



# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

## KCPC This Week

*"Knowing the love of Christ together with all the saints." - Eph. 3:18-19*

Week Ending, September 17, 2016



### Upcoming Events- Lord willing!

**Prepare for Worship:** Your pastor and elders encourage you to spend time in prayer each Saturday evening, preparing your hearts for the Lord's Day, and praying for the worship of our God. Pray for the Holy Spirit's blessing on preaching of word and fellowship!

**Women's Bible Studies:** Women's Bible Studies: The evening study meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday nights at 7pm. Studying the **Book of Daniel**. Contact Margaret Biggs at [missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net](mailto:missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net) for more information. The daytime study meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays from 1-3, beginning Sept. 27. Studying "A Woman's Wisdom: How the book of Proverbs speaks to everything." Contact Joanie Leake for more information: [J2Leake@gmail.com](mailto:J2Leake@gmail.com). All women are invited to attend either or both!

**Sunday School Classes- Autumn 2016:** Continue this Lords Day, Sept. 11. The adults will be studying "Church History 101: Highlights from Twenty Centuries" taught by Pastor and elders. New Members class begins on Nov. 1. Please **RSVP** by Oct. 15 to [crbiggs@comcast.net](mailto:crbiggs@comcast.net) if you're interested in this class. Space is limited.

**The \*11<sup>th</sup>\* Season of Locust Street Film Night begins in September:** We begin the 11<sup>th</sup> season of LSFN with Preston Sturges' *'Sullivan's Travels'* on Friday evening, September 16 at 6 pm for dinner and 7 pm for film and discussion afterwards. Next month: *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* (1971)!

**Fall Mid Atlantic Presbytery Meeting** this Saturday, Sept. 17 from 9am-5pm at Grace OPC in Vienna, VA.

**Family Fall Home Fellowship:** Sunday, Sept. 18 at Vermette's home in Round Hill.

**Men's and Boy's Breakfast:** Join us for teaching, fellowship, and prayer on **Saturday, Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>** from 8:30am-10am. Topic: Pastor Biggs on *Spirituality from 'Pilgrim's Progress', Pt. 1*. October's guest speaker (Special date, Sat. Oct. 29): ~~President~~ Jack Haye, Patrick Henry College.

**Young Adult Fellowship:** At Weitz home in Round Hill on Lord's Day, Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> after worship.

**Reformation Day Service 2016:** Join us on Sunday evening, October 30<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate with other OP congregations the 499<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. Pastors Hammond, Proctor, VanDelden, and Biggs will be speaking on the *Proper Use of the Law in the Christian Life*.

**Pastor and family on vacation** from September 26-October 10. Please pray for refreshment and rest. Please contact an elder in his absence.

*"The purpose of our regeneration is a life of holy melody and sacred compatibility between God's righteousness and our obedience."*

**- Jean Taffin (1529-1602)**

## From Your Pastor

### *Benefits of Justification, Adoption and Sanctification*

**Question 36:** What are the benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification? **Answer:** The benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification, are, assurance of God's love, peace of conscience, (1) joy in the Holy Ghost, (2) increase of grace, (3) and perseverance therein to the end. (4) (1)Rom. 5:1,2,5 (2)Rom. 14:17 (3)Prov. 4:18 (4)1 John 5:13; 1 Pet. 1:5

**Scripture Memory:** *"I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life"* (1 John 5:13)

**An Explanation:** What a glorious joy it is to be one of God's beloved children! To be in Christ by His grace is to be the treasured possession of the Triune God, possessing an imputed righteousness given by faith alone in Christ alone because of grace alone, knowing confidently that one is loved by a good and faithful Heavenly Father, and enjoying some measure of growth in Christ-likeness, and in conformity to the holiness of the Son of God (Rom. 3:24-26; 5:21; 1 Jo. 3:1-3; Eph. 1:3-6, 4:19ff; Rom. 8:29-30; Tit. 2:11-14). And there are glorious benefits of this salvation that we should be enjoying in this life on our way to heaven!! Though we suffer, we can possess assurance that we are loved by God (1 Jo. 5:13), and we enjoy the joy of the LORD that is our strength (Neh. 8:10). Though the unbelieving world is often given moments of happiness (Matt. 5:45; Acts 14:17), it does not possess the joy of the LORD. Only believers possess true and lasting happiness which is true joy, and found in the love of God in Christ. The Holy Spirit has poured out God's love abundantly into our hearts (Eph. 1:14; Rom. 5:5).

