

And experienced fully, it produces a separation and loneliness like no other (Isa. 59:1-2), making the opening cry of the psalm even more forlorn: “Out of the depths I have cried to You, O LORD” (Psa. 130:1). Sinful man needs a holy God—desperately. It is essential that man knows it, realizes it, feels it. Sadly, many feel their guilt and ignore it, feel their guilt and dismiss it, or feel their guilt and misinterpret it. But those who recognize it as the offspring of sin, turn to the LORD as He desires and seek pardon for it (Psa. 130:2). The Lord knows our sins—every one. But He is also longsuffering and does not act on them immediately due to His loving forbearance (Psa. 130:3). The LORD wants to forgive; He longs to forgive. Therefore, He has created a plan to forgive. And this should produce a deep reverence in all who realize the extent to which He is willing to go to have a relationship with us (Psa. 130:4). He does not need us as slaves or anything else, but He still wants us as His children. What a marvelous thought! “For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, ‘Abba, Father’” (Rom. 8:15). The relationship God desires is personal, spiritual, and character driven. He has given His Word and offered promises to create hope in those who read and gain faith with the design that the message within will create a spiritual longing for the LORD in return (Psa. 130:5). However, spiritual longing for the LORD should surpass some casual interest but turn into a grand expectation rooted in the full consideration of His character and thus building a confident expectation that assures all of the certainty of the fulfillment of every promise (Psa. 130:6). Having then gained full assurance of the great extent of the LORD’s desire to forgive, the psalmist called on all of Israel to adopt the same confidence. The answer to all matters of guilt and the sin that created it depend on an understanding and expectation of the depth of mercy bestowed upon man by the Yahweh (Psa. 130:7). Because He has reached out His hand in mercy rather than striking out in anger, He has placed His character and love on display, supplying the purchase price necessary to provide redemption in the face of despair. In doing so, He does not address only a fraction of trespasses practiced or remove a portion of sins committed but the whole, addressing and redeeming Israel from “all his iniquities” (Psa. 130:8).

Spiritually-minded people seeking God’s forgiveness today should marvel still at His longsuffering (2 Pet. 3:9) and be drawn to turn their hearts back to God in faith (Rom. 10:17; Heb. 11:6). However, God’s plan today, rooted in the atonement made possible through the sacrifice of His Son (1 Jn. 2:1-2; Heb. 7:26-27), demands more than simple prayer but rather convicted repentance (Acts 17:30), confessed allegiance (Matt. 10:32-33), and committed obedience (Acts 22:16; Heb. 5:8-9), thus calling on the name of the LORD (Acts 2:16-38). We must never take forgiveness lightly, for what it cost God or what it requires of us. But once received, we should sing about it often, with words similar to the psalmist’s.

Order of Service

Opening Remarks		Don Petrosky, Jr.
Song Leader		Tom Barr
Song #419	<i>Lord, We Come before Thee Now</i>	
Song #190	<i>Great is Thy Faithfulness</i>	
Prayer		Clay Bond
Song #268	<i>I Gave My Life for Thee</i>	
Communion		Leonard Meredith Chris Windham
Song #287	<i>I Love the Lord</i>	
Song #415	<i>More about Jesus</i>	
Sermon		Clay Bond
Song #23	<i>All Things Are Ready</i>	
Offering		
Closing Remarks		Don Petrosky, Jr.
Song # 230	<i>Hide Me, O My Savior</i>	
Dismissal Prayer		Don Petrosky, Sr.

Upcoming Events:

- Oct. 14th Clay will be speaking at the Southside Lectures in Lubbock. Logan Summers will our guest speaker filling in for Clay.

Wednesday Devotional

- Oct. 10th Clay Bond
- Oct. 17th

...Prayer List...

Gay Kyle, Eugene & Barbara Haydon, Don Walker, Gary Schneider, Kathy Ivanciw's mother Shirley, Butch Crownover, Chris' cousin Tyler, Melvin Wright

Remember our college students who are away at school: Jarrett & Luke Haydon, Emily & Courtney Meredith, and Dylan & Steven Petrosky

Shut-Ins: Robbi George

Attendance: Sunday AM: 33 PM: 19 Wednesday: 20 Contribution: \$2418.00