



1 & 2 Samuel

THE HOPE OF A BETTER KING

PRELIMINARIES: WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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WE GIVE GLORY TO GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP: "REVELATION 4:11"

11 "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

HYMN OF REDEMPTION: "HALLELUJAH FOR THE CROSS"

I would be hopeless without Your goodness
I would be desperate without Your love
Slave to the darkness if it wasn't for the cross

You have won me with Your kindness, Chased me down when I was lost
Where would I be if it wasn't for the cross

Chorus

Hallelujah, thank You Jesus, I was a prisoner, now I'm not
With Your blood, You bought my freedom, Hallelujah for the cross

All my shame was, met with mercy, Now Your mercy will be my song
And oh the glory, oh the power of the cross

By Your stripes I'm healed, by Your death I live
The power of sin is overcome, it is finished, it is done
By Your stripes I'm healed, by Your death I live
The power of sin is overcome, it is finished - **Chorus**

WE MOURN THE REALITY OF SIN

HYMN OF REDEMPTION: "GRACE ALONE"

I was an orphan, lost at the fall, running away when I'd hear your call
But Father, You worked Your will
I had no righteousness of my own, I had no right to draw near Your throne
But Father, You loved me still

And in love, before you laid the world's foundation
You predestined to adopt me as Your own
You have raised me up so high above my station
I'm a child of God by grace and grace alone

You left your home to seek out the lost, You knew the great and terrible cost
But Jesus, Your face was set
I worked my fingers down to the bone, nothing I did could ever atone
But Jesus, You paid my debt

By Your blood I have redemption and salvation
Lord You died that I might reap what You have sown
And You rose that I might be a new creation
I am born again by grace and grace alone

I was in darkness all of my life, I never knew the day from the night
But Spirit, You made me see
I swore I knew the way on my own, head full of rocks, a heart made of stone
But Spirit, You moved in me

And at Your touch, my sleeping spirit was awakened
On my darkened heart, the light of Christ has shone
Called into a kingdom that cannot be shaken
Heaven's citizen by grace and grace alone

So I'll stand in faith by grace and grace alone
I will run the race by grace and grace alone
I will slay my sin by grace and grace alone
I will reach the end grace and grace alone

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Father, We often live as though our salvation depends upon us. We strive to earn what You freely give. Even though every good thing in us is the work of Your grace, we are quick to take the credit and slow to give You praise.

Forgive us for doubting Your goodness when life is hard, for giving way to fear when the future is uncertain, and for forgetting that the battle belongs to You.

Thank You for seeking us when we were lost, awakening our hearts, and bringing us from death to life. From beginning to end, our salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.

Turn our eyes again to Jesus. Whatever trials stand before us, teach us to walk by faith, knowing that Christ has already secured the victory.

In Jesus name we pray, amen.

WE CELEBRATE CHRIST AS OUR REDEEMER

HYMN OF REDEMPTION: "YOU'VE ALREADY WON"

There's peace that outlasts darkness, hope that's in the blood
There's future grace that's mine today that Jesus Christ has won

So I can face tomorrow, for tomorrow's in Your hands
All I need you will provide, just like you always have

Chorus

I'm fighting a battle that you've already won
No matter what comes my way, I will overcome
I don't know what you're doing, but I know what you've done
I'm fighting a battle You've already won

There's mercy in the waiting, mana for today
And when it's gone I know you're not, You are my hope and stay

When the sea is raging, Your Spirt is my help
He'll fix my eyes on Jesus Christ and I'll say that it is well
Oh I know that it is well - **Chorus**

I know how the story ends, we will be with you again
You're my Savior my defense, no More fear in life or death - 2x

I know how this story ends, we will be with You again
You're my Savior my defense, no More fear in life or death
I know how this story ends - **Chorus**

5-MINUTE BREAK

In addition to taking children to Ridge Kids and using the restroom, take time to meet/greet one another. "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." (Hebrews 10:24-25)

SCRIPTURE READING: "2 SAMUEL 7:4-17"

4 But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, **5** "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in? **6** I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. **7** In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"'

8 Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. **9** And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. **10** And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly,

11 from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house.

