeness' (Isaiah 52:14), The Bible tells us that, **'The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him'** (Isaiah 53:5). There on that central cross we have a glimpse on earth, in time and space, of what the future

torment will be like. But the full horror cannot be depicted; it is veiled behind the three hours of silence and darkness.” (author unknown) **JESUS DRANK ‘THE CUP!’**

God’s wrath or punishment of sinners is sometimes described as a cup. In the agony of Gethsemane Jesus prayed to the Father, **‘Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will’** (Mark 14:36). Later, when Jesus had to rebuke Peter he said, **‘Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me’** (John 18:11). This cup of the Lord’s wrath is spoken of by the prophets, in such passages as Isaiah 51:17-23 and Jer. 25:15-29.

When Jesus, who knew no sin, became sin for us, there on the cross, He tasted the full fury of God’s wrath, in the place of sinners, HIS PEOPLE— “You shall call His name, JESUS; for He shall SAVE HIS PEOPLE from their sins!” (Matt. 1:21)

The ‘Cup’... on Judgment Day! ‘If anyone worships the beast and his image... he, too, will drink of the wine of God’s fury, which has been poured full strength into **the cup of His wrath..** .The smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever. There is no rest day or night’ (Rev 14:9-11).

THIS IS STUNNING: The Lord Jesus Christ who received the full force of that punishment when He became the sinner’s substitute **is the very Person who has been appointed Judge on the Day of Judgment** and ‘He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power on that day...’ (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9; cf. Matthew 10:28; 25:4 1; Mark 9:43).

The Atoning Sacrifice— stated again! The substitutionary death of Jesus Christ, (as a sacrifice to propitiate or satisfy the

wrath of God), **is so essential— for** by his atoning death Christ has made full, sufficient and final satisfaction for the sins of those He represents.

He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, who satisfies God’s righteous wrath and who completely satisfies the demands of the law. Without it, however, it would be a sheer impossibility for God to justify sinners. **In order for God to remain true to his character, sin must be justly dealt with.** Only through Christ, the Sinless One, identifying Himself with sinners and receiving what sin deserves can guilty sinners who rely on Christ be immune from punishment. **God has presented Jesus Christ as the propitiatory sacrifice in order to ‘demonstrate His justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus’ (Romans 3:25-26).** Sinners need not only a representative head who is righteous, but one who will act as their substitute and endure the penalty which their sin deserves!

JESUS on the Cross is the love of God in Christ which is at work propitiating His own righteous indignation for the benefit of us sinners. ‘Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins’ (1 John 4:10; cf. , 2:1-2 [AV]).

REDEMPTION and PROPITIATION— Romans 3:21-26

Romans 3:21 - The necessary righteousness to be provided by God was never intended to be achieved by the law. Rather, that righteousness is altogether apart from the law. As verses found later in the chapter explain (e.g., verse 28), the plan for righteousness has always been centered in the person and work of the Messiah and not in the works of the law. (1 Peter 1:11)

Romans 3:22, 23 - The righteousness of God is manifested in the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. That righteousness is placed upon the sinner the moment that faith is placed in Jesus Christ. Throughout the New Testament (even in places referring to the Old Testament period such as in Romans 4), faith is declared to be the medium through which the sinner is saved from sin. **JESUS Christ proclaims**, “No man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” (John 14:6) Faith, when placed in Jesus Christ, is the channel through which sinners are declared righteous by God and are saved.

Thus, Ephesians 2:8-10 declares, “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”

Romans 3:24 - Redemption. The price to be paid for justification far exceeded any amount that any sinner could afford. However, that price was paid by Christ on the cross!

Christ did not need righteousness; He already had it. Nevertheless, He purchased so that He could redeem those who could not afford it. The payment that was paid by the Lord Jesus Christ made it possible for redemption to be free for all who believe. Only the grace of God could afford the price of justification!

Romans 3:25 - Propitiation. The Lord Jesus Christ was given by God to be a propitiation for sinners. The idea conveyed by the term ‘propitiation’ **“signifies the turning away of wrath by an offering.”** This idea is firmly connected with the Old Testament concept of the wrath of God upon the sin of men. The

death of Christ stands as a means of turning God's divine wrath from sinners upon Christ Himself.

Romans 3:26 - God's righteousness is held to the end. God remains just in that His wrath was poured out upon sin. However, He retains His position as the Justifier in that the Lord Jesus Christ absorbed that wrath on the Cross. The sin of man was placed on Christ (Is. 53:4-6; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:24) and He bore man's punishment accordingly.

By that same process of imputation, Christ was able to achieve righteousness on our behalf. It is His righteousness that is reckoned to the account of the sinner who believes. The end result is the pronouncement of the sinner as righteous before a holy God when that sinner places his faith in Christ. That pronouncement is the very heart of justification.

