

Pastor's Pen

Wretched!

Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.
Romans 7:24-25

Every Christian can echo Paul's words, "Oh wretched man that I am". Preceding these words we find Paul's frustration over failing to do what he knows he should (7:17-19). Some might say that there is no hope for me if Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, can't do the right thing, how can I possibly live the Christian life. The answer is you can't but God can. Back in chapter 6 Paul explained that we have been set free from the bondage of sin and are now slaves of righteousness. But, even though we are a new creation in Christ we still have to deal with our old sin nature. John MacArthur explains:

As a believer grows in his spiritual life, he inevitably will have both an increased hatred of sin and an increased love for righteousness. As desire for holiness increases, so will sensitivity to and antipathy toward sin. The other side of the predicament, Paul says, is that I practice the very evil that I do not wish. Again, it is important to understand that this great inner struggle with sin is not experienced by the undeveloped and childish believer, but by the mature man of God.

It is a sign of spiritual maturity when you can say like Paul, "Wretched man that I am Who will deliver me from this body of death?" But, praise God that we can shout with him, "Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!" The closer you walk with Christ the more you will hate the sin in your life and when you hate your sin you will more than likely stop doing what you hate. We must hate our sin as much as God hates sin.

Your shepherd,
Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

Does God love the unrepentant sinner?
(Charles Finney, "The Guilt of Sin")

"God is angry with the wicked every day!" Psalm 7:11

God is not angry merely against the sin abstracted from the sinner, but against the sinner himself! Some people have labored hard to set up this ridiculous and absurd generalization, and would attempt to make it appear . . .
that God is angry at sin — yet not at the sinner;
that He hates the theft — but loves the thief;
that He abhors adultery — but is pleased with the adulterer.

Now this is supreme nonsense! The sin has no moral character apart from the sinner. The act of sin is nothing, apart from the sinful actor. What God hates and disapproves is not the mere event, the thing done, in distinction from the doer — but He hates the doer himself! It grieves and displeases Him that a rational and moral agent, under His government, should array himself against his own Creator, against all that is right and just in the universe. This is what offends God. The sinner himself is the direct and the only object of His anger! So the Bible shows that God is angry with the wicked — and not with the abstract sin. If the wicked do not repent, God will whet His sword — He has bent His bow and made it ready — not to shoot at the sin, but the sinner — the wicked man who has done the abominable thing. This is the only doctrine of both the Bible, and of common sense on this subject.

Quote of the Week

"True salvation always produces an abiding change of nature in a true convert. Therefore, whenever holiness of life does not accompany a confession of conversion, it must be understood that this individual is not a Christian."
-Jonathan Edwards

"The wicked and those who love violence, His soul hates!"
Psalm 11:5

"The LORD detests all the proud of heart. Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished!" Proverbs 16:5

"The LORD is a jealous and avenging God; the LORD takes vengeance and is filled with wrath. The LORD takes vengeance on His foes and maintains His wrath against His enemies!" Nahum 1:2

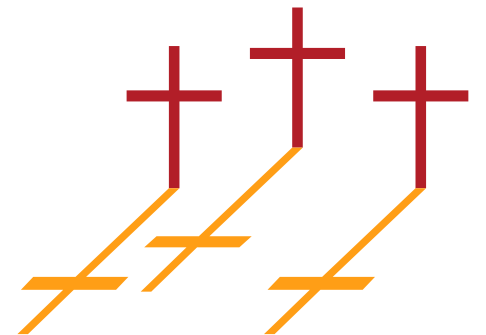
"Whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him." John 3:36

"You are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when His righteous judgment will be revealed." Romans 2:5

"But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil — there will be wrath and anger!"
Romans 2:8

"What if God, choosing to show His wrath and make His power known, bore with great patience the objects of His wrath — prepared for destruction?" Romans 9:22

"Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient." Ephesians 5:6



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 08.09.20

General Offering	7,725.34
Building Fund	1,817.60
Uganda	235.00
Benevolence	50.00
Total	
Attendance ...	185 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



ghbcva.org | 804.561.3742
9821 South Redfield Drive, Amelia, VA 23002

Grace Harvest Baptist Church

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