

## Models for Combating Discouragement John Piper

*My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. (Psalm 73:26)*

Literally the verb is simply fail: "My flesh and my heart fail!" I am despondent! I am discouraged! But then immediately he fires a broadside against his despondency: "But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."

The psalmist does not yield. He battles unbelief with counterattack.

In essence, he says, "In myself I feel very weak and helpless and unable to cope. My body is shot and my heart is almost dead. But whatever the reason for this despondency, I will not yield. I will trust God and not myself. He is my strength and my portion."

The Bible is replete with instances of saints struggling with sunken spirits. Psalm 19:7 says, "The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul." This is a clear admission that the soul of the saint sometimes needs to be revived. And if it needs to be revived, in a sense it was "dead."

David says the same thing in Psalm 23:2-3, "He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul." The soul of the "man after [God's] own heart" (1 Samuel 13:14) needs to be restored. It was dying of thirst and ready to fall exhausted, but God led the soul to water and gave it life again.

God has put these testimonies in the Bible so that we might use them to fight the unbelief of despondency.

### Events

#### TODAY

Hawfields 3 PM

7/24-7/28 Vacation Bible School 6:30-8:30 PM

7/26 Men's Prayer 7 AM

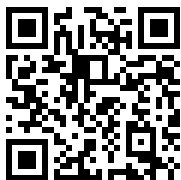
Women's Prayer 9 AM

7/29 Bridal Shower for

Gabby Hoover 10 AM

8/5 Emmanuel Constituting Service 6 PM

#### Give



#### Upcoming Events



**GRACE**  
REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

### Service Times

- Sunday School 9:30 am
- Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am
- Sunday Evening Worship 5:30 pm
- Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:15 pm



**GRACE**  
REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

**Loving God, one another, and the world  
through the gospel of Jesus Christ**

July 23, 2017

**Traducción  
simultanea  
al español  
disponible en  
servicios  
de AM y PM**

#### Pastors

Gary Hendrix  
Charles Fortner  
Stu Johnston  
Andy Dunkerton

Stephen Byrd  
Robert Fisher  
Bob Prentice

919-563-9249  
[www.grbc.net](http://www.grbc.net)



## Morning Worship

Call to Worship  
Opening Hymn

Nick Gaines  
#1 All People That On Earth Do  
Dwell

Scripture Reading  
Pastoral Prayer

Jonah chapters 1-2, page 774

Offertory  
Preparatory

#129 Fairest Lord Jesus  
Glorious Day

One day when Heaven was filled with His praises, one day when sin was as black as could be. Jesus came forth to be born of a virgin; Dwelt among men, my example is He. Word became flesh and the light shined among us His glory revealed.

**(Chorus)**

**Living, He loved me. Dying, He saved me, buried He carried my sins far away. Rising, He justified, freely forever.**

**One day He's coming; oh, glorious day, oh, glorious day!**

One day they led Him up Calvary's mountain. One day they nailed Him to die on a tree. Suffering anguish, despised and rejected, bearing our sins, my Redeemer is He. Hands that healed nations, stretched out on a tree and took the nails for me!

**(Chorus)**

One day the grave could conceal Him no longer. One day the stone rolled away from the door. Then He arose; over death He had conquered. Now is ascended, my Lord evermore! Death could not hold Him! The grave could not keep Him from rising again!

**(Chorus)**

**Oh, glorious day! Glorious day!**

One day the trumpet will sound for His coming! One day the skies with His glories will shine! Wonderful day, my Beloved One bringing My Savior, Jesus is mine!

**(Chorus)**

**Oh, glorious day! Glorious day!**

Text: J. Wilbur Chapman Additional text and music: Mark Hall and Michael Bleaker  
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### Our God Reigns

1. How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him  
who brings good news, good news  
announcing peace, proclaiming news of happiness.  
Our God reigns, our God reigns!

**Chorus:** Our God reigns! Our God reigns! Our God reigns! Our God reigns!

2. He had no stately form, He had no majesty,  
that we should be drawn to Him.

He was despised and we took no account of Him,  
yet now He reigns with the Most High. **Chorus**

3. Out from the tomb He came with grace and majesty,  
He is alive, He is alive.

God loves us so, see here His hands, His feet, His side.

Yes, we know, He is alive. **Chorus**

Text and Music: Leonard E. Smith © 1974, 1978 L. E. Smith Jr./New Jerusalem Music  
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Sermon

Pastor Stu Johnston

## Evening Worship

Call to Worship  
Opening Hymn

Pastor Bob Prentice  
All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voice and with us sing  
O praise Him, Alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,  
**(Chorus) O praise Him, O praise Him,  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Thou rushing wind that art so strong  
Ye clouds that sail in Heaven along  
O praise Him, Alleluia!  
Thou rising moon in praise rejoice  
Ye lights of evening find a voice

**(Chorus)**

Let all things their Creator bless  
And worship Him in humbleness  
O praise Him, Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son  
And praise the Spirit, three in one

**(Chorus)**

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son  
And praise the Spirit, three in one

**(Chorus)**

O Alleluia! Alleluia!  
O Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
O Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia!

Words: Francis of Assisi, ca. 1225 Tr. By William Draper, 1926  
Music arranged by: Ralph Vaughn Williams

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Scripture Reading

Acts 7:17-44, page 915

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

Jesus Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

Jesus, Thou Joy of loving hearts, Thou Fount of life, thou Light of men,  
From the best bliss that earth imparts we turn unfilled to Thee again.

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood; Thou savest those that on Thee call;  
To them that seek Thee Thou art good, to them that find Thee All in all.

We taste Thee, O Thou living bread, and long to feast upon Thee still;  
We drink of Thee, the Fountainhead, and thirst our souls from Thee to fill.

Our restless spirits yearn for Thee, wherever our changeful lot is cast;  
Glad when Thy gracious smile we see, blessed when our faith can hold Thee fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay, make all our moments calm and bright;  
Chase the dark night of sin away, shed over the world Thy holy light.

Words: Bernard of Clairvaux, 12th Century Music: B. Murphy, B. Benedict, L. James © 2006 Bruce  
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Preparatory

#587 Like a River Glorious

Sermon

Pastor Stephen Byrd