The children of God, possess consciences that have been reconciled to God its Creator, and have peace that passes all understanding, though shaken at many times by different temptations and trials! (Rom. 5:1-11). Our consciences tell us about God and His righteous requirements for all mankind, but they will only haunt us if we do not possess as God's children the reconciling mercies of God our Creator found in Christ! The Bible teaches that in fact there is *"no peace for the wicked"* (Isa. 57:21), and their consciences bear witness to the fact that they offended the true and only living, Triune God (Rom. 2:15; cf. 1:32). Only justification, adoption, and sanctification can bring peace to a sinful, troubled soul! We ought to be thankful that this very day, we can expect an increase of grace as we turn from our sins to more grace in the Living God because of Christ. Christ is enthroned as Mediator at God's right hand full of grace for all we need, full of mercy for all of our sinful struggles, and whatever grace we need, we can find it. We are promised this as God's Beloved children! *"God gives more grace..."* (2 Pet. 1:3-11; Heb. 4:14-16; John 1:14-18; James 4:6).

And if this is not enough, because heaven has begun in us now through union with Christ by His Spirit, we shall also confidently, yet humbly persevere until the end because Christ is praying for us that our faith will not fail us in His Heavenly Intercessory ministry (Heb. 7:24; Rom. 8:34; cf. Luke 22:32). Yet we do not grow lazy because of this, but work all the harder, knowing that as we have been possessed by Christ and we have a zeal to possess more of Him! (Phil. 3:8-16; Tit. 2:14; cf. Phil. 2:12-13). In fact, as beloved children of God, we keep our eyes on Jesus, knowing that no one, or nothing—**absolutely nothing!!**—can snatch us out of the tight and loving grip of Christ's beautiful, strong, and saving hand (Heb. 12:1-2, 10, 14; Rom. 8:31-39; John 10:27-30; 1 Pet. 1:5).

**A Prayer:** Father, I am your treasured possession. Where your treasure is, there your heart will also be. Your heart is with beloved children. Grant me to grow in the benefits of my salvation, in possessing more joy in Christ, in growing in holiness, humility and honesty, in enjoying more peace, and persevering grace unto the end all for your glory! Amen. Let my life adorn your precious gospel this day! Amen and amen.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Biggs

# THIS LORD'S DAY

**Title: “*Fruitfulness*”** 

- Pastor Charles R. Biggs

**Scripture Lesson: Galatians 5:13-25; 6:9-10**

**Scripture Text: Matthew 25:31-46**

**Theme of Sermon/Worship:** Fruitfulness should characterize every Christian.

- **Children: Read Matthew 25:31-46.** *Are you one of Christ's sheep?* How has He already set you apart from the goats and the world for Himself? How does He show Himself to be your shepherd? How do you know confidently that you are one of His dear sheep? (Hint: John 10:14-16, 27-30).
- Though we are ***not*** saved by our works, explain how works of fruitfulness are still ***absolutely necessary*** if we expect to be welcomed into heaven one day. How would you explain this to a new Christian?
- How is the Triune God revealed in all His glory in this passage?
- “...*Into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels...*” (25:41b). Are you sobered by the reality of hell and the judgment of God in this passage? Why, or why not?

## Hymns

1. 53 - Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
2. 319 - Day of Judgment! Day of Wonders!
3. 335 - Gracious Spirit, Dwell With Me

*“In the measure with which we give ourselves to prayer, in that same measure we will make progress in the fear of the Lord.”*

– Jean Taffin (1529-1602)