

Connect

With Sunny Place Church of God

December, 2020

The Three "R"s

RECLAMATION

The theme for this month is Reclamation, which is generally defined as the process of claiming something back, or of reasserting a right. From a Biblical perspective reclamation can be understood as God's plan for our redemption, which involves rescue, recovery, and restoration. So let's take a moment and readjust our definition accordingly; reclamation is therefore defined as the process of bringing back a person from evil and error. With that in mind, let us move forward by looking to God's word and allow Him to reveal His plan for our salvation through Jesus Christ. As is normal practice when reading something for the very first time, let's start at the very beginning with God's account of Creation.

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ... 26 God said, let us make man in our image, according to our likeness: ... 27 So God created man in his own image, ... male and female created he them. ... 31 And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. (Gn. 1:1,26-27,31)

15 And the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and keep it. 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, though shall not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. (Gn. 2:15 - 17)

Now many people, if asked, could probably summarize how humans first sinned and describe their resulting banishment from the garden of Eden which is found in Gn. 3:1 - 24. To be clear, it was the disobedience of Adam and Eve that brought sin into the world, tainted God's perfect creation, and resulted in their spiritual deaths. Due to the constraint of space, I'm unable to share and expound upon every single detail, but for now, let's

focus on the consequences that God speaks to the serpent (Satan).

14 So the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou has done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; ... 15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; he shall bruise thy head, and thou shall bruise his heel. (Gn. 3:14-15)

As we read, God is foretelling the coming of Jesus Christ (the seed of the woman) and the enmity (war) between Him and His contemporaries (the seed of the Serpent). Now, I'm going to jump from the Book of Genesis to the Gospel of Matthew. But it is important for you to know that the Old Testament contains the prophecies of the Christ, and it is in the New Testament that Jesus Christ fulfils all of them. As we left off in Genesis, God had a plan to send a Savior to rescue us from our sins (willful disobedience).

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. 19 Then Joseph her husband being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. 20 But while he thought on these words, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shall call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins. 22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, 23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name

(Continued on next page)

Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. (Mt. 1:18 - 23)

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that all who believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. 17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 18 He that believeth in him is not condemned, but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (Jn. 3:16 - 18)

25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, ... (Rom 3:25)

2 And he is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. (1 Jn. 2:2)

Although, we rightly deserve punishment, God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked. Rather, He desires that we would repent and turn from our wicked ways. God loves His creation so much that He gave us His only son, Christ willingly laid down His life for us, and He took upon Himself the penalty for our sins. But because He Himself was without sin, death could not keep Him, He was resurrected, and now sits at the righthand of His Father in heaven. It is through belief in Christ, along with true Bible conviction (confession and repentance), that God will blot out our sins, the blood of Christ cleanses us from all unrighteousness, and that the Holy Spirit can give life to us. This is true recovery by what God alone has accomplished through His plan and grace that we must be willing to accept.

3 For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. 4 But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, 5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit; 6 Which he shed on us

abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; 7 That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. (Tit. 3:3 - 7)

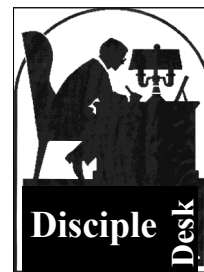
11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, 12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly lives, in this present age; 13 Looking for the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. (Tit. 2:11- 14)

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. ... 10 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead to sin; but the Spirit is life to righteousness. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. Rom. 8:1 - 14)

From the very beginning, God has shown us that sin separates us from Him. Yet, before the foundations of the world, in His infinite wisdom and foreknowledge, He had a plan to redeem us from sin, if we so chose to separate ourselves from Him. The requirements for His salvation are that we be born of the following: from above (of the Father in Heaven), of the water (Christ – the living water), and of the Spirit (the Holy Spirit). If Christ is in us, then we are a new creation; the old self has been put to death, and we are no longer slaves to sin. We can rest assured that He has reconciled us with the Father and our relationship has been restored with Him. Nevertheless, we must keep His commandments, walk as He walked, and be without blemish (sin) in His presence. Then, and only then, can we know and experience the gift of eternal life, which is the earnest inheritance of those who believe.

Yours truly in Him,

J. A. Garcia



Connect

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TLC

Together Loving Christ

Are you sharing in the exciting and spiritual blessings of studying God's Word and discovering how it applies to your contemporary life?

Join with us in our Adult Study Group at Sunny Place every Thursday at 7:00 p. m.

Grow in the Word!



