

God's redeeming love is Particular and Distinguishing. Those who declare that God loves all people alike, the saved as well as the damned, greatly tarnish the love of God, reducing it to a fickle, helpless, frustrated passion. But that cannot be. The love of God is like himself, from everlasting to everlasting, immutable and sure. "Nothing is more absurd than to imagine that anyone beloved of God can eternally perish (A. W. Pink).

SPURGEON'S CATECHISM

(Presented here as originally published – this does not constitute a full endorsement of the Riverside Baptist Church)

49.Q. Which is the fourth commandment?

XLIX. A. The fourth commandment is, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it."

50.Q. What is required in the fourth commandment?

L. A. The fourth commandment requires the keeping holy to God such set times as he has appointed in his Word, expressly one whole day in seven, to be a holy Sabbath to himself (Lev. 19:30; Deut. 5:12).

THE RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

55 Avenue A

P. O. Box 628

Richwood, WV 26261

B. H. Seacrist, Jr., Pastor

Phone 304 846 6406

Email: branthsi@msn.com

Website: www.riversidebaptistchurchwv.com

Services:

Sunday Morning 11:00 AM

Sunday Evening 6:00 PM

Prayer and Bible Study Wednesday Evening 6:30 PM

WCWV 92.9 FM – 8:00 AM Sunday Morning

THE RIVERSIDE BAPTIST REPORT

THE RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

“The Pillar and ground of the Truth” -- 1 Timothy 3:15

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DRAWING OUT WITH JOY

Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation. Isaiah 12:3

Men have been known to react to the logic of another by saying, “you are trying to put words in my mouth.” A skilled debater often succeeds at getting another to say something he does not really believe. It is to be feared that many, in their misplaced evangelistic zeal, do just that and call the result a profession of faith and salvation accomplished. Men may place words in the mouths of others, but God places words in their hearts. The “therefore” of this verse takes us back to the first verse and forward to the fourth verse of this brief song. Both verses begin with the words “In that day ye shall say...” Both verses characterize the words that often erupt from one on whom the eternal “day of salvation” has dawned. The first continues with the commitment to praise the Lord and the reason of it. The second is a commitment to praise and an exhortation to call upon Him and to declare His doings among the people. In both cases, the words are from new hearts and have been placed there by the Lord Himself.

We see that the reason of praise is found in the comfort of the Lord: *And in that day thou shalt say, O LORD, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me. Isaiah 12:1.* It behooves us to remind ourselves that the anger of the Lord has been turned away by the sacrifice of the Lamb of God. It is He that has borne the full blast of the anger of God that should have fallen fully upon His people. In being unerringly led by the Holy Spirit to

“repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ” we are brought to Him and the peace which passes understanding. Many express praise to God with only the thought that they are not going to hell. It would seem here true praise erupts from the heart of one who is experiencing the comfort of divine presence and the blessed revelation of who He is and what He is doing. That praise is for more than merely being saved. It is for the Savior Lord.

In the next verse we learn that there is more to be said “in that day.” The statement that follows seems to be forgotten among vast numbers of professing Christians. *Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. Isaiah 12:2.* It is true that “salvation is of the Lord” and that “neither is there salvation in any other.” It is of Him in its initiation, it is of Him in its appropriation, it is of Him in its application and it is of Him in its consummation. In all of this we rejoice. But, there is more. God is my salvation. He has given us Himself in identity with us. Robert Hawker wrote: “Reader! Take especial notice off what the hymn expresseth; namely, that the Lord God is the sinner’s salvation. It is not enough to say, or sing, that the Lord hath brought us to salvation, but that He is Himself is our salvation; not that we have salvation from Him but in Him. He Himself is the whole of it.” The Lord JEHOVAH is both strength and song to true believers and in Him alone do they trust.

In that day you shall not only say “O Lord I

will praise thee," but also, "with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation." The "therefore" draws this fact of the believing life from those things just stated. Some have suggested that this is a direction to so draw. The sense of what we read here is that it is a necessary result of the foregoing and thus a delightful promise. Either way, it is a prospect to be found in the relationship with the well of salvation. We would not lose sight of the fact that "God is my salvation" and therefore He is the well which is salvation! There is no legal mandate here. It is rather the joyous action of a redeemed heart.

