

Pastor's Pen

Not Guilty!

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Romans 8:1

In this country, if you commit a serious crime, a felony, you may be sentenced to many years in prison or even given the death penalty. When you have your day in court and are found guilty the judge will pronounce you guilty and hand down your sentence. You no longer are a free man or woman to go and do as you please. The state will now control every minute of your life and if you are sentenced to death they will carry out your execution. Every person who has ever been found guilty wishes they had heard the words "not guilty" instead.

Romans 8 is one of my favorite chapters in all of the Bible. Steve Lawson said, "That if the Bible is a ring, then the book of Romans is the diamond, and chapter 8 is the apex of the cut on that diamond." In chapter 8 we are reminded that Christians are heirs with Christ, that nothing can separate us from the Love of God, and that we have a future glory reserved for us through Christ Jesus. But, it all starts with reminding us that there is no condemnation for believers.

"Condemnation" (katakrima) is also a strong Greek word that means 'death sentence, damnation, eternal death.' As a believer, there is no damnation sentence hanging over your head. In other words if you are a follower of Christ you have been declared not guilty by the creator of the universe Himself. God has justified you through your faith in the atoning sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ. Christian you have been set free from the law of sin and death, so act like it.

You were a slave to sin, now you're a slaves to righteousness, so live like it. What say you Christian are you living your life as a man or women that is under no condemnation or is your life full of worry fear and anxiety?

Let us say as Paul, "For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord." So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.
Romans 14:8.

Your shepherd,
Pastor Mark

Quote of the Week

"A true and faithful Christian does not make holy living an accidental thing. It is his great concern.
As the business of the soldier is to fight,
so the business of the Christian is to be like Christ."
- Jonathan Edwards

Grace Gems

**If we were more like Christ!
by Spurgeon**

"It is enough for the disciple that he be like his master." - Matthew 10:25

When our Lord was on earth, what was the treatment he received? Were his claims acknowledged, his instructions followed, and his perfections worshiped, by those whom he came to bless? No; "He was despised and rejected of men." Outside the camp was his place; cross-bearing was his occupation. Did the world yield him solace and rest? "Foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man has no where to lay his head." This inhospitable world afforded him no shelter: it cast him out and crucified him. If you are a follower of Jesus, and maintain a consistent, Christ-like walk, and conversation, you must expect the same treatment from the world. They will treat you as they treated the Savior- they will despise you. Do not dream not that worldlings will admire you, or that the more holy and the more Christ-like you are, the more peaceably people will act towards you. They prized not the polished gem, how should they value the jewel in the rough? "If they have called the Master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call those of his household?" If we were more like Christ, we would be more hated by his enemies! It is a sad dishonor to a child of God to be the world's favorite. It is a very ill omen to hear a wicked world clap its hands and shout, "Well done" to the Christian man. When the unrighteous give him their approbation, he should begin to look to his character, and wonder whether he has not been doing wrong.

Let us be true to our Master, and have no friendship with a blind and base world which scorns and rejects him. Far be it from us to seek a crown of honor where our Lord found a coronet of thorns!



Weekly Gatherings



Bible Classes

New Testament
Sunday School
Sunday Morning @ 9AM-9:45AM



Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM
Men's Zoom Bible Study

Tuesdays | 7PM
Women's Zoom Bible Study
(Postponed for Summer)



Job Study

Wednesdays @ 7PM
Teaching Series



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.



Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study



Service Times

Sunday Service 8:30AM & 10:30AM
Children's Church @10:30AM

Giving from service on 08.02.20

General Offering	7,591.60
Building Fund	1,970.60
Uganda	135.00
Total	9,697.20

Attendance ...183 present
Online...19

Build the Body Ministries

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
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org
Security-security@ghbcva.org



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Grace Harvest Baptist Church

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