12 When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. **13** He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. **14** I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, **15** but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. **16** And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.” **17** In accordance with all these words, and in accordance with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David.

SERMON: “LESSONS FROM THE LORD’S COVENANT WITH DAVID”

DAVIS LACEY - 2 SAMUEL 7-8 (PGS. 188-194 IN THE ILLUMINATED SCRIPTURE JOURNALS)

Main point: the Lord’s covenant **to** David is the Lord’s instruction **for** us!

- His instruction about Jesus (2 Sam. 7:1-17)
- His instruction about Prayer (2 Sam. 7:18-29)
- His instruction about Prophecy (partial/perfect fulfillment) (2 Sam. 8)

Cross-references for further study:

John 1:14, Hebrews 4:15, Hebrews 7:25, Isaiah 53:5, 1 Peter 2:4-5, Matthew 24:14, Revelation 21:25-27

WE RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL

HYMN OF RESPONSE: "HE WILL BE"

God is faithful to His word, Even when there seems no way
Though time may pass, His memory will not fade
His promises will never fail

Chorus 1

Faithful He has been faithful He will be
Time and time again His Word returns complete
To His truth I cling when the night is deep
Faithful He has been faithful He will be

God is gracious when I doubt, He draws near though I retreat
Though I may wander, Through the wilderness
He goes with me and gives me peace

Chorus 2

Gracious He has been gracious He will be
What I don't deserve the Father gives to me
Where He leads my feet I shall not want or need
Gracious He has been, gracious He will be

God is worthy of my song, Countless are His awesome deeds
His mighty hand has parted raging seas
For those He loves He has redeemed

Chorus 3

Worthy He has been worthy He will be
Crowned in endless praise all earth and heaven sing
Holy is the Lord who reigns in majesty
Worthy He has been worthy He will be

Bridge

He is my provider covenant protector
All my hope is in the Lord my God
He is my sustainer merciful redeemer
All my hope is in the Lord my God

Worthy He has been worthy He will be - **Chorus 3**

HYMN OF NEW CREATION: "GOD OF EVERY GRACE"

O let not this world of sorrows steal my only hope away
For the power of Your gospel shines within this jar of clay
In affliction You bring wisdom that my comforts can displace
How my true and greatest treasure is in You the God of grace

Chorus

Now to the God of ev'ry grace Who counts my tears, Who holds my days
I sing through sorrow, sing with faith, oh praise the God of ev'ry grace

Weary with the weight I carry, give me wings of faith to rise
For You know each grief that lingers through the watches of the night
Surely You have borne our sufferings, at the cross took up our pain
And You lead us unto glory as we trust You, God of grace - **Chorus**

There's a dawning hope before us that I know is soon to break
As I wait upon Your mercy which will swallow ev'ry ache
Cries of joy and songs of vict'ry when we enter Heaven's gates
All Your children home together, all with You, the God of grace - **Chorus**

Now to the God of ev'ry grace Who counts my tears, Who holds my days
I sing through sorrow, sing with faith Oh praise the God of ev'ry grace,
Oh praise the God of ev'ry grace, Oh praise the God of ev'ry grace

A PRAYER FOR JOHN, DEBORAH AND THOMAS

ADAPTED FROM THE VALLEY OF VISION, "VOCATION"

Heavenly Father, you have placed John in the church which Jesus purchased by His own blood. Add grace to grace that he may live worthy of the new vocation to which you have called him.

He, Deborah and Thomas are voyagers across life's ocean. Safe in Heaven's Ark, may they pass through a troubled world until that day when they enter into the harbor of eternal rest.

As trees in the vineyard you have planted, grant them not to be fruitless, with worthless leaves and wild grapes, but rather,

Prune them of useless branches.

Water them with dews of blessing.

Help them be true, faithful, loving, and devoted to Jesus.

