

May 23, 2010

Unbelievers seek their happiness in things of the world. Believers find their happiness in God. It is contrary to the nature of faith for a believer to seek peace in his earthly enjoyments. Our present pilgrimage is a prison, yet alas, we too commonly do this. By this we kill our comforts and then complain they are missing. It is folly to expect any stable peace or solid joy that does not come from Christ as the fountain. O that Christians would learn to live with one eye on Christ crucified and the other on his coming in glory! If everlasting joys were more in your thoughts, spiritual joys would abound more in your hearts. No wonder you are comfortless when heaven is forgotten. When Christians let fall their heavenly expectations but heighten their earthly desires, they are preparing themselves for fear and trouble. Who has met with a distressed, complaining soul, where either a low expectation of heavenly blessings, or too high a hope for joy on earth is not present? What keeps us under trouble is either we do not expect what God has promised, or we expect what he did not promise. We are grieved at crosses, losses, wrongs of our enemies, unkind dealings of our friends, sickness, or for contempt and scorn in the world. But who encouraged you to expect any better? Was it prosperity, riches, credit, and friends that God called for you to believe? Do you have any promises for these things in his Word? If you make a promise to yourself, and then your own promise deceives you, whom should you blame for that? We have less comfort in earthly things because we have too high an expectation from them. Alas, when will we learn from Scripture and providence to seek far more from God, and far less from the earth?

– Richard Baxter



Proclaiming the Sovereign Majesty of God

The first part of Christ's physic is eye-salve (Acts 26:18). It is the great thing noted in the prodigal's repentance: 'he came to himself' (Luke 15:17). He saw himself a sinner and nothing but a sinner. Before a man can come to Christ he must first come to himself. Solomon, in his description of repentance, considers this as the first ingredient: 'if they shall bethink themselves' (I Kings 8:47). A man must first recognize and consider what his sin is, and know the plague of his heart before he can be duly humbled for it. The first creature God made was light. So the first thing in a penitent is illumination: 'Now ye are light in the Lord' (Eph. 5:8). The eye is made both for seeing and weeping. Sin must first be seen before it can be wept for.

– Thomas Watson

Pastor Jess Smith
Sunday School at 9:00 am
Worship at 10:15 am
256-895-7279
1355 Douglass Road
Huntsville, AL 35806
www.ProvidenceBaptist.us

May 23, 2010

*Please enter reverently and silence all communication devices.
Parents with crying children may use the conference room.*

Preparation for Worship

*“For God alone my soul waits in silence;
from Him comes my salvation.
He only is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.”
Psalm 62:1-2 (ESV)*

Prelude to Worship.....*Amelia Kelly
Glen Harper*

Chiming of the Hour

Worship in Music *Adult Choir
Love Lifted Me
Arranged by Mary McDonald*

Invocation

*“Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking Him by prayer and pleas for mercy with fasting and sackcloth and ashes. I prayed to the LORD my God and made confession, saying, ‘O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love Him and keep His commandments, we have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from Your commandments and rules.’”
Daniel 9:3-5 (ESV)*

***Call to Worship**.....*Eternal Father, Strong to Save (page 575)*

***Scripture Reading**..... *Psalm 90:1-17*

Confession of Sin and Pastoral Prayer

Adoration

*“And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, ‘Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.’”
Revelation 7:11-12 (ESV)*

Hymn..... *America, the Beautiful (page 572)
Before the Throne of God Above (page insert)

***Scripture Reading**..... *Romans 14:1-12*

Worship in Tithes and Offerings.....*Amelia Kelly
Glen Harper*

Exposition

*“He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.”
Acts 28:30-31 (ESV)*

Pastor Jess Smith..... *Romans 14:1-12*

Consecration

*“What shall I render to the LORD for all His benefits to me?
I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD, I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all His people.”
Psalm 116:12-14 (ESV)*

***Hymn of Commitment** *When We All Get to Heaven (page 542)*

Benediction

*“Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.”
Jude 24-25 (ESV)*

Postlude.....*Amelia Kelly
Glen Harper*

***Congregation please stand**