

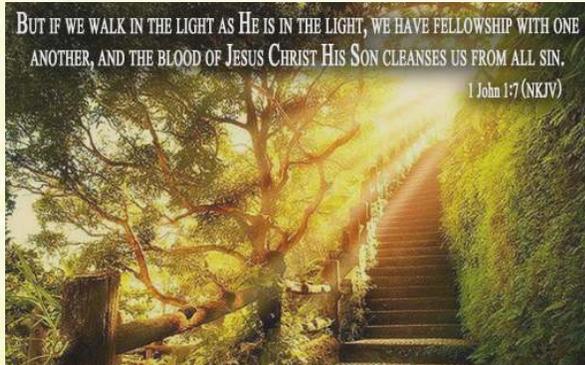


# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

## KCPC This Week

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

### Week Ending April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017



### 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 the preaching of the Word and our fellowship!

**Women's Bible Studies:** Evening study meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 7pm, studying C.S. Lewis' *The Weight of Glory*. Contact Margaret Biggs at [missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net](mailto:missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net) for details. Daytime study meets 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays from 12-2, studying *A Woman's Wisdom: How the Book of Proverbs Speaks to Everything*. Contact Joanie Leake at [j2leake@gmail.com](mailto:j2leake@gmail.com).

**Men's and Boy's Breakfast:** On Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30am, join us as we share in food, fellowship, and a study of J. C. Ryle's "Thoughts for Young Men."

**Locust Street Film Night:** Join us on April 21<sup>st</sup> for the first ever LSFN screening and discussion of David Lean's masterpiece 'Lawrence of Arabia;' dinner at 6pm followed by the film at 7pm.

**Evening Worship:** We continue our Gospel of John series in the evening service this Lord's Day, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, with fellowship dinner afterward.

**Ashburn Saints Reunion:** On the afternoon of April 26<sup>th</sup>, join us for a Bible study over in Ashburn with the "Ashburn Saints." Light refreshments will be served. RSVP to [crbiggs@comcast.net](mailto:crbiggs@comcast.net) if you plan to come. Time to be announced.

**Good Friday Service:** Join us at the KCPC church building at 7pm on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> for a joint worship service and celebration of the Lord's Supper with our sister congregation, Potomac Hills PCA.

**Latin Camp:** Dr. David Noe, OP elder and professor of Classics at Calvin College, is organizing a Latin camp at Machen Center July 31 - August 5 for ages 14 -18. See <http://www.latinperdiem.com/tusculum17/> for details.

**Congregational Memory Verses 2017:** Our memory verses for this year as a congregation will be Numbers 23:19 and John 14:13-14. Meditate on these promises of God for us as His people!

**Reading Bible this Year:** For help in reading through the Bible this year for yourself and/or with family, see [mcheyne.info](http://mcheyne.info) for a bible reading plan and [readscripture.org](http://readscripture.org) for overviews of sections in the Bible.

**Catechism Memorization:** Your pastor and elders encourage everyone to memorize and/or review the Shorter Catechism. Enjoy Pastor Biggs' ongoing commentary in the Shepherd's Voice and online: <http://www.ketocin.org/resources/westminster-shorter-catechism-study>

**Boardwalk Chapel Evangelism Trip:** Make plans now for July 29-Aug. 5. Pastors Flora, Brooking, Biggs and Proctor are taking a group this year. Contact Pastor Biggs by March 31st if you have questions or plan to go.

*"He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs."*

**-Hebrews 1:3-4**

## “Consider Jesus in His Atoning Work”

-Octavius Winslow

*"The blood of Jesus, His Son, cleanses us from every sin." 1 John 1:7*

The blood of Jesus is everything. It is the central doctrine of our faith, the present and eternal life of our souls. There is no pardon, no salvation, no heaven but by blood--the blood of the Lord Jesus. Were we to relinquish every other revealed truth, and concentrate upon this one, our supreme and lasting study, resolving all our knowledge of the Bible into an 'experimental and personal acquaintance' with atoning blood--as, like a purple thread, it runs from Genesis to Revelation, it would not be a too exaggerated view of this vital and momentous subject. The blood is everything to us--it is everything to God. He provided it, is satisfied with it, beholds it, and when He sees it on the soul, that soul becomes a living and a lovely soul in His sight. May our meditation on atoning blood exalt our views of its dignity, increase in us its power, and endear to our hearts the preciousness of Him who shed it!

