



Gilcomston Church

Sunday 19 May

**...apart from the law, sin was dead...
Romans 7:8**

Morning Service

**The Good Way
Sin, law and saving grace
Romans 7:7-13
Rev Jerry Middleton**

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning
our song of praise shall be;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in Three Persons, glorious Trinity!

**Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore You,
casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea,
cherubim and seraphim
falling down before You,
You were and are, and evermore shall be.**

Holy, holy, holy!
Though the darkness hide You,
though the eye of sinful man
Your glory may not see,
You alone are holy;
there is none beside You,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
All Your works shall praise Your Name,
in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in Three Persons, glorious Trinity!**

Reginald Heber 1783-1826

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Prayer

Romans 7.7-13

**7 What shall we say,
then? Is the law sinful?
Certainly not!**

**Nevertheless, I would not
have known what sin was
had it not been for the
law. For I would not have
known what coveting
really was if the law had
not said,**

Romans 7.7-13

“You shall not covet.”⁸ But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, produced in me every kind of coveting. For apart from the law, sin was dead.

Romans 7.7-13

⁹ Once I was alive apart from the law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died. ¹⁰ I found that the very commandment that was intended to bring life actually brought death.

Romans 7.7-13

¹¹ For sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, deceived me, and through the commandment put me to death. ¹² So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good.

Romans 7.7-13

¹³ Did that which is good, then, become death to me? By no means!

Nevertheless, in order that sin might be recognized as sin, it used what is good to bring about my death, so that through the commandment sin might become utterly sinful.

Children's Talk

Oh, God He always keeps His promises.

**He said the sons of Abraham
would be more than the grains of sand.**

**And so, His family grew
underneath the Pharaoh's rule.**

Oh, God He always keeps His promises.

**He said the blood upon the door
would keep the Israelites secure.**

**And so, He stayed His hand
and led them to the Promised Land.**

**Our God is good and true,
He cannot lie to me and you.
We can be sure of this:
God always keeps His promises.**

Oh, God He always keeps His promises.

**He gave us laws to be obeyed
and we broke every one He made.**

**But when we ran from Him
God said He'd take care of our sin.**

**Our God is good and true,
He cannot lie to me and you.
We can be sure of this
God always keeps His promises.**

**Oh, God He always keeps His promises.
He said His Son would set us free
through His death at Calvary.
He suffered in our place
and then He rose up from the grave.**

**Our God is good and true,
He cannot lie to me and you.
We can be sure of this,
God always keeps His promises.**

Bob Kauflin / Jonathan W Althoff

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Prayer

**God's law is perfect, and converts
the soul in sin that lies:
God's testimony is most sure,
and makes the simple wise.**

**The statutes of the Lord are right,
and do rejoice the heart:
the Lord's command is pure, and doth
light to the eyes impart.**

**Unspotted is the fear of God,
and doth endure for ever:
the judgments of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.**

**They more than gold, yea, much fine gold,
to be desired are:
than honey, honey from the comb
that droppeth, sweeter far.**

Psalm 19 v7-10

Prayer

Sin, law and saving grace
Romans 7:7-13

Prayer

**Holy Spirit, living Breath of God,
breathe new life into my willing soul.**

**Bring the presence of the risen Lord
to renew my heart and make me whole.**

**Cause Your Word to come alive in me;
give me faith for what I cannot see;**

give me passion for Your purity.

Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

**Holy Spirit, come abide within;
may Your joy be seen in all I do—
love enough to cover ev'ry sin
in each thought and deed and attitude,
kindness to the greatest and the least,
gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my striving into works of grace.
Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.**

**Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,
giving life to all that God has made,
show Your power once again on earth;
cause Your church to hunger for Your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise.
Lead us on the road of sacrifice
that in unity the face of Christ
will be clear for all the world to see.**

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**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all.
Amen.**

Evening Service

Shaping The Future

Secure, not safe

1 Samuel 6:13-7:1

Rev Jerry Middleton

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes;
most holy, most glorious,
the Ancient of days,
almighty, victorious,
Your great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting,
You rule us in might;
Your justice like mountains
high soaring above
Your clouds, which are fountains
of goodness and love.**

**To all, life You give, Lord,
to both great and small,
in all life You live, Lord,
the true life of all:
we blossom and flourish,
uncertain and frail;
we wither and perish, but You never fail.**

**Great Father of glory, pure Father of light;
Your angels adore You,
all veiling their sight;
but of all Your rich graces, Lord,
this grace impart,
take the veil from our faces,
the veil from our heart.**

**Our praise we would render,
O Father, to You
whom only the splendour
of light hides from view;
and so let Your glory, Almighty, impart,
through Christ in the story,
Your Christ to the heart.**

Walter C Smith © in this version Jubilate Hymns

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Prayer

1 Samuel 6. 13-7.1

13 Now the people of Beth Shemesh were harvesting their wheat in the valley, and when they looked up and saw the ark, they rejoiced at the sight.

