

How Christ Conquered Bitterness

When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. (1 Peter 2:23)

No one was more grievously sinned against than Jesus. Every ounce of animosity against him was fully undeserved.

No one has ever lived who was more worthy of honor than Jesus; and no one has been dishonored more.

If anyone had a right to get angry and be bitter and vengeful, it was Jesus. How did he control himself when scoundrels, whose very lives he sustained, spit in his face? First Peter 2:23 gives the answer:

"When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly."

What this verse means is that Jesus had faith in the future grace of God's righteous judgment. He did not need to avenge himself for all the indignities he suffered, because he entrusted his cause to God. He left vengeance in God's hands and prayed for his enemies' repentance (Luke 23:34).

Peter gives this glimpse into Jesus's faith so that we would learn how to live this way ourselves. He said, "You have been called [to endure harsh treatment patiently] . . . because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps" (1 Peter 2:21).

If Christ conquered bitterness and vengeance by faith in future grace, how much more should we, since we have far less right to murmur for being mistreated than he did?

- John Piper

Events

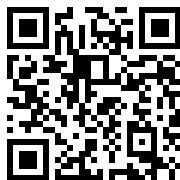
TODAY

Hawfields 3PM; Youth Meetings 7PM

*There will be a members only congregational meeting after the evening service tonight (9/24). We are asking that children not be present in this meeting, so parents please make plans for at least one member of your household to be present at the meeting.

9/30 Annual Church Picnic

Give



Upcoming Events



Pastors

Gary Hendrix	Stephen Byrd
Charles Fortner	Robert Fisher
Stu Johnston	Bob Prentice
Andy Dunkerton	Michael Lopes

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

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September 24, 2017

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simultanea
al español
disponible en
servicios
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JOHN 11:25

Morning Worship

Call to Worship Opening Hymn

Nick Gaines
O Church Arise

1. O Church, arise, and put your armor on; hear the call of Christ our Captain. For now the weak can say that they are strong, in the strength that God has given. With shield of faith and belt of truth, we'll stand against the devil's lies; an army bold, whose battle cry is love, reaching out to those in darkness.

2. Our call to war to love the captive soul, but to rage against the captor; and with the sword that makes the wounded whole, we will fight with faith and valor. When faced with trials on ev'ry side, we know the outcome is secure, and Christ will have the prize for which He died- an inheritance of nations.

3. Come see the Cross, where love and mercy meet, as the Son of God is stricken; then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet, for the Conqueror has risen! And as the stone is rolled away and Christ emerges from the grave, this vic'try march continues till the day ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

4. So Spirit come, put strength in ev'ry stride, give grace for ev'ry hurdle, that we may run with faith to win the prize of a servant good and faithful. As saints of old still line the way, retelling triumphs of His grace, we hear the calls and hunger for the day when with Christ we stand in Glory.

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Scripture Reading

Matthew 24:1-14, page 829

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

There is a Higher Throne

There is a Higher Throne, than all this world has known,
where faithful ones from every tongue, will one day come.
Before the Son we'll stand, made faultless through the Lamb;
believing hearts find promised grace; salvation comes.

Hear Heaven's voices sing; their thunderous anthem rings
Through emerald courts and sapphire skies; their praises rise.
All glory, wisdom, power, strength, thanks, and honor
are to God, our King, Who reigns on high forevermore!

And there we'll find our home; our life before the Throne.
We'll honor Him in perfect song where we belong.
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye as thirst and hunger die.
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd King, we'll reign with Him.

Hear Heaven's voices sing; their thunderous anthem rings
Through emerald courts and sapphire skies; their praises rise.
All glory, wisdom, power, strength, thanks, and honor
are to God, our King, Who reigns on high forevermore!
(Repeat Chorus)

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Preparatory

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye
to Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie.
All o'er those wide extended plains, shines one eternal day;
there God, the Son forever reigns, and scatters night away.

(Chorus with "echos")

I am bound, I am bound, I am bound for the Promised Land.

I am bound, I am bound, I am bound for the Promised Land.

No chilling winds or poisonous breath, can reach that healthful shore,
sickness, sorrow, pain and death, are felt and feared no more.

(Chorus with "echos")

When shall I reach that happy place, and be forever blessed?

When shall I see my Father's face, and in His bosom rest?

(Chorus with "echos") (repeat chorus)

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Sermon

Pastor Gary Hendrix

Evening Worship

Call to Worship Opening Hymn Scripture Reading Pastoral Prayer Offertory

Pastor Bob Prentice
#12 Exalt the Lord
Psalms 92, page 498

**My Heart is Filled with
Thankfulness**

1. My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who bore my pain;
Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace and gave me life again;
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness and clothed me with His light-
And wrote His law of righteousness with pow'r upon my heart.

2. My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who walks beside;
Who floods my weaknesses with strength and causes fears to fly.
Whose ev'ry promise is enough for ev'ry step I take.

Sustaining me with arms of love and crowning me with grace.

3. My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who reigns above;
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace, whose ev'ry thought is love.

For ev'ry day I have on earth is given by the King.

So I will give my life, my all, to love and follow Him.

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Preparatory

Speak, O Lord

1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You, to receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your Truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in Your likeness;
That the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds
of faith. Speak, O Lord and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory.

2. Teach us Lord, full obedience, Holy reverence, true humility. Test our
thoughts and our attitudes; in the radiance of Your purity. Cause our faith to
rise, cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority. Words of pow'r
that can never fail; let their truth prevail over unbelief.

3. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your
plans for us. Truths unchanged from the dawn of time, that will echo down
through eternity. And by grace we'll stand on Your promises; and by faith
we'll walk as You walk with us. Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built, and
the earth is filled with Your glory.

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Sermon

Pastor Andy Dunkerton