

Pastor's Pen

Fear VS Hope

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?" Romans 8:35

We live in a world that is imperfect and it has been that way since Adam and Eve sinned against God. God had created heaven, earth, and everything upon the earth including man. Adam and Eve were in perfect harmony with God. But, that would not last. God said, *"You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die"* (Genesis 2:16-17). One thing is for sure, you can take God for His word. The moment that Adam and Eve sinned they began to die. Since then every person that has ever lived, with the exception of Enoch and Elijah, has died. You and I are no exception and we too will face death unless the Lord returns. So, whether trouble or hardship or famine or nakedness or danger or sword or even the Coronavirus, as a believer in Jesus Christ you have nothing to fear. Paul continues in Romans 8, *For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord* (38-39).

As I watch the events unfold around us in reference to the pandemic I have witnessed fear among Christians that is unprecedented. Social media posts by individuals including Christians verge on panic. Should believers take precautions to prevent the spread of the virus, absolutely. Should we be obeying our government leaders and our public health officials, most definitely. But, let me remind every believer that we are not to be anxious or live in fear. I ask you this question, if you believe that God is absolutely sovereign (Colossians 1:16-17), that He wrote your name in the Lambs book of life (Revelation 20:11-15), and that He has numbered your days (Psalm 139:16), why do you fear?

Why do we doubt the very scripture that promises you peace. Finally, I would remind you of the Lord Jesus Christ prayer to His father on the night He was betrayed (John 17). The first part of the prayer, verses 1-5, he prays for Himself. In the second part, verses 6-19, He prays for His disciples. In the last part, verses 20-26, He prays for you and me. Do you know what He prays for? He prays that we will be with Him and the Father (John 17:24) in Heaven forever.

What say you Christian? Will you live in fear or will you live in the hope of spending eternity with the one who died for you to set you free from fear and death?



Grace Gems

Chance, accident, luck—or Divine Providence!

"Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid—you are worth more than many sparrows!" Matthew 10:29-31

Charles Spurgeon: "Blessed is that man who is done with chance, who never speaks of luck—but believes that from the least, even to the greatest, all things are ordained by the Lord. We dare not leave out the least event! The creeping of an aphid upon a rosebud is as surely arranged by the decree of Providence—as the march of a pestilence through a nation! Believe this, for if the least thing is omitted from the supreme government, so may the next be, and the next—until nothing is left in the divine hands. There is no place for chance, since God fills all things."

J.C. Ryle: "There is no such thing as chance, luck or accident in the Christian journey through this world. All is arranged and appointed by God. And all things are working together for the believer's good!"

Charles Spurgeon: "God's Providence not only extends to mankind in general, and to the beasts of the field, and the birds of the air, and the innumerable fish in the sea—but also to every atom of matter in the universe!"

Charles Spurgeon: "All things are ordained of God and are settled by Him, according to His wise and holy predestination. Whatever happens here on earth—happens not by chance, but according to the counsel of the Most High!"

Quote of the Week

"If you fear God, you really need fear nothing else."
- Zac Poonen

Matthew Henry: "God who feeds the sparrows—will not starve His saints! God controls all the concerns of His people, even of those that are most minute, and least regarded. This is an encouragement to live in a continual dependence upon God's providential care! If God numbers our hairs, much more does He number our heads. He takes care of our lives, our needs, our concerns, and our souls. God's universal providence extends itself to all creatures, and to all their actions—even the smallest and most minute!"

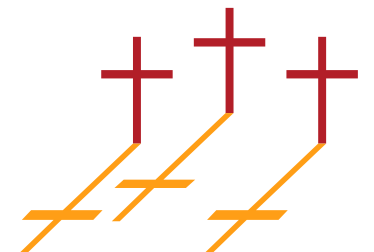
Charles Spurgeon: "Providence may be seen as the finger of God, not merely in those events which shake nations and are duly emblazoned on the page of history—but in little incidents of common life. Yes, in the motion of a grain of dust, the trembling of a dew-drop, the flight of a swallow, or the movements of a fish!"

Charles Spurgeon: "We talk of God's providence when we have hairbreadth escapes. But are they not quite as much divine providences, when we are preserved from danger?"

Charles Spurgeon: "It is most important for us to learn that the smallest trifles are as much arranged by the God of Providence—as the most momentous events! He who counts the stars—has also numbered the hairs of our heads. Our lives and deaths are predestined—but so, also, are our sitting down and our rising up."

Louis Berkhof: "Scripture everywhere teaches that even the minutest details of life are of divine ordering!"

Charles Spurgeon: "Jesus rules the whole world for the good of His people. All the arrangements of Providence are under His control. Nothing is done in the entire universe, without His command or His permission."



Weekly Gatherings



Bible Classes

Adult Old Testament
Adult New Testament
Young Adults / Couples



Weekday Meetings

Tuesdays | 7PM
Worship Team, for more info contact
pastorcal@ghbcva.org

Wednesdays | 6:30PM
Youth Meeting & AWANA



Family Groups

Men's Mondays @7pm
Pastor Mark's Thursdays @7pm
Lane/Keffer Thursdays @7pm
Royall's Thursdays @7pm



Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and forgot to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address.



Children's Studies

Children's Sunday School at 9:00 AM
For more info contact admin@ghbcva.org



Service Times

Sunday School 9:00 AM
Sunday Service 10:30 AM

Giving from service on 03.29.20

General Offering	3,586.71
Building Fund	4,397.00
Benevolence	255.00
Annie Armstrong	40.00
Total	8,278.71

Attendance ...10 present
86 online connections

Got Questions

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org
Maintenance-maintenance@ghbcva.org
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org
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Security-security@ghbcva.org



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Grace Harvest Baptist Church

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