



# 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: "PSALM 95:1-7"**

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! 2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! 3 For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

4 In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. 5 The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. 6 Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! 7 For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

### **HYMN OF ACCLAMATION: "ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING"**

All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voice and with us sing, O praise him, alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam,  
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,  
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along, O praise him, alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice, ye lights of evening, find a voice,  
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship him in humbleness, O praise him, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, three in one.  
O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

# WE MOURN THE REALITY OF SIN

## HYMN OF CONFESSION: "COME YE SOULS BY, SIN AFFLICTED"

Come ye souls by, sin afflicted, Bowed with fruitless, sorrow down;  
By the broken, law convicted, Through the cross, behold the crown;  
Look to Jesus; Look to Jesus; Look to Jesus; Mercy flows through Him alone.

Take His easy, yoke and wear it; Love will make your, obedience sweet;  
Christ will give you, strength to bear it, While His grace, shall guide your feet  
Safe to glory, Safe to glory, Safe to glory, Where His ransomed captives meet.

Blessed are the, eyes that see Him, Blest the ears that, hear His voice;  
Blessed are the, souls that trust Him, And in Him, alone rejoice;  
His commandments, His commandments, His commandments  
Then become their happy choice.

Sweet as home to, pilgrims weary, Light to newly, opened eyes,  
Like full springs in, deserts dreary, Is the rest, the cross supplies;  
All who taste it, All who taste it, All who taste it, Shall to rest immortal rise.

## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Father, We come afflicted by sin, convicted and aware of our need for mercy. Too often we have looked to ourselves instead of to Jesus.

**We confess that we have resisted Your ways, treating Your commands as burdens rather than joy. Forgive us for dull hearts that do not fully see You or rejoice in You. We have not trusted You as we should, nor made Your will our delight.**

Turn our eyes again to Jesus. Teach us to trust Him, to walk in His ways, and to find rest in His grace. Lead us safely home, renewed by Your mercy. Amen.

## WE CELEBRATE CHRIST AS OUR REDEEMER

## **HYMN OF REDEMPTION: "HIS MERCY IS MORE"**

What love could remember, no wrongs we have done  
Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

### **Chorus**

Praise the Lord! His mercy is more!  
Stronger than darkness, new every morn  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more!

What patience would wait as we constantly roam  
What Father so tender is calling us home  
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more - **Chorus**

What riches of kindness He lavished on us  
His blood was the payment His life was the cost  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more - **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: "1 SAMUEL 14:45 & 1 CORINTHIANS 15:58"**

**45** Then the people said to Saul, "Shall Jonathan die, who has worked this great salvation in Israel? Far from it! As the Lord lives, there shall not one hair of his head fall to the ground, for he has worked with God this day." So the people ransomed Jonathan, so that he did not die.

**58** Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

## **SERMON: "HOW TO LABOR IN/WITH THE LORD"**

**DAVIS LACEY - 1 SAMUEL 13-14 (PGS. 58-72 OF THE ILLUMINATED SCRIPTURE JOURNAL)**

**Main point:** to labor in/with the Lord means to keep the Lord's **commands** with the Lord's **conviction** under the Lord's **constraints**.

### **Keep the Lord's Commands**

- Do you know the Lord's commands through regular immersion in Scripture?
- Are you seeking to put into practice the things which the Lord commands?

### **The Lord's Conviction**

- **1 Sam. 14:6:** Jonathan said to the young man who carried his armor, "Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised. It may be that the Lord will work for us, for nothing can hinder the Lord from saving by many or by few."
- **Conviction can be defined as:**
  - A big view of God ("Nothing can hinder the Lord...")
  - Big expectations of God ("It may be that the Lord will work for us...")
  - Not the beneficiary of God's bigness, but the vessel of God's bigness
- **William Carey:** "Expect great things from God, attempt great things for God."

