

# Alton Baptist Church e-Service 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## **Mankind made in God's image yet now sinful**

Welcome to our service this morning. We are not allowed to sing but we can still worship as we listen and pray.

Psalm 136 begins;-

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.  
His love endures forever.

Let us start with a hymn;

**Song**      Crown Him with many Crowns  
<https://youtu.be/3YJnVN6wdvI>

### **Prayers of Praise and Thanks**

Let us worship the Lord in prayer. Feel free to add your own prayers of praise and thanks

Lord we want to worship you this morning because you are indeed worthy. The Lord Jesus humbled himself and gave himself for us, and now we wait for the day when He will be above everything. Lord we give thanks for this great expectation

### **Intercessory Prayers**

Please pray as you feel led.

**Song**      Filled with compassion for all creation  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3VA16UVgh7g>

## **Some Readings and Thoughts**

Genesis 5:1-2

When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. <sup>2</sup> He created them male and female and blessed them. And when they were created, he called them "man."

When we read the story of the creation of man we find that God made our bodies from the ordinary stuff of the universe. The atheist will say that that is all there is to man's nature but we read that God breathed his spirit into Adam and that made him into a living being.

King Solomon was aware of this and in Ecclesiastes he wrote,

Ecclesiastes 12:6-7

Remember him--before the silver cord is severed,  
or the golden bowl is broken;  
before the pitcher is shattered at the spring,  
or the wheel broken at the well,  
and the dust returns to the ground it came from,  
and the spirit returns to God who gave it.

This passage reminds us that we have future beyond this world. Our body may perish but our spirit lives on.

What is to happen then? We read about Adam and Eve's disobedience and alienation from God. The scriptures recount God's efforts to restore this relationship. We read more about this in the letter to the Romans.

Romans 5:12-19

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned –

<sup>13</sup>To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

<sup>15</sup> But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! <sup>16</sup> Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: the judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. <sup>17</sup> For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

<sup>18</sup> Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. <sup>19</sup> For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

We read that it was through one man sin entered the world. That one man was Adam and we have all inherited his fallen and sinful nature.

God gave the Israelites the Law of Moses. Most Israelites over the centuries have treated this as a way to justify themselves before God. Paul tells us it was a way to show us as we really are, sinful by nature, and give us a way to approach God. I think all the religions except the Christians are trying to gain credibility with God.

We have a different approach. We are urged to recognize our need of forgiveness and cleansing. Paul calls it a gift from God. God sees our position as hopeless unless He acted. Paul points us to Jesus who came into the World to deal with this problem.

We will shortly have communion and remember what Jesus did for us and what it cost Him.

**Song**      You laid aside Your majesty  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HxXrV-0Jqol>

## **Communion** (for those meeting in church)

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: the Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, <sup>24</sup> and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.' <sup>25</sup> In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.' <sup>26</sup> For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks.

Lord we give thanks for your great sacrifice for us upon the Cross and so we take this bread remembering your body given for us.

After taking the bread we give thanks for the cup.

Lord we give thanks for these cups by which we remember your blood shed for us.

We take a cup and drink all together

**Song**      Amazing Grace (My chains are gone)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jbe7OruLk8I>

## **Optional Communion** (for those unable to meet in church)

If you wish to include communion as part of your worship, find yourself some bread and wine (or juice)

and click on this link - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=na33U\\_QaEGQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=na33U_QaEGQ)

## **Grace**

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Love of God,  
and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with us now and always.

AMEN