It is from the wells of salvation that we learn the joy of full forgiveness in Christ our Lord. The Psalmist wrote: *Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O LORD, in the light of thy countenance. Psalms 89:15.* Having heard the message of forgiveness in the Gospel and having it applied to our hearts we are brought to walk in joyous fellowship and communion with Christ Himself. Many speak of the Lord as though He was at a distance and their countenance does not suggest that He is

either close at hand or being a source of joy to them. It is in Him, who is Salvation, that we know the greatest of joy. It is He that is alluded to as, *A fountain of gardens, a well of living waters, and streams from Lebanon. Song of Songs 4:15.* The Lord's claim on His people is registered within them and they are ever drawing from Him. *But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. John 4:14.*

From the wells of salvation the joy of willing obedience is drawn. Our Lord declared through the Psalmist: *I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart. Psalms 40:8.* Such is the joy of those to whom the very nature of Christ has been imparted. *And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved. Psalms 119:47.* And so, we draw with joy, the fruit of the Spirit, hope of "an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled..." from the well of salvation. Christ, the well of salvation, is in you the hope of glory!! *bhs*

Paul's Admonition to Timothy on the God Breathed Book

Paul admonishes Timothy to remember that Scripture is God breathed and applicable to all of life. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16). The Bible is no ordinary book for it is God's Book and is called the "Holy Bible" which refers to the fact that this book has been set apart by, for and unto God as His inspired Word to mankind. The Bible is "sacred or pure" to God for it is "holy" as He and must be treated as "holy" by those created in His image. This is the Book sanctified to our use and it will judge us in the end-"He that rejecteth Me, and receiveth not My words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day" (John 12:48). Men try to destroy God's inspired Word because it is a light that reveals their sin and foretells their eternal judgment. The Bible is the book of God and the only rule for faith and practice. God's Word is as an anvil. Ron Rumburg

To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. Isaiah 8:20

A CAVEAT AGAINST UNSOUND DOCTRINES

Ask almost any man whether he hopes to be saved eternally. He will answer in the affirmative. But enquire again on what foundation he rests his hope. Here too many are sadly divided. The Pelagian hopes to get to heaven by a moral life and a good use of his natural powers. The Arminian by a jumble of grace and free-will, human works, and the merits of Christ. The Deist by an interested observance of the social virtues.

Thus merit-mongers, of every denomination, agree in making any thing the basis of their hope, rather than that foundation which God's own hand hath laid in Zion.

But what saith Scripture? It avers, again and again, that Jesus alone is our hope: to the exclusion of all others, and to the utter annihilation of human deservings.

Beware, therefore, of resting your dependence partly on Christ, and partly on some other basis. As surely as you bottom your reliance partly on the rock and partly on the sand, so certainly, unless God gives you an immediate repentance to your acknowledgment of the truth, will your supposed house of defense fall and bury you in its ruins, no less than if you had raised it on the sand alone.

Christ is the hope of glory.

– Augustus Montague Toplady (1740-78), Cited by Daniel Parks



THE ESSENTIAL THING IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

(J.R. Miller)

"No longer do I call you servants; but I have called you friends!" John 15:15

For myself, after all my years of teaching and helping others, and all my experiences as a Christian, my whole creed is summed up into one little sentence, "Christ and I are friends!" No friend in all the world is so near to me as He is. I trust Him, I love Him. I take everything to Him, I lay every burden upon Him. I go to Him for wisdom, for help, for the love I need in my own heart. He is everything to me as Friend.

Christ is my personal Friend. He is my dearest, truest, strongest and best Friend!

Then for myself, my whole duty is summed up in being a friend of Christ's. He says, "You are my friends, if you do whatever I command you." This includes all Scripture commands.

In telling you this, I want to help you to understand that the essential thing in the Christian life is knowing Christ, trusting Him, loving Him, following Him, having Christ for your Friend--and being His friend.

The secret of a beautiful life is living in unbroken fellowship with Christ, under the influence of His presence, and the inspiration of His love and grace.



The Scripture is the Royal Law, which commands not only the actions--but the affections.

--Thomas Watson

Where is such holiness to be found--as is dug from this Sacred Mine? Who could be its author--but God Himself?

--Thomas Watson