### **The Lord's Constraints**

- Physical health is connected to spiritual health (compare Deut. 12:23 & 1 Sam. 14:24-35)

- The Lord doesn't work *in spite* of us honoring his constraints – he works *through* us honoring his constraints. (If we try to go beyond the constraints the Lord lays upon us, we will ultimately accomplish less – see 1 Sam. 14:24-52).

**Concluding Reflection:** where is the Lord inviting you to take steps towards laboring in/with Him?

- Where are you called to keep the commandments with fresh zeal?
- Where are you called to cultivate/act upon conviction (as defined above)?
- Where are you called to embrace the Lord's constraints?

# WE RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL

## HYMN OF RESPONSE: "ALL SUFFICIENT MERIT"

All sufficient merit shining like the sun  
A fortune I inherit by no work I have done  
My righteousness I forfeit at my Savior's cross  
Where all sufficient merit did what I could not

In love He condescended eternal now in time  
A life without a blemish the Maker made to die  
The law could never save us our lawlessness had won  
Until the pure and spotless Lamb had finally come

### **Chorus**

It is done it is finished, No more debt I owe  
Paid in full all sufficient, Merit now my own

I lay down my garments any empty boast  
Good works all corrupted by the sinful host  
Dressed in my Lord Jesus a crimson robe made white  
No more fear of judgment His righteousness is mine – **Chorus 2x**

All sufficient merit firm in life and death  
The joy of my salvation shall be my final breath  
When I stand accepted before the throne of God  
I'll gaze upon my Jesus and thank Him for the cross  
Yes, I'll thank You for the cross – **Chorus 2x**

Merit now my own, Merit now my own

## HYMN OF NEW CREATION: "HOW GREAT THOU ART"

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed

### **Chorus**

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin - **Chorus**

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart  
Then shall I bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim, my God how great Thou art - **Chorus**

# 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](http://autumnridgecommunitychurch.com)).
- **Stock:** arrangements for donation of stock can also be made by contacting Jill Connor with Charles Schwab at [jconner@jamisonwealth.com](mailto: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

## **Roster of Missional Communities**

*Reach out to one of the leaders listed below to learn the specific rhythms of our different Missional Communities!*

### **Sunday Mornings (8:45a)**

Scott and Jeannie Miller (jeanniem165@gmail.com | 678.320.8310)

Doug and Leigh Colburn (770.364.5325) and Janice and Randy Durden (706.273.9147)

Bryan and Shannon Thomas ([StPatrick1330@yahoo.com](mailto:StPatrick1330@yahoo.com) | Bryan: 808-342-4288 | Shannon: 808-342-4287)

### **Sunday Afternoons (1-2:30p at the Kiscunas')**

Pete & Maria Kiscunas (Pete: 678-480-6096 | [mkiscunas5@gmail.com](mailto:mkiscunas5@gmail.com) - Maria: 678-524-0424) and Pete Westrick (731-607-6962 | [pjw629@icloud.com](mailto:pjw629@icloud.com))

### **Wednesday Evenings (5:30p)**

Damon and Samantha Gabriel (404-408-0673 | [samantha@artfulellijay.com](mailto:samantha@artfulellijay.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

**May 10** - Family / Child Dedication / Mother's Day

**May 13** - Generations of Grace Women's Event

### **Family / Child Dedication / Mother's Day**

During Worship on Sunday, May 10 (Mother's Day), Autumn Ridge Community Church will celebrate family and child dedications. This is a special opportunity to:

- Celebrate God's good gift of children
- Equip and encourage parents and guardians for the unique role to which God has called you
- Pray for parents, guardians, and children together as a church family

If you'd like to participate, please respond no later than **Monday, May 4**, and include the following:

- Parent(s)/guardian(s) common names
- Child's/children's full name(s) and age(s)
- The significance of each child's name, or a Bible verse you feel is significant to each child's life
- A photo of the child/children (*photos will not be published online, but will be printed in the order of worship*)

Please reach out to Davis Lacey at [davis@autumnridgecommunitychurch.com](mailto:davis@autumnridgecommunitychurch.com) with any questions.

