

“Events Made Certain.”

By Curtis Pugh

Francis Turretin (1623 – 1687) said, “An event must be made certain, before it can be known as a certain event.” We quote this old Protestant because his words are simple, but deep in meaning. Let us relate Turretin’s words to Bible prophecy. No one can know that a future thing is certain until it is made certain. The Bible teaches that God knows all things. The fact that God knows an event to be certain to happen is not what makes the event certain. Therefore, God, having decreed events aforetime, He knows them to be certain because they are certain: He fixed them to be so.

The Bible says, “Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world,” (Acts 15:18). Since God knows all His works from the beginning of the world, they must be certain. For if He knows a thing is going to happen, it is going to happen. It is not going to happen because He knows that it is, but rather because He fixed it – He made it certain. The fact that He made it certain is the reason that He knows it to be certain. Since God has known all His works from the beginning of creation, we must conclude that all God’s works are certain and have been from the beginning of the world. This view is consistent with both logic and the Bible.

Thus, when Jesus prophesied the words, “All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out,” (John 6:37) He spoke of a certainty. He spoke of certain individuals whom the Father had given Him. The Father’s giving of some people to the Son is a work of God. The fact that Jesus knew that all given to Him by the Father would come to Him is certain. It is certain because God fixed it from the beginning of the world. He fixed it that each individual whom He gave to the Son would come. God’s work involved specific individuals doing a specific thing – coming to Christ. Since God knew with an absolute certainty that these would come, it was fixed and absolutely certain from the beginning of the world.

So it is when the Bible speaks of certain Gentiles, saying, “...as many as were ordained to eternal life believed,” (Acts 13:48), it speaks of God making certain events yet future. We know this because “Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.” Since He knew from the beginning what He was going to do to and in these Gentiles in ordaining them to eternal life, He made it certain that they would believe from the beginning of the world also. Why? Because a thing must be made certain before it can be known to be certain. Because God made it certain, a believer may with certainty sing, “When His chosen ones shall gather over on the other shore, And the roll is called up yonder, I’ll be there.”

Today is Sunday October 20, 2024

WELCOME TO THE SOVEREIGN GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

“Where the truths of God’s word have been taught
For sixty-three years.” Since October 21, 1961

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Our Prayer List

“Pray without ceasing.”

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Sister Zee Mink Fuller and Family, Her son’s Bryan Armstrong and Hunter Hackie, Johnnie Stephens, Alecia Stephens, and children, Frank & Sonya Trusty, Frank & Dawana Reigel, Diane & Smoke, Andrew Preston, Larry & Martha Mollette and Her Family Juanita her daughter, Lana Paul, Larry Mollette II & Family, Kerry Adcock, Kim Reich, Tyler Castle, Danny Mollette, 12-year-old Lucas, Joshua Kidd, Ronnie and Sarah Henderson, Ricky Henderson and Family, James and Luann Reynolds, Timothy Fails, Jerry Hughes, Shirly King - Son David - and family, Little Cam Works, Sister Ann McSwain, Brother Justin Bookout and family, Little Weslynn McClelland, Adrienne Lavina, Pastor Nathan Hille and Sister Cassie and his family, Baby Titus Massey, Shane and Brook Sims, Ricky Bennett, Nick, Madison, and Baby Emory Patty, and Russell York, Brother Medic, Sister Mhalyn Lavina and children, Brother Jerry Dodson, Brother Gary and Sister White, Brother David and Sister Jevonna O’Neal, Sister Rebecca Sidders.

Pray For Our Church Supported Mission Works

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” Act 1:8

Missionary Dan and Sunny Sullivan in Thailand, and Elder Raul and the Printing work Romania

Pastor's thought for the week."

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;" 1 Peter 5:2

"What will it be like to be incorruptible?"

1 Corinthians 15:42 *"So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:"*

Someday, today, or maybe a few years from now we will utterly understand what it is like to be incorruptible. We that are saved will not understand the full power of our salvation until we are with the Lord in heaven. In this flesh we are sinners because Satan, the chief sinner brought sin into this world when he convinced Eve to eat of the forbidden fruit, and because of that Adam did eat, and because of that we were born in corruption. Even though our salvation is complete through Jesus Christ, our salvation will not be completed for us until the rapture and our bodies are glorified *"it is raised in incorruption:"* Peter wrote in 1 Peter 1:23 *"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever."* Our souls are pure when we are saved and our spirits are also pure because they have been quickened from a dead state to a living state. However, our bodies are still in the state of corruption, therefore, sin is continually eating them up and they are continuing to die. God said in Romans 8:30 *"Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified."* Therefore, to God we are glorified because God sees the end result, but our bodies will not be glorified until we are raptured or resurrected from the grave and changed, then we are truly incorruptible. One glorious day, we that have been blessed by God's grace to be His children will stand in the kingdom of God as pure as Jesus Christ is. All our sins have been forgiven, cleansed by the blood of our Saviour. Paul made it known that in this flesh there is nothing good, *"I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing"*. Rom. 7:18 However, when we are in God's kingdom we will no longer have this flesh, we will shed it and leave it behind. While today we may not understand what it will be like we know that we will be like our Saviour, *"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."* 1 John 3:2 With our souls being cleansed by the blood of the Saviour, our spirits being quickened by the Holy Spirit in salvation, our vial bodies will soon be like that of our glorious Saviour. Philippians 3:21 *"Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself."*

Pastor's Thought Continued

All Christians should hate sin because we are sinning against the very God that saved us by grace. God gave us so much, He loved us when we hated Him. He loved us so much He sacrificed His very own Son to redeem us. And in return we can not (because of our old nature still being present) resist sinning. Although for most Christians we do not want to sin, we do and that is unfortunate for us. But, a great day is coming, and may be soon that when our salvation is complete in the rapture and we are given our new glorified bodies, we will understand. We will for the first time understand what being incorruptible. Please listen closely to what God said through Peter's writing, Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, *"To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, (5) Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 1 Peter 1:3 – 5. What a day that will be when we drop this robe of flesh and no longer desire to sin because sin will no longer be any part of our being. Praise the Lord!*

Church information and Happenings

- Tomorrow October 21, 2024, will be our churches Sixty-Third Anniversary.

We are Called to Be Holy

"Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

1 Peter 1:13 - 16

Walking Bibles

Determine to PRACTICE whatever you read. Christians should be walking Bibles, living the truths written. The Word is not only a guide to knowledge, but a guide to obedience. A holy reading of God's Word, results in our fleeing from sins, and practicing the duties commanded.

-Thomas Watson