

# From Faith to Faith

Granbury Street Church of Christ

## Saved by Grace through Faith

D. J. Stucky

The last year has been very wet. Many places in Texas have experienced flooding on an unprecedented scale. Last May was particularly bad for the residents of San Marcos when the Blanco River flooded and covered I-35. Many families lost everything they had in the waters of the flood, and some even lost their lives. It was a terrifying experience for many, but it still pales in comparison to the wrath that God poured out in Genesis 6:1-8:22.

Genesis chapter six opens by showing the sinfulness of man. Rather than following God and His will, men began to follow the lust of the flesh, and the thought of their hearts was only on evil continually (Gen. 6:1-7). Noah was the exception to this rule, and he found grace, or unmerited favor, in the eyes of the Lord (6:8). This grace manifested in the form of a command. God proceeds to tell Noah about the impending destruction, then gives precise instructions on building an ark (6:13-21). God gave a warning and provided a means of escape; now the ball was in Noah's court. Fortunately, Noah obeyed (6:21) and was ultimately delivered from the wrath of God.

It was only because of God's grace and Noah's obedience that he was delivered from the wrath of God against man. Not only was Noah spared from God's wrath, but he was also spared from the wickedness of the world in which he lived (1 Pet. 3:20-21). We too are delivered from God's wrath by having our sins washed away in baptism (Acts 2:38), but we are also freed from living under the tyranny of sin (Rom. 6:15-18). Notice that action is required of the believer in both cases. This is true biblical faith that motivates us to action (Jas. 2:14-26). The Lord provides us with the opportunity and means of salvation. However, along with this grace comes a responsibility. If we do not fulfill the requirements and take full advantage of the opportunity that He has provided, then we cannot expect to have salvation. Both elements, God's grace and our faith, must exist together if we are to be saved (Eph. 2:8-10).

What do you think the people who lost their homes and their families in San Marcos would have given for a warning or an opportunity to escape? Surely nobody would willingly ignore such a warning. Unfortunately, this happens all the time spiritually. God has given us fair warning about the wrath that is to come (2 Thess. 1:7-9). He is going to judge the world (Acts 17:30) and all of us are going to have to meet the end of our deeds (2 Cor. 5:10). God's wrath is coming, but He has also told us how to be delivered (Acts 2:38). What will you do?

### Shepherds

Sid Carruth  
Jeff Day  
Kenneth Helm  
Clark Lehtinen  
Tim Norman

### Deacons

Gary Barger  
Ryan Cowan  
Vince Grinnell  
Justin Hewlett  
Bill Hughes  
Russ Jones

### Minister

Kevin Rhodes

### Associate

D. J. Stucky

### Sunday

Bible Study  
9:00 am

AM Worship  
10:00 am

PM Worship  
5:00 pm

### Wednesday

Ladies Class  
10:00 am

Bible Study  
7:00 pm

Cleburne,  
Texas

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# Looking Forward to Morning

Kevin W. Rhodes

When we are young, every difficulty, every setback, and every obstacle seems practically insurmountable. Whether challenges in education, starting a job, or dealing with the stress that responsibility brings, we sometimes find ourselves wondering if we can endure these hardships. However, after some time passes and the anxiety fades, we find ourselves in far more pleasant circumstances, reflecting on these problems with the wisdom that experience alone can bring. In the heat of the moment, it does not seem possible that perspective and growth can emerge from severe trials or even dire emergencies, and yet this truth permeates both life and scripture.

Once David had established himself in Jerusalem, placing the years of fleeing from Saul, living on the run, and fighting a civil war behind him, he stopped to reflect and acknowledge God's hand in his life. The LORD had promised him that he would reign, and now, after years of turmoil, David had arrived at the promised moment. Thus, it was fitting that he would praise God for delivering him through all of those trying times to be able to enjoy the benefits of faithful endurance (Psa. 30:1-4). He acknowledged that he had allowed his pride to get to him when times were good and therefore had learned through tribulation the need for steadfastness, patience, and courage (Psa. 30:6-10). However, David's perspective in this moment of peace offers the reminder that we all need. Whether we fret about the moral decline of society, the situation in the church, or our own life's challenges, it

