

Sunday, 25th June, 2017

WELCOME

Pastor Brian Hughes welcomes all visitors. We invite you to sign the guest book in the Fellowship Hall.

TODAY'S MESSAGE

1 Timothy 2b "The Desires of God"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BAPTISMS—On the 2nd of July we are having a baptism after the morning service. If you would like to get baptised, please put your name on the list in the Fellowship Hall.

MIDWINTER SHARED DINNER—22nd July, 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up and tick which dish type you will bring.

THE WORD OF LIFE

The saving ministry of Jesus Christ is summed up in the statement that he is the "mediator between God and men" (1 Tim. 2:5). A mediator is a go-between who brings together parties who are not in communication and who may be alienated, estranged, and at war with each other. The mediator must have links with both sides in order to identify with and maintain the interests of both and represent each to the other on a basis of good will. Thus Moses was mediator between God and Israel (Gal. 3:19), speaking to Israel on God's behalf when God gave the law (Exod. 20:18-21) and speaking to God on Israel's behalf when Israel had sinned (Exod. 32:9-33:17).

Every member of our fallen and rebellious race is by nature "hostile to God" (Rom. 8:7) and stands under God's wrath (i.e., the punitive rejection whereby as Judge he expresses active anger at our sins, Rom. 1:18; 2:5-9; 3:5-6). Reconciliation of the warring parties is needed, but this can occur only if God's wrath is somehow absorbed and quenched and man's anti-God heart, which motivates his anti-God life, is somehow changed. In mercy, God the angry Judge sent his Son into the world to bring about the needed reconciliation. It was not that the kindly Son acted to placate his harsh Father; the initiative was the Father's own. In Calvin's words, "in an inconceivable way he loved us even when he hated us," and his gift to us of the Son as our sin bearer was the fruit of that love (John 3:14-16; Rom. 5:5-8; 1 John 4:8-10). In all his mediatorial ministry the Son was doing his Father's will.

Objectively and once for all, Christ achieved reconciliation for us through penal substitution. On the cross he took our place, carried our identity as it were, bore the curse due to us (Gal. 3:13), and by his sacrificial blood-shedding made peace for us (Eph. 2:16; Col. 1:20). Peace here means an end to hostility, guilt, and exposure to the retributive punishment that was otherwise unavoidable—in other words, pardon for all the past and permanent personal acceptance for the future. Those who have received reconciliation through faith in Christ are justified and have peace with God (Rom. 5:1, 10). The mediator's present work, which he carries forward through human messengers, is to persuade those for whom he achieved reconciliation actually to receive it (John 12:32; Rom. 15:18; 2 Cor. 5:18-21; Eph. 2:17).

Jesus is "the mediator of a new covenant" (Heb. 9:15; 12:24)—that is, the initiator of a new relationship of conscious peace with God, going beyond what the less effective Old Testament arrangements for dealing with the guilt of sin could ever secure (Heb. 9:11-10:18).

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SONDAY

9:00-9:45am—Prayer Ministry

Please join us in prayer for the service.
Meeting in the Upper Room—All welcome.
Prayer for the Persecuted every third week.

10:00am—Morning Worship

Pastor Brian, The Sanctuary - Worship in Song & God's Word & Communion.

6pm—Young Adults Dinner -2/7

Fortnightly get-together for the Young Adults at the Woodcocks. See Scott W. for details.

WEDNESDAY

10:00am—Midweek Bible Study

Meeting in the Fellowship Hall. Study in the book of Proverbs. Everyone welcome.

7:30pm—Men's Group for Dads

Talk to Scott Ogilvy for info.

CHURCH MOBILE APP

Download the CCNZ Mobile App to your smart phone or tablet. The App includes Calvary Radio, live video streaming and archived teachings.
Download www.calvarychapel.org.nz/app

MEMORY VERSES

(1 Tim 2:3-5) For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus

SONDAY SCHOOL

There is Sunday morning crèche for babies and age-appropriate teaching for children 2-16 years. Please leave your children in their worship area at 9:55am to avoid interruption and please collect them promptly after the service is finished.

PRAYER

For prayer requests please email prayer@calvarychapel.org.nz For practical help call the church office on 918 8000 or for after-hour emergencies, 021 501 903.

OFFERINGS OF WORSHIP

The giving of one's money at church is an act of worship and recognition that God is the rightful owner of all that we possess. It is to be done joyfully, freely, sacrificially and discreetly. If you would like to worship God in this manner, we have provided a box on the wall in the fellowship hall.

MEDIA MINISTRY

Audio CDs of the messages can be requested for a donation or downloaded free at www.calvarychapel.org.nz.

CALVARY CHAPEL BOOKSTORE

Bibles, music, books and other resources by solid Christian teachers. Bookstore open: Mon-Thurs, 10am - 4pm & Sunday for 30mins after the service - www.calvarychapelbookstore.org.nz

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