

## "Why Did Christ Die?" by William Gadsby

According to some people, Christ died to give all a chance of being saved! I do not know that I hate anything more in my soul than to hear that. It makes Jesus Christ so little that He should do so much, and after all only to get us a chance of being saved. Why, if a man is set up in business, you see how often it happens that he fails in it; and if man cannot manage the paltry things of time and sense without being insolvent, what will he do with eternal realities? And if you come a little closer, when God "made man upright" and he had no sinful nature, what did he do with his innocence? He lost it all! And yet poor presumptuous man has the vanity to think you and I could manage the chance of being saved. What an insult it is to the Lord Jesus Christ to fix the eternal honour of God upon chance, and that chance to be managed by a poor sinful creature who is tumbling into half a dozen holes every hour of his life! NO, NO. Thanks be to God for immortal realities and certainties. WHAT IS SAID CONCERNING WHAT CHRIST HAS DONE? He has "put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself;" He has "finished transgression and made an end of sin;" He has "redeemed us from all iniquity;" He has "redeemed us from the curse of the law," from destruction and from the power of the devil; He has "obtained eternal redemption for us;" He has "redeemed us to God." To the honour of the Eternal Trinity it is said, not that the redeemed shall have a chance, but that the redeemed shall "come to Zion with songs, and everlasting joy shall be upon their heads, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." The Lord Jesus Christ has done this "great" work; and He has gone to heaven shouting "Victory," for "God is gone up with a shout; the Lord with the sound of a trumpet." He rose from the grave as a demonstrative proof that sin was destroyed, law satisfied, God honoured, His people eternally and everlastingly saved. And the immortal honours of God unite in their salvation; therefore, He ever lives at the right hand of the Father to make intercession.

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God sometimes strips His people of their dearest mercies, that He may win them to a more complete and full dependence upon His blessed self. Man is a creature apt to hang and rest upon creature props. "Look to my right and see;" says the psalmist, "*no one is concerned for me. I have no refuge; no one cares for my life.*" **Psalm 142:4**. Well, what does he do, now that all props fail him? Why, now he sweetly leans upon God—"I cry to You, O Lord; I say—You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living." verse 5. Men will hold upon one prop, and if God cuts off that—then they will catch hold on another, etc., until God cuts off all their props—and then they will come and rest and center in God, and say, "*All my fountains are in You.*" **Psalm 87:7**

**Thomas Brooks**

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

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**Also visit:** [www.sermonaudio.com/graceofruston](http://www.sermonaudio.com/graceofruston)

**Grace Baptist Church**  
2808 N. Trenton Ruston, La. 71270  
6/11/17  
**Call To Worship**

Called to see God's righteous Law  
Holy is without a flaw;  
Called to feel its vengeful power,  
And to tremble in that hour.

Called the cleansing blood to feel;  
Called to know it me can heal;  
Called to feel my guilt depart,  
Through the Saviour's bleeding heart.

Called, and called by grace divine,  
In full glory I shall shine.  
Called while here, to sing and tell,  
Jesus has done all things well.

Called to part with flesh and sin,  
And eternal life to win;  
And, when Jesus bids me fly,  
Sing His praise beyond the sky.

(Words by William Gadsby)  
(Tune: "Depth of Mercy", p.233 )

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**Remember In Prayer This Week:**

Judy Ward; Cindy Brantly; Emily Dubose;  
Devonne Lewis; Dusty Adams; Lydia Headrick

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**A Note From Brother Richard**

I wanted to express my thankfulness to Aub Ward and Kenny Dyess for filling in while I was away this past Sunday. It means so much to me to know that I can depend on these men and others to continue the work of the ministry while I am away. Also wanted to tell all who attended how much it means to me for your faithful support and attendance to hear the messages these men delivered.

**Happy Anniversary This Week:**

Joe and Nicole Barron - June 15

**Happy Birthday This Week:**

Jonathan Taylor - June 15

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**From William Mason's "Evening Thought"**

*"Therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith. The just shall live by faith." (Rom. 1:17)*

It is but lost labour, that poor sinners rise up early, late take rest, and eat the bread of carefulness, in order to make themselves righteous. **THE LORD MAKES HIS BELOVED PEOPLE RIGHTEOUS IN A VERY DIFFERENT WAY.** Righteousness is already perfectly wrought out, to the honouring and magnifying of God's law: it is fully brought into the court of heaven, to the satisfying of God's justice. It is clearly revealed in the gospel, for the hope and encouragement of poor sinners. Observe, (1st.) By way of eminence it is styled "*the righteousness of God.*" Not as it is essential to his divine nature. For what comfort, what hope can a guilty sinner take from that? The more plainly that is revealed, the more clearly that is known, so much the more miserable must it make the unrighteous sinner. But it is the righteousness with which God is well pleased, and for the sake of which he can be just, while he justifies the ungodly sinner. It is the righteousness which the Son of God wrought out in our nature, to clothe and adorn, and make us poor naked sinners, righteous and comely in God's sight. (2d.) This righteousness is revealed in the gospel. Blessed gospel! It brings glad tidings of an infinitely perfect, and everlastingly glorious righteousness. Soul, where art thou looking for righteousness? In thyself? Poring over thyself; thy frames, and thy works, to find righteousness? As well expect to find a saint in hell, or a devil in heaven, as to find righteousness in thyself. Search the gospel. There thou wilt find it revealed. The gospel is God's testimony of Jesus. He is the only righteous man, that has ever been upon earth, since sin entered into the world. "*His name is The Lord our righteousness.*" (Jer. 23:6.) (3d.) It is revealed from faith to faith. From the doctrine of faith in the word, to the grace of faith in the heart—it runs through every page of the sacred word, down from the patriarchs, prophets, and Old Testament saints to New Testament believers, to Gentile sinners in every age. This divine and glorious righteousness is unto all, and upon all that believe. (Rom. 3:22.) Equally alike, whether faith be weak or strong. For, (4th.) The just shall live by faith. This is quite different from living by working. For the law is never satisfied with our doings, because we can never fulfil it. Therefore we can never enjoy peace of mind, but condemnation of conscience. But by faith we live, from day to day, upon Jesus our law-fulfilling head. Hence we have peace of conscience, love of heart, joy of spirit, and holiness of life. O what a sweet life is this! None know the glory of it but the faithful. It is living above nature, out of self, and beyond sin. One step more, and we shall be with Christ in glory.