

July 11, 2010

Affliction teaches us to prize and long for heaven. In our prosperity we are content with the present world and say with the disciples, 'It is good that we are here.' While life is sweet, death is bitter. We do not crave heaven while the world gives us her friendly entertainments. But when poverty, imprisonment, persecution, and diseases come, we are not so fond of the earthly life. Then we can entertain a parley with death, and take heaven into our consideration. In discipline God takes our hearts away from this present world by degrees, and makes us look homeward. We would be content like Israel around the fleshpots of Egypt until the cruel taskmasters doubled their burdens. When God lessens our esteem of the world, he draws out our desires for the actual fulfillment of our heavenly comforts. Even so come Lord Jesus! Affliction reveals the glory of heaven. To the weary, it is rest; to the banished, home; to the scorned, glory; to the captive, liberty; to the warrior, conquest; to the conqueror, a crown of life; to the hungry, hidden manna; to the thirsty, a fountain of life, and rivers of pleasure; to the grieved, fullness of joy; and to the mourner it is pleasures for evermore. Heaven is precious and the soul desires to be with Christ, which is best of all. Hope, though it keeps life in the soul, is not able to fill it. It longs to be at home in its Father's arms. They that walk by faith are not content until their belief is actual sight. When Jacob heard that Joseph was alive, he was not satisfied with the hearing of it; he said 'I will go and see him before I die.' Augustine sweetly said upon the answer of God to Moses: 'You cannot see my face...and live' (Exod. 33:20), 'Then, Lord, let me die that I may see your face!'

– Thomas Case



Proclaiming the Sovereign Majesty of God

Oh that the pleasure-seeking men and women of the world could only taste and feel the real joy of those who know and love the true God—a heritage which the world ...cannot give to them, but which the poorest and humblest followers of Jesus inherit and enjoy!

My heart often says within itself—when, when will men's eyes at home be opened? When will the rich and the learned...renounce their shallow frivolities, and go to live amongst the poor, the ignorant, the outcast, and the lost, and write their eternal fame on the souls by them blessed and brought to the Savior? Those who have tasted this highest joy, "The joy of the Lord," will never again ask—Is Life worth living?

– John G. Paton

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

July 11, 2010

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

Preparation for Worship

A Prayer of Moses the man of God.

*“Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting, you are God.”
Psalm 90:1-2 (ESV)*

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

Chiming of the Hour

*Worship in MusicHeather Gargis
“I Want to Fly”*

Invocation

*“Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence—
as when fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
and that the nations might tremble at your presence!”
Isaiah 64:1-2(ESV)*

**Call to Worship.....O Worship the King (page 10)*

**Scripture Reading..... Zechariah 2:1-13*

Confession of Sin and Pastoral Prayer

Adoration

*“Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol him, all peoples!
For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!”
Psalm 117 (ESV)*

*Hymn..... Praise Him! Praise Him! (page 106)
One Day (page 170)

**Scripture Reading.....II Corinthians 6:14-7:1*

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

Exposition

*“Then Philip opened his mouth,
and beginning with this Scripture
he told him the good news about Jesus.”
Acts 8:35 (ESV)*

Pastor Jess Smith..... Zechariah 2:1-13

Consecration

*“Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts,
kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if
one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has
forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which
binds everything together in perfect harmony.”
Colossians 3:12-14 (ESV)*

**Hymn of Commitment Rejoice, the Lord Is King
(page 228)*

Benediction

*“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”
Romans 15:13(ESV)*

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

**Congregation please stand*