Sunny Place Church is open for Sunday Morning Services

Some COVID safety restrictions will apply:

- A mask is required anytime you will be walking around. Once seated, in the sanctuary or at a class in the Fellowship hall, mask can be removed.
- Masks will be required if the congregation is asked to sing.
 - Sanctuary seating will be every other row
 - Please bring your own bibles.
- Bible study classes in the fellowship hall, will have tables spread out, and can seat 4 at each table.
- Social distance will be important inside the building, so there will be no gathering in the Narthex, Sanctuary, hallways, etc.

Our Church has always been about connecting with God and one another in spirit. While many are ready to begin worship in a live setting, some are not. We will have zoom service available.

Our Sunday Morning Worship Services and Mid-Week meetings, are also being held on Zoom. Please contact us in order to have the invitations and links sent to you. The contact information is inside on the Church Events page.

Visit us at: www.SunnyPlaceChurch.org



901 E. Oak Street, Addison, IL 60101

Connecting Families With The Love Of Christ

Elders Minutes of Meeting held Nov. 4, 2020

Attendance: Pastor Pete Weber, Phyllis Clark, Tim Kasza, Ted Gehman, Glenda Kasza, Scott Krout and Nona Koivula

Devotion, Psalm 71:14-24: “ But as for me, I will always have hope; I will praise you more and more. My mouth will tell of your righteousness, of your salvation all day long, though I know not its measure. I will come and proclaim your mighty acts, O Sovereign LORD; I will proclaim your righteousness, yours alone. Since my youth, O God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds. Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, O God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your might to all who are to come. Your righteousness reaches to the skies, O God, you who have done great things. Who, O God, is like you? My tongue will tell of your righteous acts all day long.”

Ministry Reports

Treasurer: Budgeted Bank Balance \$1,765.24, Giving \$13,979.27, Expense \$14,436.27

Worship & Prayer: There will be Leadership Team Zoom meetings on a regular schedule, to discuss planning any difficulties and solutions. Several people have agreed to serve worship; Joel as a tech helper; Christian on drums, Heather and Carla as vocalists. We are looking into buying a banner to inform people driving on Route 83 that Sunny Place offers in-person worship service on Sunday.

Christian Education & Fellowship: Discipleship - there are several people interested in being discipled. If you are interested, please let Pastor Pete know. The campfire scheduled for Friday evening was cancelled due to a person having tested positive for COVID. :

Pastoral Care & Encouragement: Cards are being sent to our congregation for Thanksgiving, birthdays and anniversaries.

Outreach & Missions: There is a food drive and the donated food will be picked up on Saturday Nov. 14. There will be a Second Saturday Senior Luncheon on Sat. Nov. 14 also.

Stewardship & Support Services: Tim reported there was a fire inspection of the church building and there were no findings to be corrected. The water heater was leaking and needs to be replaced. One is ordered and will be installed within a week or two. It was found that the furnace designed to heat the sanctuary was not working properly due to a circuit breaker. This was repaired.

New and Old Business

- **Faithlife:** We want to remind people that this site is a great resource for sharing music, spiritual insight, Bible verses, or informing Ministry teams about meetings. There are movies, documentaries, Bible studies all available on Faithlife.
- **Ministry team leaders:** note that the Annual Reports are due December 1st.

Next Elders meeting December 2 at 6:30pm on Zoom


 FOR
 unto us a
 Child ^{is born,}
 unto us a Son
 is given; and the government
 will be upon *His* shoulder. And
 His name will be called
 Wonderful
 MIGHTY GOD
 Counselor,
 Everlasting Father
 PRINCE OF PEACE
 PRINCE OF PEACE
 ISAIAH
 9:6



Our Sunday Worship Services, Thursday night Bible Studies and Tuesday Meetings will be held at the scheduled times.

If you would like to join us for a service or study, via ZOOM, send an email with your name and contact information to sunnyplacecog@gmail.com to request a link to be sent to you. You can also listen to the audio sermons, within a few days afterwards, by selecting either version on:



Adult Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.

“The Church of God
Revealed in Scripture”

Sunday Worship Services, 10:45 a.m.

In person or on Zoom

December, 2020

Sunny Place Church



7:00 p.m.

Tuesdays
TOGETHER

A time to share with others:

Stories and answers
of how the Lord has
answered prayers in your life.
On Zoom only

7:00 p.m.

ThursDay

“The Lessons of the Kings”

A Study of the four books of the Kings.

*Led by Pastor Pete
On Zoom only*