



Do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. (Hebrews 10:35)

We need to ponder the superiority of God as our great reward over all that the world has to offer. If we don't, we will love the world like everyone else and live like everyone else.

So, take the things that drive the world, and ponder how much better and more abiding God is. Take money or sex or power and think about them in relation to death. Death will take away every one of them. If that is what you live for, you won't get much, and what you get, you lose.

But God's treasure is vastly superior, and it lasts. It goes beyond death. It's better than money because God owns all the money and he is our Father. We are his heirs. "All [things] are yours, and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's" (1 Corinthians 3:22-23).

It's better than sex. Jesus never had sexual relations, and he was the most

full and complete human that ever will exist. Sex is a shadow — an image — of a greater reality, of a relationship and a pleasure that will make the most exquisite sex seem like a yawn.

The reward of God is better than power. There is no greater human power than to be a child of the almighty God. "Do you not know that we are to judge angels?" (1 Corinthians 6:3). "The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne" (Revelation 3:21).

And so it goes on and on. Everything the world has to offer, God is better and more abiding.

There is no comparison. God wins — every time. The question is: Will we have him? Will we wake up from the trance of this stupefying world and see and believe and rejoice in and love what is truly real, and infinitely valuable, and everlasting?

*He will swallow up death
forever; and the
LORD GOD
will wipe away tears
from all faces*

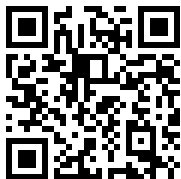
Isaiah 25:8



Events

TODAY College & Career
Pasta & Prayer 7 PM
2/21-22 Paul Tripp Parenting
Conference, register
at www.grbc.net
2/23 VisionYouth Meeting
@ White's 7:30 PM
3/4 Small Groups

Give



Upcoming Events



Pastors

Stephen Byrd Stu Johnston
Michael Lopes Bob Prentice

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

Morning Worship

Call to Worship
Opening Hymn

Pastor Michael Lopes
#1 All People that on Earth Do
Dwell

Scripture Reading
Pastoral Prayer
Offertory

Acts 15:36-16:15, page 924

How Deep the Father's Love for
Us

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
that He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss, the Father turns His face away.
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon the cross, my sin upon His shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life. I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.

Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer.

But this I know with all my heart, His wounds have paid my ransom.

(repeat)

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Preparatory
Sermon

#580 It is Well
Pastor Bill Hughes

Evening Worship

Call to Worship
Opening Hymn

Jack Dix
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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Scripture Reading

Joshua 7, page 182

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

#454 My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Preparatory

In My Heart

1. In my heart there is a stirring, one that did not start with me;
A love to worship my Creator, to show His love for all to see.

(Chorus) I will worship, I will honor, I will exalt the Lord above;

All my days I'll sing the praises of His great redeeming love.

2. In my heart there is a treason, one that poisons all my love.
Take my heart and consecrate it, wash it in Your cleansing flood. **(Chorus)**

3. Tie me to the Rock unchanging, tie me to His wondrous cross.
I'll fix my eyes upon the Savior, all other things I count as loss. **(Chorus 2x)**

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Sermon

Pastor Stu Johnston