

Tidings of Peace 2024



May



Newsletter of Peace Memorial EPC

From the Pastor... Why the God-Man?

By R.C. Sproul (Used with permission from Ligonier Ministries)

In the eleventh century, one of the church's most brilliant thinkers, Anselm, archbishop of Canterbury, wrote three important works that have influenced the church ever since. In the field of Christian philosophy, he gave us his Monologium and his Proslogium; in the field of systematic theology, he penned the great Christian classic Cur Deus Homo, which being translated means "Why the God-Man?"

In this work, Anselm set forth the philosophical and theological foundations for an important aspect of the church's understanding of the atonement of Christ, specifically the satisfaction view of the atonement. In it, Anselm argued that it was necessary for the atonement to take place in order to satisfy the justice of God. That viewpoint became the centerpiece of classical Christian orthodoxy in the Middle Ages, in terms of the church's understanding of the work of Christ in His atonement. Since then, however, the satisfaction view of the atonement has not been without its critics.

In the Middle Ages, questions were raised about the propriety of thinking that the atonement of Jesus was made necessary by some abstract law of the universe that required God's justice to be satisfied. This gave rise to the so-called Ex Lex debate. In the Ex Lex debate, the question was raised as to whether God's will functioned apart from any law or outside of any law (ex lex), or whether the will of God was itself subjected to some norm of righteousness or cosmic law that God was required to follow and, therefore, His will

was exercised under law (sub lego). The question was: Is God apart from law or is He under law?

The church's response to this dilemma was to say basically "a pox on both houses," and to declare that God is neither apart from law nor under law in these respective senses. Rather, the

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church responded by affirming that God is both apart from law and under law, in so far as He is free from any restraints imposed upon Him by some law that exists outside of Himself. In that sense, He is apart from law and not under law. Yet at the same time, God is not arbitrary or capricious and works according to the law of His own nature. The church declared that God is a law unto Himself. This reflects not a spirit of lawlessness within God, but that the norm for God's behavior and God's will is based on what the seventeenth-century orthodox theologians called "the natural law of God."

From the Pastor Cont.

The natural law of God, as a theological expression, can be easily misunderstood or confused with the broader concept that we encounter in political theory and in theology of the so-called "law of nature" (*lex naturalis*). In that sense of the phrase, the law of nature refers to those things that God reveals in the world of nature about certain principles of ethics. In distinction from this common use of the term natural law, what the seventeenth-century Westminster divines had in view when they spoke of the natural law of God was this: that God operates according to the law of His own nature. That is to say, God never acts in such a way that would contradict His own holiness, His own righteousness, His own justice, His own omnipotence, and so on. God never compromises the perfection of His own being or character in what He does.

When the church confesses the necessity of the satisfaction of God's righteousness, this necessity is not something that is imposed upon God from the outside, but it is a necessity imposed upon God by His own character and nature. It is necessary for God to be God, never to compromise His own holiness, righteousness, or justice. It is in this sense that an atonement that satisfied His righteousness is deemed necessary.

In more recent times, modern thinkers have objected to the satisfaction view of the atonement on the grounds that it casts a shadow over the free grace and love of God. If God is a God of love, why can He not just forgive people gratuitously from the pure motivation of His own love and grace, without being concerned about satisfying some kind of justice, whether it's a law of His own nature or a law imposed from without? Again, this view of the atonement fails to understand that God will never negotiate His own righteousness, even out of His desire to save sinners.

In the atonement, we see that God both manifests His gracious love towards us and yet at the same time, manifests a commitment to His own righteousness and justice. Justice is served by the work of Christ who satisfies the demands of God's righteousness, thereby maintaining God's commitment to righteousness and justice. God satisfied the demands of His righteousness by giving to us a Substitute who stands in our place, offering that satisfaction for us. This displays marvelously the graciousness of God in the midst of that satisfaction. God's grace is illustrated by the satisfaction of His justice in that it is done for us by the One whom He has appointed. It is God's nature as the Judge of all the world to do what is right. And the Judge who does what is right never, ever violates the canons of His own righteousness.

The Bible explains the cross in terms of both propitiation and expiation, the twin accomplishments of Christ in our behalf. Propitiation refers specifically to Christ's work of satisfaction of God's righteousness. He pays the penalty for us that is due our sins. We are debtors who cannot possibly pay the moral debt that we have incurred by our offense against the righteousness of God, and God's wrath is satisfied and propitiated by the perfect sacrifice that Christ makes on our behalf. But that's only one aspect of the work. The second is expiation. In expiation, our sins are removed from us, remitted by having our sins transferred or imputed to Christ, who vicariously suffers in our stead. God is satisfied, and our sin is removed for us in the perfect atonement of Jesus. This fulfills the dual sense in which sin was atoned for on the old-covenant Day of Atonement, both by the sacrifice of one animal and the symbolic transfer of the sins of the people to the back of the scapegoat, who was then sent into the wilderness, removing the sins from the people.

MOTHERS DAY CANDY AND CARNATIONS SALE

Klamath Falls Gospel Mission is raising funds this spring by offering Mother's Day Carnations and homemade Candies to church's and individuals.

Candies are a homemade assortment of milk and dark chocolates.

All are made here at Klamath Falls Gospel Mission by our Kitchen Assistant and volunteers. And professionally presented in a lovely display.

\$12 p/box provides a delectable treat for an honored lady and a sweet blessing for Klamath Falls Gospel Mission.

Colorful Carnations are individually labeled with a personal message.

\$2 p/stem gives ladies a beautiful spring bloom and brings new life to Klamath Falls Gospel Mission.

Pre Order: by calling Klamath Falls Gospel Mission @ 541-882-4895 X0

Pick up or delivery: (for church's and large orders) on Friday or Saturday May 10th & 11th



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

April Birthdays

- 2nd Susan Hauser
- 5th Noreen Rhoades
- 6th Jocelyn Shellito
- 12th Sheryl Keady
- 15th Geri Coker

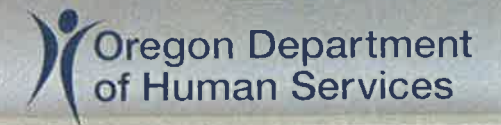
April Anniversaries

- 1st Rodney & Kathy Todd
- 3rd Aaron & Krista Beaty

DO YOU RECEIVE SNAP BENEFITS?

SNAP Employment and Training (STEP) can help with your education, training and career goals

SNAP E&T Navigators connect you with STEP Providers who support your employment and training goals with a variety of tools and resources.



Contact your local ODHS Office for more information, and take the next step in your education and career journey.

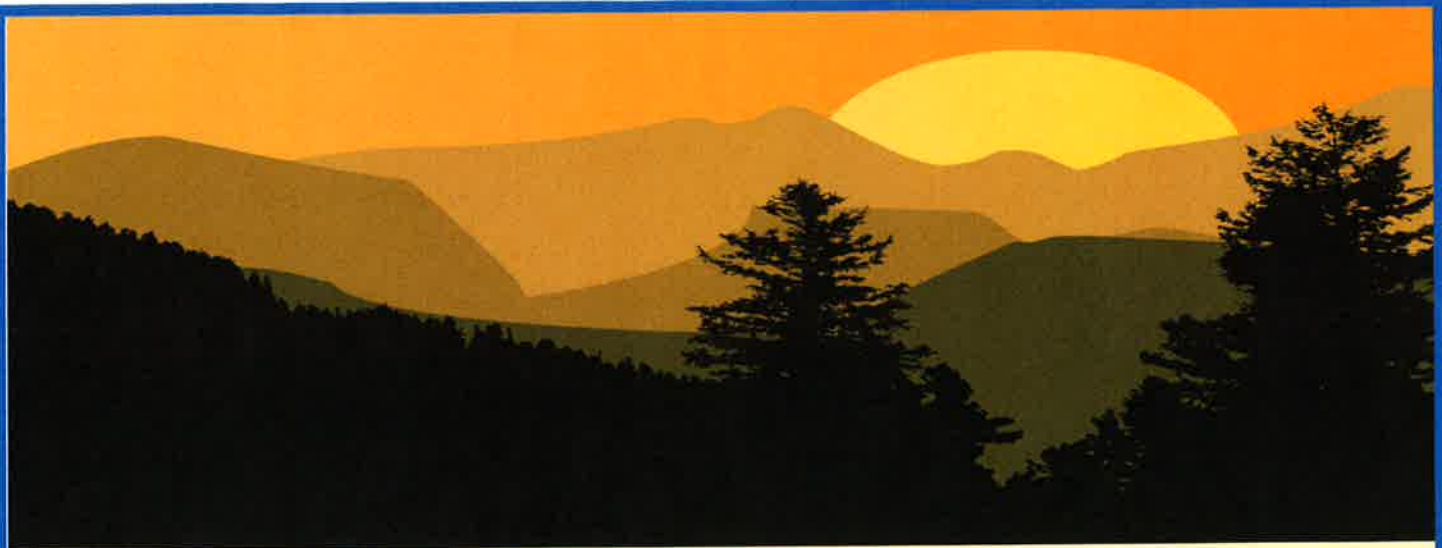


TAKE THE
FIRST STEP



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Phone: 541-591-6692
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ODHS-SSP-
D11.SNAPNavigators@odhsoha.oregon.gov

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Small Groups for Spring

Our Sermon-Based Small Groups will be resuming April 9th.

Tuesdays:

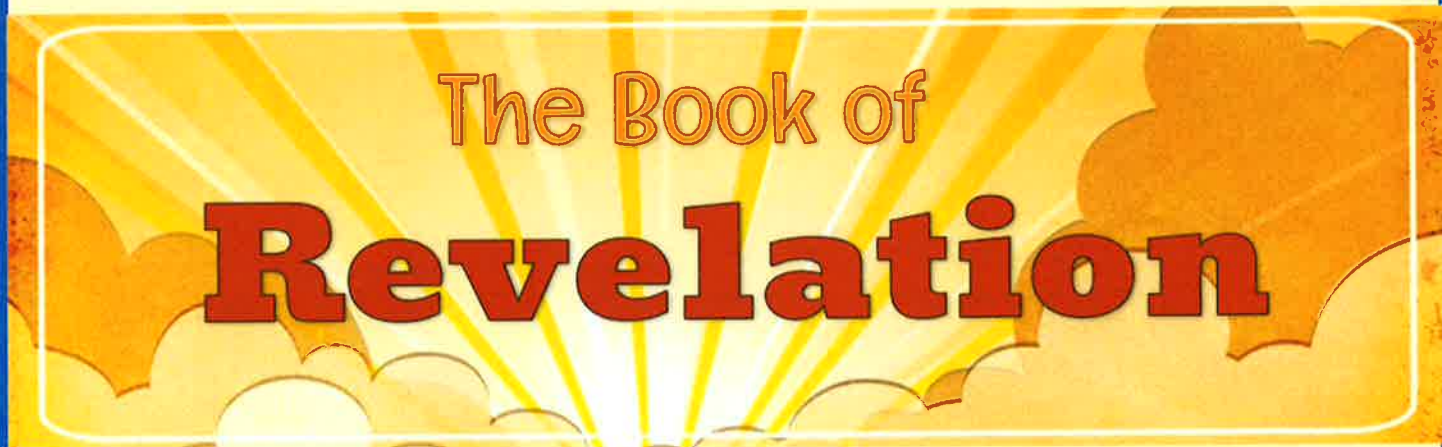
Women's Group 10-12 Church Fireside Room

King Group 2:30-4:30 Church Fireside Room

Goode Group 3:00-5:00 Stephen & Sharron Goode's house

May the Lord Bless you and keep you in Christ our Lord.

-Pastor Aaron



Our Sunday class on the book of Revelation will resume on Sunday, April 7th.

We hope to see you there: Sundays 9:00-10:00, Fireside Room

4/7 The Wicked Lament & the Saints Rejoice

4/14 The Victorious Rider & The Chained Dragon

4/21 The Final Judgment

4/28 The New Jerusalem

Stewardship & Finance Committee

March 2024

Here is our monthly update on finance:

Operating Income:.....	\$12,147.02
Operating Expenses:.....	<u>\$11,331.09</u>
Monthly Net:.....	\$ 815.93
YTD /Net:.....	(\$ 268.21)
Checking 3/31/24:.....	\$70,583.90
Money Market 3/31/24:.....	\$32,587.59
Endowment 3/31/24:.....	\$21,302.11
TOTAL 1/31/24:.....	\$124,447.36

Expenses in March beyond regular operations: Presbytery and General Assembly askings, world missions, guest musicians, and pulpit supply.

Wishing everyone a Blessed 2024!

Kathy Todd

MISSION MEMO

It is simply a reality that our human bodies are susceptible to all manner of "owies" that make what used to be simple movements difficult to do. It could be an injury, or a surgery, or an illness puts us needing a little bit of help to do everyday tasks like taking a bath, using the toilet, or walking. Often times the need is only until we've recovered, but when we need it, boy! do we need it! Taking care of those needs can mean additional expenses and lag times between when the need arises and when the need can be met. The Mission and Outreach Committee is organizing a "Home Care Resource Room" to help fill the need for such temporary equipment. Noreen Rhoades has cleared the current CE Office (down the hall from the Fellowship Hall) as a starting place for this equipment lending program. The church has a couple of walkers that have been loaned out over the years but we'd like to add to it. Please check your closets and other storage areas for items to donate- walkers, wheelchairs, toilet risers, shower chairs, crutches, canes, or anything of that kind. We would love to have these available for the next person who needs just a little bit of help. Thank you!



On another note: The Pregnancy Hope Center will begin their annual Baby Bottle Drive on Mother's Day, May 12th. Kathy Todd will be getting the empty bottles and setting up the display soon. We've participated in this drive for many years, but in case you're not familiar, here's how it works: Pick up an empty bottle (or two) and start filling with your change (you can also add bills or checks) and return the bottle by Father's Day, June 16th. Kathy will also be taking filled bottles as they come in.

A tip from some of us "pros"- at the end of the drive, take an empty bottle home to fill throughout the year.



May 2024

May 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr 28	29	30	May 1 2:30pm Handbell Practice	2 1:30pm Laura Brasser's Bible Study (Laura Brasser's Home)	3 Office Closed	4
5 9:00am Bible Study 10:30am Communion	6	7 10:00am Women's Group (Fireside Room) 2:30pm King's Group (Fireside Room) 3:00pm Goode's Group (Goode's Home)	8 10:30am PMWVG Meeting 2:30pm Handbell Practice	9 10:30am Missions & Outreach	10 Office Closed	11
12 9:00am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	13 12:00pm Session	14 10:00am Women's Group (Fireside Room) 2:30pm King's Group (Fireside Room) 3:00pm Goode's Group (Goode's Home)	15 2:30pm Handbell Practice	16 1:30pm Laura Brasser's Bible Study (Laura Brasser's Home)	17 Office Closed	18
19 9:00am Bible Study 10:30am Worship 11:30am Deacons	20 4:00pm Stewardship/Finance	21 10:00am Women's Group (Fireside Room) 11:00am Discipleship Mtg 2:30pm King's Group (Fireside Room) 3:00pm Goode's Group	22 12:30pm PMWVG Bible Study 2:30pm Handbell Practice	23	24 Office Closed	25
26 9:00am Bible Study 10:30am Worship	27 1:00pm Building & Grounds	28 10:00am Women's Group (Fireside Room) 2:30pm King's Group (Fireside Room) 3:00pm Goode's Group (Goode's Home)	29 Articles due to the office for Newsletter 2:30pm Handbell Practice	30 1:30pm Laura Brasser's Bible Study (Laura Brasser's Home)	31 Office Closed	Jun 1



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Pastor: pastoraaronepc@yahoo.com

We're on the web!

www.peaceEPC.com

"like" us on Facebook

"Give thanks in every
circumstance, for this
is God's will for you
in Christ Jesus."

-1 Thessalonians 5:18

Sermons for May:

2 Corinthians

5/5 - The Great Collection
2 Corinthians 9:1-14

5/12 - What Becomes of Boasting
2 Corinthians 10:1-18

5/19- **Pentecost**
The False Apostles
2 Corinthians 11:1-15

5/26 - A Doctrine of Suffering
2 Corinthians 11:16-33



DEACONS

Paul King - Chair

Susan Orton

Jocelyn Shellito

Debbie Grant

Marjorie Divine

*The Deacons meet the third Sunday of each
month following worship.*



SESSION/ELDERS

Pastor Aaron Beaty-	Moderator
Noreen Rhoades-	Clerk/ Discipleship
Kathy Todd-	Finance & Stewardship
Geri Coker-	Mission and Outreach
Sandi Deatherage-	Building and Grounds
Betty Shaw-	Worship
Stephen Goode-	Building and Grounds