Sunday, November 24, 2019 Pastor Jim Grimm Living Generously



Heart of Gratitude

- The <u>foundation</u> of our gratitude for what He has done for us starts with what Jesus did on the cross.
- The greater the <u>understanding</u> we have of what God has done for us will cause us all to live with a greater <u>measure</u> of gratitude.

And all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished

Romans 3:24-25

- Paul addresses 3 <u>concepts</u> here to describe what Christ has done for us. Justification, Redemption, and Atonement.
- You have been declared not <u>guilty</u>, you have been set <u>free</u>, you
 are completely <u>accepted</u> by God and <u>welcome</u> in His presence.

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

2 Corinthians 5:21 NKIV

- Righteousness is the state of moral perfection required by God to enter heaven.
- That is why Jesus came to <u>earth</u> and shed his <u>blood</u>, so you can be with Him in heaven.

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I

John 14:1-3

Because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself.

Therefore we do not lose heart.

So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

2 Corinthians 4:14, 16, 18

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Colossians 3:1-4

- God himself is <u>encouraging</u> you to fix your eyes, to set your hope, to set your heart, and to set your mind on things above.
- An eternal perspective will give you a heart of gratitude!

You are not guilty, you are set free, you are completely accepted by God and welcome in His presence, you are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus, you are a citizen of heaven, and you are going to spend eternity with HIM!