

June 16, 2024

This Week: 9:30 a.m. Catechism Reading Service (LD44)
6:30 p.m. Reading Service

Next Week: 9:30 a.m. Reading Service
6:30 p.m. Catechism Reading Service (LD45Q116)

Advance Notices:

- A Young Adult outdoor group activity is being planned for **June 28**. Please call or message Kourtney (712-470-2466) or Jonathan (712-470-4565) for more details. All post high school and young married adults are encouraged to attend.
- July 7** services with Rev. Vergunst - Confession of Faith
- July 28** 2:30 service with Rev. Evers

-All the Lord willing-

Collections: Today: 1st General Fund Next week: 1st General Fund
 2nd Israel Mission 2nd Kingdom Boundaries

Collections Received:

General Fund	\$645.00
Hudson Taylor	\$25.00
Alpha Center	\$254.00
NAGMission (Pentecost)	\$288.00
Disaster Relief	\$250.00

New Publications: Israel Magazine(last week), Banner

We Remember in Prayer:

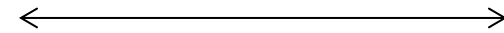
- Our widows and lonely ones, prodigal sons and daughters, and those with hidden crosses.

MEDITATIONS

"The sighing of the needy." Psalm 12:5

The distinguishing mark and character of a needy soul is to be full of needs. Day after day he wants divine realities to be revealed to his soul, to hear the sweet voice of mercy speaking into his heart, as from the lips of God Himself, that he is an accepted child, that he may bathe, as it were, in sweet manifestations of the love and mercy of God. In the supply of want he believes the marrow of true religion and vital godliness to exist, so that he cannot take up with his present state of need for religion. If he is in doubts and fears, or is passing through heavy temptations, and he is writing bitter things against himself, he cannot say, "this is true religion"; but what he wants is something different from what he feels, even the blessed testimonies and

manifestations that he is one of the Lord's own dear family; and I am very assured from soul experience, that nothing but the application of heavenly blessings to the soul can ever satisfy the man who has life implanted in his heart by the hand of God Himself. We therefore read of this needy person that he sighs. "For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy." He is sighing after God; groaning under the depths of his soul after the lifting up of the light of God's countenance; sighing under the weight of unbelief, the burden of infidelity, the power of temptation, the wretchedness of heart, the carnality of his mind, the barrenness of his frame, his stupidity, his brutality, filth, and corruption. He is sighing unto the Lord under the burden of these things lying as a load on his conscience, and begging the Lord that He would only lift up the light of His countenance, that He would only drop one sweet testimony, that He would speak but one word to his soul, to bring with it sweet deliverance, and lift him out into all the light, and life, and liberty, and peace of the glorious gospel of the blessed God.
~J. C. Philpot



Encouragement to pray

My soul, take courage from the Lord;
Believe and plead His Holy Word;
To Him alone do thou complain,
Nor shalt thou seek His face in vain.
Upon Him call in humble prayer,
Thou still art His peculiar care;
He'll surely turn and smile again,
Nor shalt thou seek His face in vain.
However sinful, weak, and poor,
Still wait and pray at mercy's door;
Faithful Jehovah must remain,
Nor shalt thou seek His face in vain.
Though the vile temper's hellish rage
Will, with his darts, thy soul engage,
God through the fight shall thee sustain,
Nor shalt thou seek His face in vain.
Though the corruptions of thy heart
Daily new cause of grief impart,
Pray that thy lusts may all be slain,
Nor shalt thou seek His face in vain.
Though sharp afflictions still abound,
And clouds and darkness thee surround,
Still pray, for God will all explain,
Nor shalt thou seek His face in vain.
In Him, and Him alone, confide;
Still at the throne of grace abide;
Eternal victory thou shalt gain,
Nor shalt thou seek His face in vain. ~S. Medley

. 153. What doth God require of us, that we may escape his wrath and curse due to us by reason of the transgression of the law?

A. That we may escape the wrath and curse of God due to us by reason of the transgression of the law, he requireth of us repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ, and the diligent use of the outward means whereby Christ communicates to us the benefits of his mediation.

Q. 155. How is the word made effectual to salvation?

A. The Spirit of God maketh the reading, but especially the preaching of the word, an effectual means of enlightening, convincing, and humbling sinners; of driving them out of themselves, and drawing them unto Christ; of conforming them to his image, and subduing them to his will; of strengthening them against temptations and corruptions; of building them up in grace, and establishing their hearts in holiness and comfort through faith unto salvation. Westminster Confession of Faith

It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD. Lamentations 3:26

This observation, preserved for the benefit of the church and affirmed by the experience of God's people, seeks to clarify the nature of true hope. My aim is not to allow anyone to depart under a false assumption, thinking, "I am sufficiently right; surely, I anticipate salvation and patiently await it." Rather, consider whether there is a solid basis for your hope—whether you truly understand what salvation entails and what it means to wait in quiet assurance.

Salvation is deliverance from sin and a transformation of the heart. Obtaining this salvation means being firmly convinced that this is indeed our state: that our sins are forgiven, and that we possess the Spirit of adoption, which is a guarantee of our full inheritance. The hope discussed here involves recognizing the value of this salvation and trusting in God's promises. It is particularly relevant for a soul that recognizes its guilt and acknowledges God's offer of forgiveness.

If you acknowledge your deserving of condemnation yet believe in God's forgiveness, it is right and beneficial to hope that, though you may not currently feel a personal stake in this salvation, it will be yours in due time according to the Lord's plan. Quietly waiting for it does not imply passive indifference. Such an attitude is not only unwise but also perilous and potentially ruinous, especially once the gravity and bitterness of sin are fully understood.

To wait means to diligently attend to the means of grace, as described in Proverbs 8:34, "Blessed is the man that heareth me, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at the posts of my doors." The term "quietly" underscores the attitude suitable for sinners awaiting God's timing—without complaint or discontent, content to persevere despite delays or apparent setbacks. Adapted from John Newton

NETHERLANDS REFORMED CONGREGATION

Sioux Falls, SD



*Praise him for his mighty acts: praise
him according to his excellent greatness.
Psalm 150:2*

Services at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 or 6:30 p.m.