It is extremely important to note that the declaration of a sinner being justified is just that - a declaration. Despite this declaration, the sinner remains sinful but is redeemed and forgiven and now indwelt by the Holy Spirit. The righteousness of Christ is placed on the account of the believing sinner. Therefore, **it is by JESUS CHRIST'S righteousness alone** that the sinner is declared righteous.

The believing sinner is declared righteous and has that standing before God as if he were righteous. Nevertheless, that righteousness is not his own. Though justified, he remains nothing more than a justified sinner. **Nothing changes in the sinner in order for him to be justified.** If anything did change, it would not be the work of Christ alone, and that is simply not allowed by Scripture.

Once the righteousness of Christ is placed on the sinner's account, then, and only then, is everything in the sinner changed. That is why Paul declares the following: *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.” (2 Corinthians 5:17-19)

THINK ON THESE THINGS! Be ASTOUNDED and Worship!

[Unfortunately, I do not have a list of the **RESOURCES** originally used in developing this article. Be that as it may— give all glory to God!]

Grace to all in Christ! // www.southsidegallatin.org

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**5/17/20 PLANS FOR CHURCH SERVICES at Southside,
1028 South Water Av, Gallatin, TN....**

1. Saturday, May 16, * 8:00am — Men's Bible Study: Studies in Titus.**

2. Sunday, May 17 — * 9:30am** Sunday School: Nursery, Children's classes, Youth and Adult classes scheduled. (Ladies S.S. will decide later... we will update...)

3. May 17, 10:45am WORSHIP SERVICE. [WE HAVE ABUNDANT SPACE so that 6ft OR more DISTANCING will be EASILY SET UP AND MAINTAINED in the worship hour!

***** [THE LORD'S SUPPER will be served in a very hygienic manner!]**

**4. WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ 6:30pm— ** Adult Prayer Service
** Young FAMILIES Prayer Service ** Youth Bible Study**

5. May 26... Ladies Bible Study! (Prayer time, 10:30-10:45am) BIBLE STUDY @ 11am... studies on Women of the Bible

***** AS TO OUR PLANS TO BE SAFE IN MAY:**

1. IF YOU ARE SICK... OR if you are presently in a state of high immune deficiency or if (at home or work) you are caring for one who is sick—WE ASK THAT YOU DO NOT ATTEND any of our gathered services. [If you have • **Fever;** • Coughing; • • Chills; • Headache; • Sore throat; etc.... **please stay home!**]

2. IF YOU ARE HEALTHY and well... you may or may not choose to wear a mask... or gloves... WE do not require; we WILL NOT provide such.

3. WE ask you to practice ‘social distancing’— 6ft apart... you will be seated at least 6ft apart.

4. WE EXPECT THAT EACH OF YOU WILL DO YOUR PART IN personal hygiene. *IF you use the restrooms— please wash your hands with SOAP before leaving... and once outside the bathroom... use nearby SANITIZER.*

5. Door Greeters... continue following our guidelines... see “Nuts & Bolts” sheet.

6. LOVE OFFERINGS UNTO THE LORD: When each of you arrive in the auditorium for the WORSHIP SERVICE... **YOU PLACE**

YOUR OFFERINGS IN THE PLATES.... WHICH will be on the Communion Table and on the FRONT middle Pew... or... on BACK of Auditorium table.

7. CHILDREN IN THE WORSHIP SERVICE... THEY ARE NOT TO BE OR TO GO ANYWHERE WITHOUT A PARENT AT THEIR SIDE... YOUR CHILDREN MUST NOT HUG ADULTS... ADULTS MUST REFRAIN FROM ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO HUG THEM. (We will re-evaluate this down the way)

8. *We will find ourselves at 'different places' and with 'different beliefs about how to respond to the COVID-19 matter. WE MUST GIVE RESPECT AND HONOR TO EACH OTHER... REGARDLESS!*

9. Upcoming May Events on Sundays:

* **May 17-** LORD'S SUPPER!

** **May 24-** Missionaries Nathan and Rachel Waldock.

*** **May 31-** ORDINATION SERVICE for Jaden Allen

Grace to one and all! James Bell

FOR THOSE AT HOME: THE 10:45am LIVE STREAMING of the worship service for May 17... **TO CONNECT, NOW all you need to do is to GO TO OUR CHURCH WEBSITE:**

www.southsidegallatin.org ... from there you can ALSO connect to our YouTube Channel, Sermon Audio, and many other resources.

***** JOYFUL HEART LOVE OFFERINGS UNTO THE LORD, for ministry through Southside and through MISSIONARIES:**

**1. SUCH funds, (if checks), make out to Southside Baptist)
– MAIL TO: Southside Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1594,
Gallatin, TN 37066**

**2. OR, you may choose to GIVE, via ONLINE GIVING @
<https://southsidebaptist.breezechms.com/give/online>**