

## Hope for the Worst of Sinners by John Piper

*"I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy."* (Exodus 33:19)

Moses needed hope that God really could have mercy on a stiff-necked people who had just committed idolatry and scorned the God who brought them out of Egypt.

To give Moses the hope and confidence he needed, God said, "I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious." In other words, "My choices do not depend on the degree of evil or good in man but solely upon my free, sovereign will. Therefore no one can say he is too evil to be shown grace." That would imply God is not free, and election is not unconditional.

The doctrine of unconditional election is the great doctrine of hope for the worst of sinners. It means that when it comes to being a candidate for grace,

your background has nothing to do with God's choice. That's good news.

If you have not been born again and brought to saving faith in Jesus Christ, do not sink into hopelessness thinking that the excessive rottenness or hardness of your past life is an insurmountable obstacle to God's gracious work in your life. God loves to magnify the freedom of his grace by saving the worst of sinners.

Turn from your sin; call upon the Lord. Even in this daily devotion, that you are reading or hearing, he is being gracious to you, and giving you strong encouragement to come to him for mercy.

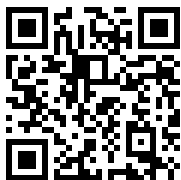
*"Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool" (Isaiah 1:18).*

### Events

**TODAY**  
College & Career Lunch  
1 PM  
Hawfields 3 PM

10/4 Small Groups  
7:15 PM  
10/8 Communion PM

### 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

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



**GRACE**  
REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

October 1, 2017

# BEHOLD the Lamb of God

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

## Morning Worship

Call to Worship  
Opening Hymn

Pastor Andy Dunkerton  
Knowing You

1. All I once held dear, built my life upon, all this world reveres and wars to own;  
All I once thought gain I have counted loss, spent and worthless now compared to this.

**(Refrain) Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You, there is no greater thing.  
You're my all, You're the best, You're my joy, my righteousness, and I love You, Lord.**

2. Now my heart's desire is to know You more, to be found in You and known as Yours,

To possess by faith what I could not earn, all-surpassing gift of righteousness.

**Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You, there is no greater thing.**

**You're my all, You're the best, You're my joy, my righteousness, and I love You, Lord.**

3. Oh, to know the power of Your risen life and to know You in Your sufferings;  
To become like You in Your death, my Lord, so with You to live and never die.

**Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You, there is no greater thing.**

**You're my all, You're the best, You're my joy, my righteousness, and I love You, Lord. (repeat)**

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### All in All

You are my strength when I am weak; You are the treasure that I seek.

You are my all in all.

Seeking You as a precious jewel; Lord, to give up, I'd be a fool.

You are my all in all.

**(Chorus) Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.**

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame; rising again, I bless Your name.

You are my all in all.

When I fall down You pick me up; when I am dry you fill my cup.

You are my all in all.

**(Chorus)**

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Scripture Reading

Matthew 24:15-31, page 829

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

#547 My Jesus I Love Thee

Preparatory

I Boast No More

No more my God, I boast no more of all the duties I have done

I quit the hopes I held before to trust the merits of Thy Son.

**(Chorus) No more my God, no more my God, no more my God, I boast no more.**

Now, for the loss I bear His name, what was my gain I count my loss;

My former pride I call my shame, and nail my glory to His cross. **(Chorus)**

Yes, and I must and will esteem all things but loss for Jesus' sake;

O may my soul be found in Him, and of His righteousness partake! **(Chorus)**

The best obedience of my hands dares not appear before Thy throne;

But faith can answer Thy demands, by pleading what my Lord has done.

**(Chorus) (repeat chorus)**

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Sermon

Pastor Gary Hendrix

## Evening Worship

Call to Worship  
Opening Hymn  
Scripture Reading  
Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Stephen Byrd  
#87 Holy, Holy, Holy  
2 Samuel 19:8c-43, page 271

Offertory

When Trials Come

When trials come, no longer fear, for in the pain our God draws near,  
to fire a faith worth more than gold; and there His faithfulness is told;  
and there His faithfulness is told.

Within the night I know Your peace;

the breath of God brings strength to me.

And, new each morning, mercy flows as treasures of the darkness grow;  
as treasures of the darkness grow.

I turn to wisdom not my own, for ev'ry battle You have known.

My confidence will rest in You; Your love endures, Your ways are good;

Your love endures, Your ways are good.

When I am weary with the cost, I see the triumph of the cross;

So in its shadow I shall run 'till He completes the work begun;

'till He completes the work begun.

One day all things will be made new; I'll see the hope You called me to.

And in Your Kingdom paved with gold I'll praise Your faithfulness of old;

I'll praise Your faithfulness of old.

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Preparatory

Lord, I Need You

Lord, I come, I confess, bowing here, I find my rest.

Without You I fall apart. You're the One that guides my heart.

**(Chorus) Lord, I need You, oh I need You. Every hour I need You.**

**My one defense, my righteousness, oh God, how I need You.**

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more.

Where grace is found is where You are.

And where You are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.

**(Chorus)**

Bridge

So teach my song to rise to You when temptation comes my way.

And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay.

**(Chorus)**

**You're my one defense, my righteousness, oh God, how I need You.**

**My one defense, my righteousness, oh God, how I need You.**

Text and Music: Christy Nockels, Daniel Carson, Jesse Reeves, Kristian Stanfill and Matt Maher  
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Sermon

Pastor Stu Johnston