1 Samuel 6. ^{13-7.}1

¹⁴ The cart came to the field of Joshua of Beth Shemesh, and there it stopped beside a large rock. The people chopped up the wood of the cart and sacrificed the cows as a burnt offering to the LORD.

1 Samuel 6. ^{13-7.}1

¹⁵ The Levites took down the ark of the LORD, together with the chest containing the gold objects, and placed them on the large rock. On that day the people of Beth Shemesh offered burnt offerings and made sacrifices to the LORD.

1 Samuel 6. ^{13-7.}1

¹⁶ The five rulers of the Philistines saw all this and then returned that same day to Ekron.

¹⁷ These are the gold tumours the Philistines sent as a guilt offering to the LORD—one each for Ashdod, Gaza, Ashkelon, Gath and Ekron.

1 Samuel 6. ¹³-7. ¹

¹⁸ And the number of the gold rats was according to the number of Philistine towns belonging to the five rulers—the fortified towns with their country villages.

1 Samuel 6. 13-7.1

The large rock on which the Levites set the ark of the LORD is a witness to this day in the field of Joshua of Beth Shemesh.

1 Samuel 6. ^{13-7.}1

19 But God struck down some of the inhabitants of Beth Shemesh, putting seventy of them to death because they looked into the ark of the LORD.

1 Samuel 6. ^{13-7.}1

The people mourned because of the heavy blow the LORD had dealt them. ²⁰ And the people of Beth Shemesh asked, “Who can stand in the presence of the LORD, this holy God? To whom will the ark go up from here?”

1 Samuel 6. ^{13-7.}1

21 Then they sent messengers to the people of Kiriath Jearim, saying, “The Philistines have returned the ark of the LORD. Come down and take it up to your town.”

1 Samuel 6. 13-7.1

1 So the men of Kiriath Jearim came and took up the ark of the LORD. They brought it to Abinadab's house on the hill and consecrated Eleazar his son to guard the ark of the LORD.

**Were I to cross from land to land
and sail afar by sea,
descend the depths or climb the heights,
my Lord remains with me.**

**Before the blood ran in these veins
the days ordained for me
were written in Your book, O Lord
before I came to be.**

**I grieve to hear Your enemies
speak hatred, Lord, of You,
long though they scheme with ill intent,
their days are numbered too.
How precious are Your thoughts to me,
how countless, Lord, they are:
more than the shores have grains of sand,
more than the skies have stars.**

**Come search and test this heart, O Lord,
dispel each anxious thought
and lead me onward evermore
to tread the path I ought.**

**How blessed I am so bound with love,
surrounded yet so free.**

**In doubt or blessing, life or death,
my Lord remains with me.**

Greg de Blicck © Greg de Blicck

Prayer

Secure, not safe
1 Samuel 6:13-7:1

Prayer

**Lord of creation, to You be all praise!
Most mighty Your working,
most wondrous Your ways!
Who reigns in great glory
that tongue cannot tell,
yet deigns in the heart
of the humble to dwell.**

**Lord of all power, I give You my will,
in joyful obedience Your tasks to fulfil.**

Your bondage is freedom;

Your service is song;

and, held in Your keeping,

my weakness is strong.

**Lord of all wisdom, I give You my mind,
rich truth that surpasses
man's knowledge to find.**

**What eye has not seen
and what ear has not heard
is taught by Your Spirit
and shines from Your Word.**

**Lord of all bounty, I give You my heart;
I praise and adore You in whole not in part;
Your love to inflame me,
Your counsel to guide,
Your presence to shield me,
Your strength at my side.**

**Lord of all being, I give You my all,
for if I disown You, I stumble and fall;
but, sworn in glad service
Your word to obey,
I walk in Your freedom
to the end of the way.**

Jack Copley Winslow 1882-1974

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**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all.
Amen.**