Let no strong worldly affection overtake them.

Hallowed by grace, may they live high above a love of things temporal.

May your love be their fullness; your glory, their joy; your precepts, their pathway; and the cross, their resting place, until they reach the Son's full redemption:

On that day, no languor shall oppress them.

On that day, no iniquities shall beset them.

On that day, no unbelief shall dim their eyes.

On that day, no zeal will ever wane from them.

Father, by your Spirit to the glory of your Son, may these thoughts stay, prop, and comfort all of your servants, and especially the souls of John, Deborah, and Thomas.

We ask this in the name of Christ – your Son, our King. Amen.

WAYS TO GIVE

- **Cash:** place cash securely into one of the offering boxes at the back of the room. If you would like a record of your contribution, please be sure to place the cash into one of our offering envelopes and fill out the appropriate contact information.
- **Check:** place checks securely into one of the offering boxes at the back of the room. Alternatively, you may mail a check to Autumn Ridge Community Church, 208 Victory Cir. Ste. 300, Ellijay, GA 30540. End of year giving statements will be issued based on the contact information provided by the check.
- **Online Giving:** facilitates offerings made by bank account, credit/debit card, and stock. Simply scan the "GIVING" QR code below, or click the "GIVE" tab at the top of our church's website (autumnridgecommunitychurch.com).
- **Stock:** arrangements for donation of stock can also be made by contacting Jill Connor with Charles Schwab at jconner@jamisonwealth.com or (678) 273-7320.

QR CODES FOR DIGITAL ACCESS

IT'S EASY AS 1,2,3!

To access the following items:

1. Open the camera on your digital device
2. Hover over the QR squares below
3. A yellow link will appear on the screen. Tap the yellow link and you will be taken to an online site where you can access the following.



GIVING



CONNECT

MISSIONAL COMMUNITIES (AUGUST – DECEMBER, 2026)

Sunday Mornings (8:45am, upstairs at Victory Christian Center)

Scott and Jeannie Miller/Preston and Laney Porter
(jeanniem165@gmail.com, castleco@live.com or
prestoncporter21@gmail.com)

Ted and Leslie Murphy (tedmurphy@etcmail.com – or contact Peggy
McNash at Peggy.mcnash@gmail.com)

Bryan and Shannon Thomas (StPatrick1330@yahoo.com)

Wednesday Evenings (5:30p, upstairs at Victory Christian Center)

Davis and Charis Lacey (davis@autumnridgecommunitychurch.com or
charislacey@gmail.com)

NEW WITH US? GET CONNECTED!

If you are new or visiting with us, make sure to fill out a connection card. There is a digital version available via the QR code above.

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

Grab a Missions Memo to keep up with other dates/opportunities to be involved

September 9 - Generations of Grace

September 13 - Pastor of Families Candidate weekend

September 20 - Members Business Meeting

September 25 - Barn Dance

October 23 - Men and Boy's Campout

Youth Transformation Groups

Starting on **Sunday, August 23**, students in 6th - 12th grade are invited to participate in gender-specific Transformation Groups! Adult leaders will be on site (upstairs at the Victory Christian Center) at 8:45a, and the **youth Transformation Groups will begin at 9a**. For more information, please email Damon or Samantha Gabriel (damon@artfulellijay.com, samantha@artfulellijay.com).

Ridge Kids is Growing & We Need You!

Ridge Kids is growing and we need 14 more teachers to reach our goal of 37, each serving just one Sunday a month. Curriculum is provided. Contact Leigh Colburn at 770-883-9001 or colburn65@gmail.com.

Meet our Pastor of Families Candidate

Exciting news from our elders! During the August 23 Church Members update meeting, our elders announced Adam Downer as our candidate for Pastor of Families. Adam and his wife Penny will join us for a candidate weekend on Sunday, September 13, when Adam will preach during worship, followed by a luncheon where you can meet the Downers personally. A church members' business meeting to formally affirm Adam's prospective service will follow worship on September 20.