

Meditation - On the Creed

September 27, 2009 Pastor Mark Voss



"God the Father, Son and Spirit"

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MUSICAL SELECTION - Sr. Choir

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The word is near you;

C: **it is in your mouth and in your heart.**

Romans 10:8

P: It is with your heart that you believe and are justified,

C: **and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.**

Romans 10:10

P: Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Romans 10:13

C: **Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame.**

Romans 10:11

PRAYER

P: O Holy Spirit, come to us with your comforting Word, which alone can drive away our doubts. Direct us to our Savior, Jesus, so that we may trust in him with our whole heart.

C: Amen.

HYMN - "We All Believe In One True God"

CW 270

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: **Who made heaven and heart.**

P: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

All: O most merciful Father, since you have given your only Son to die for us, have mercy on us and for his sake grant us forgiveness for all our sins. By your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of your will and true obedience to your Word. By your grace may we come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

P: The almighty and merciful Lord grants you pardon, forgiveness and remission of all your sins.

C: Amen.

P: In the peace of forgiveness we offer our thanksgiving to the Lord. CW484 v 2 Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

**By his mercy, by his bounty, By the gift of Christ, his Son,
What great goodness he has shown us, What high marvels he has done!
Let us to him promptly, freely, Yield our bodies and our souls,
Thankful that his love protects us, That his wisdom all controls.**

LESSONS

Epistle Lesson - James 2:1-5, 8-10, 14-18 - "Are You Dead or Alive?" ¹My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. ²Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in. ³If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," ⁴have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those

who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁸If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. ⁹But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹⁴What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? ¹⁵Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. ¹⁸But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do.

**Gracious Lord, accept our service For the sake of Christ, your Son;
Lo, our hope abides now only In the righteousness he won.
Bless and save us; help and guide us; Watch to comfort and restore
Till in heav'n we rest rejoicing, Praising you forevermore.**

CW484 v 3

Gospel Mark 8:27-35 - "*Jesus Speaks of His Impending Death*"²⁷Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?" ²⁸They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Christ." ³⁰Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him. ³¹He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. ³²He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." ³⁴Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it.

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born

of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SERMON HYMN - "*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*"

CW 411

SERMON SERIES – Courageous Heroes of Faith

Jonathan – 1 Samuel 18:1-9 and 1 Samuel 19:1-7

¹After David had finished talking with Saul, Jonathan became one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself. ²From that day Saul kept David with him and did not let him return to his father's house. ³And Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself. ⁴Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his tunic, and even his sword, his bow and his belt.

⁵Whatever Saul sent him to do, David did it so successfully that Saul gave him a high rank in the army. This pleased all the people, and Saul's officers as well. ⁶When the men were returning home after David had killed the Philistine, the women came out from all the towns of Israel to meet King Saul with singing and dancing, with joyful songs and with tambourines and lutes. ⁷As they danced, they sang: "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands." ⁸Saul was very angry; this refrain galled him. "They have credited David with tens of thousands," he thought, "but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the kingdom?" ⁹And from that time on Saul kept a jealous eye on David.

¹Saul told his son Jonathan and all the attendants to kill David. But Jonathan was very fond of David ²and warned him, "My father Saul is looking for a chance to kill you. Be on your guard tomorrow morning; go into hiding and stay there. ³I will go out and stand with my father in the field where you are. I'll speak to him about you and will tell you what I find out." ⁴Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father and said to him, "Let not the king do wrong to his servant David; he has not wronged you, and what he has done has benefited you greatly. ⁵He took his life in his hands when he killed the Philistine. The LORD won a great victory for all Israel, and you saw it and were glad. Why then would you do wrong to an innocent man like David by killing him for no reason?" ⁶Saul listened to Jonathan and took this oath: "As surely as the LORD lives, David will not be put to death." ⁷So Jonathan called David and told him the whole conversation. He brought him to Saul, and David was with Saul as before.

OFFERING

HYMN OF THE DAY – "Day by Day" CWS765 Tune, Setting: Oskar Ahnfelt Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net#A-705751



Day by day, your mer-cies, Lord, at - tend me, Bring - ing com-fort to my anx-ious
 Day by day, I know you will pro-vide me Strength to serve and wis-dom to o-
 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me When my bur-dens grow too great to



soul. Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you send me Draw me
 - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to guide me O'er the
 bear; Oh, what joy to know that you will hear me When I



near - er to my heav'n - ly goal. Love di - vine, be - yond all mor - tal
 paths I strug - gle day by day, I will fear no e - vil of the
 come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter what be-



meas - ure, Brings to naught the bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior,
 mor - row; I will trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior,
 - tide me, You will hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior,



lead me to the home I treas-ure, Where, at last, I'll find e - ter - nal rest.
 help me bear life's pain and sor-row; Till in glo - ry I be-hold your face.
 with your pres-ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom-ised land.

CHILDREN'S LESSON

PRAYER

The First Article

P: Heavenly Father, Creator of all things, you give us all that we need for body and life.

C: Every good and perfect gift comes from you, the Father of the heavenly lights.

James 1:17

The Second Article

P: Lord Jesus Christ, by your suffering and death you have opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

C: We approach your throne, O God, with confidence for mercy and grace in our time of need.

Hebrews 4:16

The Third Article

P: Holy Spirit, counselor and guide, you have raised us from death by your powerful Word.

C: You, O Spirit of God, have made us. Your breath, almighty One, gave us life.

Job 33:4

P: Lord, fill our hearts with thanksgiving for your mercy and love.

**C: Move us with our hearts to believe and with our mouths to confess your saving name.
Amen.**

Romans 10:10

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

P: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

Revelation 1:4-5

C: Amen.

CLOSING – Doxology “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”

CW 334

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**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
Amen.**