

"He who is unsound in this (the truth of Christ's accomplished work of redemption), **CANNOT** be sound in any other doctrine of Grace."

(**William Rushton, 1831-** "A Defense Of Particular Redemption")

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## **A GOSPEL MEMORIAL**

*'Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her,' (Mark 14:9)*

The words, "Verily I say unto you," are to get our attention and cause us to listen. A woman approaching Christ to anoint Him with precious ointment, moved by the Spirit of God, is here commended by our Lord because of the significance of what her actions symbolized. The message that the pouring out of the precious ointment signifies is the sum of the Gospel of righteousness. It concerns not only the glory of the One anointed, but the importance of why He came and the doctrine of His death, burial, and resurrection. As glorious as is the incarnation of Christ, and all the actions of his life, and whatever he did for the good of men, yet it is His dying for sin, and making full payment for it, satisfying law and justice, fulfilling the law, destroying death, putting away the sins of His people and rising again because of their justification having been completed, that is the memorial before God. This is the very message of the Gospel and its glory, and nothing else, just as nothing else mattered than what the spikenard symbolized to Christ in His death. These words of Christ show that "this" Gospel should be preached and it is to this end that He gave the commission and gifts to his disciples. It continues to be the message of those that the Lord has raised up in our day to preach the Gospel. It is God's ordained means for the conversion of sinners, the edification of saints, and glorifying his name in the world- Romans 1:16.

Our Lord said, *"There shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her"* - It is not a memorial to her faith, love, and gratitude, as some might try to glorify. God given faith never looks to itself as having any merit. Neither does any love and gratitude that we may show to Christ. If there is any, God graciously gave it to us in order to honor His Son-1 Corinthians 4:7. Rather, it is the memory of our Lord Jesus that she sought to honor, glorifying His death and burial, by which her God-given hope was that her sins would thereby be put away, and she declared righteous, having the merits of His righteous obedience imputed to her upon completion of Christ's death. It is in this same way that our Lord holds all of His justified ones in remembrance, and blesses them to continue to honor His name.

**Pastor Ken Wimer**

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## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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# Grace Baptist Church

2808 N. Trenton Ruston, La.71270

7/2/17

## Call To Worship

I'm resting on the highest ground; no higher plain can e'er be found.  
Tis Christ alone, the crucified; He suffered for my sins and died.

**(CHORUS) Lord, help me trust in Christ alone,  
In all His work and not my own.  
In Him alone, may I be found,  
For there is not a higher ground!**

His precious blood and righteousness is all my hope, I now confess.  
My rescue from the Adam fall; I need no more, for Christ is all.

**(CHORUS)**

Christ is the Way, the Truth, the Life, a refuge from all sin and strife.  
Accepted in God's Son beloved, in Him made fit for heav'n above.

**(CHORUS)**

God lifted me by grace alone, and made me sit with Christ enthroned.  
Caused me to hear the gospel sound that grace in Christ o'er sin abounds.

**(CHORUS)**

**(Words by Pastor Gary Shepard)  
(TUNE: "Higher Ground", pg.308)**

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### **Remember In Prayer This Week:**

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

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### **Happy Birthday This Week:**

Tyler Barron - July 8

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What an interesting way the Holy Spirit directed Luke to write the following verse:  
"And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before  
the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; **TO GIVE KNOWLEDGE OF  
SALVATION UNTO HIS PEOPLE BY THE REMISSION OF THEIR  
SINS.**"(Lk.1:76,77)

## **"Comfort For God's Sheep"**

Most people involved in self-righteous, works religion have to be constantly motivated to obedience through threats of punishment or promises of rewards. Tragically, I know from personal experience that this kind of motivation will produce the desired result the preacher is seeking. When the false preacher I sat under preached those "hell-fire and brimstone messages", he would tell us if we weren't diligent enough, or obedient enough, or giving enough, we were at best "back-sliders", and at worst we were lost. You can be assured after that kind of message, over the next few services church attendance and giving increased substantially. When attendance and giving began to wane, there would be new threats of punishment and new promises of "stars in our crowns". The problem is that if it takes threats of punishment or promises of reward to motivate you to obedience, it is evidence you are currently in a state of lostness. Also, no true Gospel preacher will use this method to motivate God's children.

The Word of God is quite clear when it comes to the message God's servants are to proclaim to encourage God's sheep to obedience-"*Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably* (speak reconciliation and peace based on the one true hope of peace, Christ's finished work at Calvary) *to Jerusalem* (God's elect from every nation), *and cry unto her; that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.*"(Isa.40:1,2) You don't have to make threats of punishments or promise rewards to get God's true children to pray, to give in support of the ministry, or to be faithful in the worship of the One True God-"*We LOVE Him, because He first loved us.*"(I Jn.4:19) This doesn't mean God's children love Him perfectly and continually-"*My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate* (a lawyer who pleads the merits of His obedience unto death) *with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And He is the propitiation* (satisfaction to law and justice) *for our sins: and not for ours* (natural descendants of Abraham justified by **Christ's righteousness alone**) *only, but also for the sins of the whole world* (Gentiles justified by that **SAME RIGHTEOUSNESS**)."(I Jn.2:1) Paul wrote of himself-"*For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.*"(Rom.7:18,19) The truth of the matter is that none of God's elect can or will be satisfied with their obedience. We know we have never "*loved God with all our heart, mind, soul, or strength*", and we've never "*loved our neighbor as ourselves.*" Therefore we are constantly forced to look away from self and rest in the **ONLY RIGHTEOUSNESS** which enables God to be both "*a just God and a Saviour*", that righteousness produced by Christ's finished work of redemption at Calvary-"*Surely, shall one say, in the LORD have I righteousness and strength.*" (Isa.45:24) I pray your hope is in God's Christ.

**Bro.Richard**