Oak Grove Church of Christ Newsletter - 2023.09.17

Website: oakgrovecofc.org Facebook: facebook.com/oakgrovecofc

Sermon recordings

Click or type the short URL, or visit oakgrovecofc.org/Sermons.

Speaker-AM: Robbie Moreland Title: Who God Picks Recording:

oakgrovecofc.org/sermons/whogod-picks Speaker-PM: Patrick Hite Title: All Things Work Together For Good Recording: oakgrovecofc.org/sermons/all-

things-work-together-for-good/

How God Picks... Us

- John 3:10-21
 - "For God so loved with World"
 - "Whoever believes on Him might be saved"
- 1 Timothy 2:4
 - [God our savior] desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
- Romans 3:21-26
 - "For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God"

AND WE KNOW THAT GOD WORKS ALL THINGS TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD OF THOSE WHO LOVE HIM, WHO ARE CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE. - ROMANS 8:28

Why Death?, 9/12/2023 by Doy Moyer

Why is death a consequence of sin? Because sin is a direct affront to the glory of the God of life. When we reject God, we reject life. Death is what's left. We cannot turn our backs on life and expect to live.

Why did Christ come to die? He died for us to demonstrate power over death and provide life. This is why resurrection is so critical to the gospel message. Through death and resurrection, He proclaims victory over death, redeems us from the curse of sin (i.e., death), remakes us in His image as His new creation brought back to life, and reconciles us to God since death would no longer separate us from the One in whom is life. "In him was life, and the life was the light of men" (John 1:4).

This empowers us to live for Him.

"For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised" (II Corinthians 5:14-15).

"I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again" (John 10:17-18).

"Now since the children have flesh and blood in common, Jesus also shared in these, so that through his death he might destroy the one holding the power of death — that is, the devil — and free those who were held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death" (Hebrews 2:14-15).

"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!" (I Corinthians 15:57).

In God We Trust, 9/14/2023 By Sam Bunyard

"Now I know that the Lord saves His anointed; He will answer him from His holy heaven with the saving strength of His right hand. Some trust in chariots, and some trust in horses; but we will trust in the name of the Lord our God" (Ps. 20:6-7).

Where do you put your trust? We've come a long way from chariots and horses! Science and technology have advanced far enough to explain much of the phenomena we observe in nature. Medicine has advanced to be able to cure many illnesses that a short time ago would have meant certain death.

Due to the easy access of information, it could be easy for us to become too big for our britches! People often think they know more now than people ever knew before, when in reality they are just more aware of things they know nothing about. We may be tempted to follow the world around us and place our trust in the things we can see – but there is a lot that we don't see!

Paul wrote, "we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places" (Ep. 6:12). Due to the nature of our true enemy, we must develop spiritual weaponry. "The weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ" (II Cor. 10:4-5). Horses and chariots can't help us there!

At the end of the day, we must remember the power of God and trust in Him. Then we can say, "they have bowed down and fallen; but we have risen and stand upright. Save, Lord! May the King answer us when we call" (Ps. 20:8-9).