

God Only Wise, part 2 by J.I. Packer Knowing God

But how are we to meet these baffling and trying situations, if we cannot for the moment see God's purpose in them? First, by taking them as from God, and asking ourselves what reactions to them, and in them, the gospel of God requires of us; second, by seeking God's face specifically about them. If we do these two things, we shall never find ourselves wholly in the dark as to God's purpose in our troubles. We shall always be able to see at least as much purpose in them as Paul was enabled to see in his thorn in the flesh (whatever it was). It came to him, he tells us, as a 'messenger of Satan,' tempting him to hard thoughts of God. He resisted this temptation, and sought Christ's face three times, asking that it might be removed. The only answer he had was this, 'My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.' On reflection, he perceived a reason why he should have been thus afflicted: it was to keep him humble, 'lest I should be exalted above measure

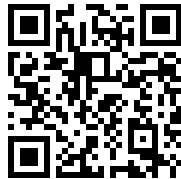
through the abundance of the revelations.' This thought, and Christ's word, were enough for him. He looked no further. Here is his final attitude: 'Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me' (2 Cor. 12:7-9).

This attitude of Paul is a model for us. Whatever further purpose a Christian's troubles may or may not have in equipping him for future service, they will always have at least that purpose which Paul's thorn in the flesh had: they will have been sent us to make and keep us humble, and to give us a new opportunity of showing forth the power of Christ in our mortal lives. And do we ever need to know any more about them than that? Is not this enough of itself to convince us of the wisdom of God in them? Once Paul saw that his trouble was sent him to enable him to glorify Christ, he accepted it as wisely appointed, and rejoiced in it. God give us grace, in all our own troubles, to go and do likewise.

Events

TODAY College & Career
Lunch 1 PM
12/14 Beth Gardner recital
12 PM
12/15 Christmas Music
Program 5:30 PM
12/22 College & Career
Christmas Party 7 PM

Give



Upcoming Events



Pastors

Gary Hendrix Stephen Byrd
Stu Johnston Bob Prentice
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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GRACE
REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

December 8, 2019



*For from him
and through him
and to him
are all things*

Traducción simultanea al español disponible en servicios de AM y PM

Morning Worship

Call to Worship
Congregational Reading
Opening Hymn
Scripture Reading
Pastoral Prayer
Offertory
Preparatory
Complete in Thee! no work of mine could take, dear Lord, the place of Thine
Thy blood hath pardon bought for me and I shall stand complete in Thee

Pastor Bob Prentice
Revelation 5:8-14, page 1031
#219 Blessing and Honor
Acts 13:13-43, page 921
#438 Jesus, I Live to Thee
Complete in Thee

**(Chorus) Yea, justified! O blessed thought!
And sanctified! Salvation wrought!
Thy blood hath pardon bought for me and glorified, I too, shall be!**

Complete in Thee each want supplied and no good thing to me denied
Since Thou my portion, Lord wilt be, I ask no more, complete in Thee **(Chorus)**

Complete in Thee! no more shall sin Thy grace hath conquered, reign within
Thy blood shall bid the tempter flee and I shall stand complete in Thee **(Chorus)**

Dear Savior, when before Thy bar all tribes and tongues assembled are
Among Thy chosen I shall be at Thy right hand, complete in Thee **(Chorus 2x)**

Thy blood hath pardon bought for me and glorified, I too, shall be!

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Sermon Pastor Gary Hendrix

Evening Worship

Call to Worship
Opening Hymn
There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son;
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.
**(Chorus) Thank You, oh, my Father, for giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit 'til the work on earth is done.**

Pastor Stephen Byrd
There is a Redeemer

Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names;
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, O for sinners slain. **(Chorus)**

When I stand in Glory, I will see His face,
There I'll serve my King forever in that holy place. **(Chorus 2x)**

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Scripture Reading
Pastoral Prayer
Offertory/Preparatory
Sermon
Communion

Galatians 3:22-4:7, page 973
#704 Jesus, Keep Me Near
Pastor Stu Johnston
Pastor Gary Hendrix

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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#195 Alas and did My Savior Bleed Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus, my redeemer, There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace

**To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus, For my life is wholly bound to His
Oh, how strange and divine, I can sing: All is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me**

The night is dark but I am not forsaken, For by my side, the Savior He will stay
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing, For in my need, His power is displayed

**To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley, He will lead
Oh, the night has been won, and I shall overcome
Yet not I, but through Christ in me**

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven, The future sure, the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave

**To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh, the chains are released, I can sing: I am free!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me**

With every breath, I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day I know He will renew me, Until I stand with joy before the throne

**To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus, All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me! (repeat)**

[Outro]
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
(3x) Yet not I, but through Christ in me!

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