The blood of Jesus is *divine*. It is the blood of God's Son, the God-man Christ Jesus. In this consists its sovereign virtue. The Divine nature of Christ rendered His obedience and death an offering and a sacrifice to God of a sweet-smelling savor.

The blood of Jesus is *atoning*. It was shed for sin, it has made to Divine justice a full satisfaction for sin, it puts away sin. Is sin your burden, O my soul? Is it for your sins you moan and weep, and are cast down? Behold, the sin-atoning blood of Jesus; believe, and weep no more. Before it not a sin can stand.

The blood of Jesus is *cleansing*. It "cleanses us." Oh, this is what you do so deeply need, my soul! Sin-forgiving, guilt-removing, heart-cleansing, conscience-purifying blood. All this is the blood of Jesus to you. Wash in it, and you shall be whiter than snow. "He that is washed is clean, every whit." And mark the tense of the wonderful words on which this meditation is based--it is the present tense. The blood "cleanses." It has cleansed, it will cleanse, but, as touching our daily walk as believers in Jesus, we have to do with its present cleansing. In our Christian travel through a sinful world the feet are apt to slide, prone to wander, and are constantly contracting fresh defilement, needing the daily washing in the blood. What a sweet thought, O my soul! that the fountain is open, and the blood cleanses, even now, from all sin.

The blood of Jesus *speaks*. "The blood of Christ that speaks." Oh, what a voice has the blood of Jesus! What sweetness and majesty, what gentleness and power! It speaks, and the troubled conscience is at rest; it speaks, and the broken heart is healed; it speaks, and the tormenting doubt is hushed; it speaks, and the trembling fear is quelled. It speaks, also, within the veil. The voice of Jesus' blood is heard in glory, sweeter and louder than the voices of all the minstrels round about the throne. My soul, the voice of Jesus' blood pleads louder for you in heaven than all your sins can plead against you on earth.

It is sprinkled blood--that is, *applied* blood. Therefore it is called, "the blood of sprinkling." The blood of Jesus practically will not avail us unless applied to the conscience, just as the blood of the Paschal lamb had availed nothing to the Israelite, when the first-born of Egypt was slain, had it not been sprinkled upon his house. And so God said, "When I see the blood, I will pass over you." O my soul! look well to this. Why is it that you are so doubting and fearful? Why are you not walking in a full sense of your pardon and acceptance in Jesus--basking in the sunshine of a present and assured salvation? Is it not because you are stopping short of the applied blood? Oh, come to the blood, the blood of sprinkling! Keep no guilt upon your conscience, no anguish for uncleansed sin in your heart; but wash daily in the precious blood of Christ, which cleanses from all sin.

*"We have not the Holy Spirit immediately from God, but we have Him as sanctifying Christ first [not from sin, but consecrating him as man to the Father's will], and then us, and whatsoever the Holy Spirit does in us, He does the same in Christ first, and He does it in us, because of Christ."*

-Richard Sibbes

# THIS LORD'S DAY

## Sermon

### *“The Fullness of God for Us”*

- Pastor Charles R. Biggs

**Scripture Lesson: John 1:1-3, 14-18; 1 Corinthians 8:4-5;  
Colossians 2:9-10**

**Scripture Text: Colossians 1:15-23**

**Theme of Sermon/Worship: *Jesus Christ is the fullness of God revealed for us from the Father for the reconciliation and restoration of His people by His Spirit.***

## Hymns

Arise, My Soul, Arise, 305

All Glory, Laud, and Honor, 235

Come, Christians, Join to Sing, 302

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## Questions

- Read Colossians 1:15-23. How do these verses specifically teach you that Christ is the Sovereign Son of God, both Creator and Redeemer?
- How do these verses teach us about the Eternal Son of God and the Incarnation? How do these verses teach both the Supremacy and Sufficiency of Christ for all we need as believers?
- How does this passage show us the remarkable practicality of all theology? In other words, how might meditating on these verses with an eye of faith in Christ help us to mature in our faith and in all the blessings of the Covenant of Grace as believers?
- Read Col. 1:19-22. Why particularly are we taught that the Son of God became man (or the “fullness of God was pleased to dwell in Jesus”?)

*“He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.”*

**-Colossians 1:18b-20**