



February 10, 2019

REFLECTIONS

We are all fighting the same enemy. If you read through the Bible, you will find that. Read through the subsequent history of the Christian church, and you will find that God's people in times of persecution have always been driven together and cemented together in a much closer manner than they had ever been at any other time. They are fighting the same common foe, so they draw together. And as Christians become fewer in number year by year in this country, it should have this effect upon us: we are aware of one another, and we draw closer together; our love for one another is increased because of our circumstances.

D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones (1899-1981)
Welsh pastor
Experiencing the New Birth

The early Christians made it a part of their religion to look for his return. They looked backward to the cross and the atonement for sin, and rejoiced in Christ crucified. They looked upward to Christ at the right hand of God, and rejoiced in Christ interceding. They looked forward to the promised return of their Master, and rejoiced in the thought that they would see him again. And we ought to do the same.

John Charles Ryle (1816-1900)
British pastor and writer
Practical Religion

"Bless them that persecute you." If our enemy cannot put up with us any longer and takes to cursing us, our immediate reaction must be to lift up our hands and bless him. Our enemies are the blessed of the Lord. Their curse can do us no harm. May their poverty be enriched with all the riches of God, with the blessing of Him whom they seek to oppose in vain. We are ready to endure their curses so long as they redound to their blessing.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945)
German pastor, theologian and martyr
The Cost of Discipleship

GATHERING

The Solid Rock

Call to Worship

**from Psalm 27, NIV
Rev. Luke Brodine**

Leader:

*The LORD is my light and my salvation –
whom shall I fear?*

All: The LORD is the stronghold of my life –
of whom shall I be afraid?

Leader:

*One thing I ask of the LORD,
this is what I seek:*

All:

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to seek him in his temple.

Leader:

My heart says of you, "Seek his face!"

All:

Your face, LORD, I will seek.

Prayer of Adoration (Concluded by the Lord's Prayer)

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our
debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.

Everlasting God

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Prayer of Confession

Leader:

*Almighty God, we believe that you are coming again in power to judge the
earth. But we confess that we have not lived as those who daily expect your
kingdom.*

All:

We have spoken harsh words, thought impure thoughts, and lived casual
lives. We have ignored your promised judgment by not loving you with our
whole hearts or our neighbors as ourselves.

Leader:

*Have mercy on us and forgive us for all our offenses. In your tender
kindness, embrace us with your fatherly love, and fill our hearts with the
joyful expectation of seeing you soon, face to face. Through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen*

Silent Confession

Words of Encouragement

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14, NIV

But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

His Mercy Is More

Prayer for Christ's Church and the World

Matthew 5:4, NIV

But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

The Passing of the Peace

*The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.*

Children's Worship:

Parents who wish may send children grades K5-3rd to meet leaders in the Lobby. Children will return to their families following Communion, through the side doors to your right.

Worship through Giving

2 Thessalonians 1:11-12, NIV

Why So Heavy

THE WORD

Scripture Reading

2 Thessalonians 2:1-8, NIV

Reader: Jordan Lin

Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers, ²not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come. ³Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. ⁴He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

⁵Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things? ⁶And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time. ⁷For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. ⁸And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming.

*The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

Dr. Jimmy Agan

Learning to Love God's Word: 2 Thessalonians

COMMUNION

Apostles' Creed

Leader: *Do you believe in God the Father Almighty?*

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth;

Leader: *Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord?*

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended to the dead.
The third day he arose again;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Leader: *Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?*

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

* that is, the true Christian church of all times and all places

Distribution of the Bread and Cup

All Communion bread is gluten-free.

Trays contain wine in the middle and grape juice in the outer rim.

Please hold the elements until everyone is served and we will all take them together.

SENDING

All Things New

Benediction

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17, NIV

Loving our community to life by pursuing gospel restoration