

Listening for the Promise

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Christ the King - November 22, 2020

Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?’ - Matthew 25:37

In the Formula of Concord, the second generation of Lutherans defended their theology and pointed out differences between what was taught by the “Papists” (Roman Catholics of their day), and the Reformers. This piece on Good Works is illustrative of the nuances that often cause us to get stuck living according to the Law, rather than relying on God’s grace:

Therefore, of works that are truly good and well-pleasing to God, which God will reward in this world and in the world to come, faith must be the mother and source; and on this account they are called by St. Paul true fruits of faith, as also of the Spirit. For, as Dr. Luther writes in the Preface to St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans: Thus faith is a divine work in us, that changes us and regenerates us of God, and puts to death the old Adam, makes us entirely different men (sic) in heart, spirit, mind, and all powers, and brings with it [confers] the Holy Ghost. Oh, it is a living, busy, active, powerful thing that we have in faith, so that it is impossible for it not to do good without ceasing. Nor does it ask whether good works are to be done; but before the question is asked, it has wrought them, and is always engaged in doing them...

[Justifying] faith is a living, bold [firm] trust in God’s grace, so certain that a man would die a thousand times for it [rather than suffer this trust to be wrested from him]. And this trust and knowledge of divine grace renders joyful, fearless, and cheerful towards God and all creatures, which [joy and cheerfulness] the Holy Ghost works through faith; and on account of this, man (sic) becomes ready and cheerful, without coercion, to do good to every one, to serve every one, and to suffer everything for love and praise to God, who has conferred this grace on him, so that it is impossible to separate works from faith, yea, just as impossible as it is for heat and light to be separated from fire.

While we strive to please God, all of our good works come from him who grants us faith. In faith, God uses our lives for his purposes. This is not something we do on our own, by our own thoughts and will. It is by the power of the Holy Spirit working in and through our lives. Amen.

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NEW! Livestreaming Service

Bible Lutheran is now livestreaming the 10am worship service every week.

This allows those who cannot come to the building to participate in the service in “real time” by accessing a video livestream through a link on the website. The service is also recorded and posted on the website (worship page) for viewing at any time.

www.biblelutheranchurch.org

The Sunday bulletin and children’s bulletin are posted on the website each week and can be downloaded and printed out.

The “family service” sheet is no longer be available.

**If you need help accessing the Livestream Service,
call Pastor Dave: (912) 661-8735.**

Inherit the Kingdom

Find the 37 bold words from Matthew 25:31-36 (ESV)

P R E P A R E D U F G A V E E
M H D N D C R N O S I R P Z T
D G U R O E A U R E H T O N A
O E I N H R N M W S B M N Y R
S N R P G D H M E O A A W R A
K T E E A R O T L N T F O O P
D H R T H D Y A C I I O R L E
S E I A G T S U O I R O L G S
C O S N N E A N M P E D D V X
N L I S L G S G E J H T I S J
S K O P E D E E D F N S J D Y
A E O T E L H R T H I R S T Y
G E M K H S B F A T H E R Q Z
P N A O M E S L E G N A N E H
H N S I C K D D G O A T S O K

When the **Son** of Man comes in his glory, and all the **angels** with him, then he will sit on his **glorious throne**. Before him will be gathered all the **nations**, and he will **separate people one** from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right, "Come, you who are **blessed** by my **Father**, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you **gave** me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me."

Under His Feet

Find the 35 bold words from 1 Corinthians 15:20-27a (ESV).

N O S E A B R D R G D T C S D
E O M E E S E U N F E E S O T A
H A I L I L L I L E S I M I E
C T O T I M Y E K E T R I U D
T N A V C O E P E T R H N R Z
G C E E R E A N O P O C G F J
U R A T D T R U E W Y R H T I
S P S F N A M R T A E W R S R
K E F A L L E N U H D R I R E
D M O D G N I K A S O D E I I
S U B J E C T I O N E R V F G
R E H T A F L L H S I R I Q N
A D A M U R A L I I D T L T E
E V E R Y S W A A N S K A U Y
V G O D T H R R E D N U N P E

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after **destroying every rule** and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet."