

Bryan Station Baptist Church

INDEPENDENT ESTABLISHED 1786 MISSIONARY

THE PIONEER BAPTIST

"Preaching The Same Truth We Preached Before Kentucky Was A State"

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THE CLIMAX OF CONFIDENCE

BY: C. D. COLE

"Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us" (Romans 8:34).

The 8th chapter of Romans touches the heights of Christian truth and this 34th verse gives us the climax of confidence. "It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us."

We have here before us, in the text, the four marvelous pillars upon which the Christian rests his hope. This text speaks of four things done by Christ to make his people gloriously safe and eternally happy. These four give us basis for the challenge, "Who is he that condemneth?"



Location: 3.3 miles out Bryan Station Road. Right on Briar Hill Road.

- Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
- Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
- Evening Service 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Air-Conditioned Nursery Provided

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1. The death of Christ. The believer cannot be condemned because Christ died. How does His death keep me from being condemned? Because His death redeemed me from the curse of the law. His death was vicarious, on behalf of others; it was substitutionary, in the stead of others. I cannot be condemned to die for my sins because Christ died for them. I have no sin debt to pay, for Christ paid it all.

"If Christ has my discharge procured
And freely in my place endured
The whole of wrath divine.
Payment God will not twice demand,
First at my bleeding Surety's hand,
And then again at mine."

Yes, I know the wages of sin is death, but Christ died. I know it is true that the soul that sinneth it shall die--but Christ died. I know sin is dangerous and damning, but Christ died. Here is a pillar of hope--Christ died for our sins. I know there is a day of judgment coming, but Christ died, and there is no judgment unto death for His people. Christ died! That's the answer to every charge you may bring against me. Nobody can fully fathom the meaning of Christ's death, but we can rest our souls upon it and sing, "In the cross of Christ I glory, Towering o'er the wrecks of time; All the light of sacred story, Gathers round its head sublime." Christ died--here is the basis of my hope. Does anyone know of any better ground of hope?

2. "Yea rather, that is risen again." "Yea rather." How significant! Christ died, yes, but he is not dead. Spurgeon puts it thus: "It is a powerful argument for our salvation that Christ died, but it is still more cogent proof that every believer shall be saved, that Christ rose again from the dead... Now Jesus by His death paid all the debt... But the resurrection was the acknowledgment that the debt was paid." "Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification" (Romans 4:25). Quote that text with the spirit and understanding and you may be sure you are saved. In it the sinner takes the place of a sinner--he was delivered for our offences. To quote that is not to boast of good works. It is the acknowledgment of our offences. He was delivered for our offences--not for our righteousness. His death was not in payment for our good deeds, but to pay for our sins. He was raised again for our justification. The death of Christ was enough in itself for our redemption, but it was publicly shown to be enough by His resurrection. If Christ were still dead, I would not know that he had done enough to save me; he would still be in the prison house of death for my sins. He died unto sin once but is alive unto God. He died my death and now lives my life, and when Christ who is my life shall appear, I shall appear with him in glory. "Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again."

If you say some one has to die for my sins, I reply, "It is Christ that died." If you say there must be proof that His death is sufficient for my salvation, I reply, "It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again."

3. The third pillar of the Christian's hope is the exaltation of Christ. "Who is even at the right hand of God." The One who died for my sins is in good standing with God--he is even at the right hand of God. "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory" (I Tim. 3:16).

"Christ at the right hand of God signifies that all power is given unto him in heaven and in earth" (Spurgeon). Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God." How can I, a trusting child of God, be lost when He who died for me is on the throne making all things work together for my good? "For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us" (Hebrews 9:24).

4. But there is a 4th pillar in our text for the believer to rest his hope upon. "Who also maketh intercession for us." The verb here translated "make intercession" means "to go to meet for consultation." Christ is in heaven to counsel in our behalf.

He is there as our advocate with God the Father. He is able to save unto the uttermost because He ever liveth to make intercession for us. I think we have an example of what He is doing for us at the right hand of God in what He was doing for us just before He left the world to go to the Father. He said then and He must still be saying, "Father, I will that they, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am."

If anyone of you should get into serious trouble with the law--if you were really guilty of some crime that called for severe punishment, the first thing you would do would be to get the best lawyer you could find and afford. You would want a man who could answer all the charges witnesses might bring against you, and you would want a man who could appeal to the jurors in your behalf. Now in heaven, weak and trembling and trusting sinners have an advocate with God the Father, and it is Jesus Christ the Righteous.

"Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us."

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I WANT TO KNOW!

In 1492, Columbus said, "I want to know," and discovered America.

Benjamin Franklin said, "I want to know," and discovered electricity. Alexander Graham Bell said, "I want to know," and invented the telephone.

Henry Ford said, "I want to know," and gave us the automobile. Colonel Charles Lindberg said, "I want to know," and made the historic solo flight to Paris.

American scientists said, "we want to know," and the terrifying A bombs and H bombs became a reality.

I once said, "I want to know," and found that it IS possible to have everlasting life here and now--and to be sure of it! Like so many, I felt it would be impossible to be sure of heaven until after death--and then I came face to face with God's promises in the Bible. I had to choose between my own feelings or the unmistakable declarations of my Creator and God. I chose to believe God. The peace, assurance, security and hope He has imparted since that step of faith are beyond description. Truly, I know!

God has given in the Bible unmistakable directions so that all may know. You who read this--you may know! Here is what God says in the Bible: First, that you have sinned against Him and deserve eternal death: "All have sinned... the wages of sin is death" (Romans 3:23, 6:23). Second, that a holy God loves you: "God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). Third, that Jesus loves you and died for you: "The Son of God loved me and gave Himself for me" (Galatians 2:20). Fourth, that you must, by faith, receive Jesus Christ as your own personal Lord and Saviour: "These are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name" (John 20:31).

Friend, don't let anything hinder you from entering into this "know-so" salvation which God freely and fully offers you at this moment. I beseech you, find a Bible and look up these wonderful promises of God. Millions living on the earth today have entered into the blessedness and joy of the knowledge of sins forgiven, the very peace of God abiding within, and the assurance of eternal life in heaven with our lovely Lord. You, too, can know these eternal blessings.

Listen! The Bible says, "Beloved, now are we the sons of God...we know that when He (Jesus) shall appear, we shall be like Him...We know that we have passed from death unto life...These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life" (I John 3:2,14; 5:13).

Some people hope they are saved. Many think they are saved. Others wish they were saved. The Bible says you can know you are saved!