is essential that we remember this simple truth about God: "His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life; Weeping may endure for a night, But joy comes in the morning" (Psa. 30:5). The problems we face are real and undeniable, and they will bring sadness and pain, but joy comes in the morning. What a beautiful phrase! The next day offers hope because God can change our circumstances for the better. This seems like such a simple thought, and yet people struggle with it mightily. Our fears and anxieties get the best of us when under pressure, and we become stressed over what will happen next. When we are in the middle of trying times, it can be difficult to imagine happiness around the corner because we are trying to prepare for the possibility of something worse. However, this is what makes the joy of a relationship with God so powerful. No matter what may happen in this life, we can move forward with confidence that rejoicing awaits us. In the end, we will be able to rejoice and say, "You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness" (Psa. 30:11). Therefore, this knowledge should affect our attitude, our life, and our behavior today, filling our lives with worship and thanksgiving to God. This is how we should learn to think, to hope, and to live: "To the end that my glory may sing praise to You and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever" (Psa. 30:12). This day, and every day, we can open our eyes with hope and close our eyes in the evening with peace, looking forward to morning.

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# News and Notes

## **Prayer request...**

- Mark Darr, Paul Murphy's friend, will have hip replacement on Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Linda Hackler had tests last Monday. The tests results were good.
- Darla Stubblefield is in a lot of pain with her knee. She is scheduled for knee replacement surgery in December.
- Barbara Underwood, Weldon York's sister, Linda Manning's niece, is in ICU at Baylor All Saints on life support.

## *Sympathy*

Our sympathy is extended to the Boroughs' family in the passing of Kerri's sister Jenny Baker.

## *Responses*

Susan Mosco, who has been visiting with us, responded to the invitation Sunday. She is asking for prayers so that she will make the right decisions about her life.

## *New Member*

Nick Ledingham has placed membership with our congregation. He and his wife Michelle live at 310 Bellevue, 76033. Nick's cell phone is 806-778-5748. Michelle's cell phone is 817-202-7262. We welcome them to Granbury Street!

## **Centurion of Scripture Challenge 2016 (NKJV)**

### **Rev. 2:10**

Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

### **Romans 10:9-10**

That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes to righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made to salvation.

## Those who Serve Lords' Supper: 9/25

### Front South

Kenneth Helm  
Jim Hudgins  
Logan Frasier

### Front North

Justin Hewlett  
Mike Hight  
Bill Hughes

### Back South

Royce Gorman  
Conner Hackler  
Daniel Hughes

### Back North

Vince Grinnell  
Wesley Hackler  
James Henslee

## Leading prayers:

Sunday AM

Paul Murphy

Tim Norman

Sunday PM

D. J. Stucky

Robert Pennay

Wednesday PM

Logan Frasier

## Announcements:

Sunday AM-PM:

Andrew Collins

Wednesday

Russ Jones

## Song leaders:

Sunday AM

Jeff McPherson

Sunday PM

Kyle Day

Wednesday PM

Jeff Day

## Foyer Personnel:

Sunday & Wednesday

Gavin McGilvray

## Collection Counting

Don Crecelius / Johnny Walker

## Wed. PM Devotional (9/28)

D. J. Stucky



## Sermons for Sunday

AM

Supportive Leadership  
Nehemiah 8:9-18

PM

The Symbols of Submission  
1 Corinthians 11:2-16

### Calendar of Events



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10/1-2

Brown Trail-Ken Hope

10/2-5

Hillcrest, Stephenville-Jim Nash

10/2-7

W. Mansfield-Jerry Norris/Shelton Gibbs

10/9-12

Rising Star Homecoming Lectureship

10/9-12

Westhill Lectureship, Corsicana, TX

10/15-16

Lectureship at Hamilton TX

"Back To The Bible Lectures"



## Our Records

Bible Class ..... 114

AM Worship..... 176

PM Worship ..... 140

Wednesday Bible Class ..... 114

Contribution .....\$7,758

## Granbury Street Church of Christ

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