

BETHANY BIBLE CHURCH
SUNDAY ONLINE SERVICE
September 20, 2020

Greg Allen, Pastor

Message from 2 Corinthians 3:1-3

CHRIST'S LIVING EPISTLE

Welcome!

*We're very glad you've chosen to be with us today for our
online Sunday worship service, and we sincerely hope
this time of worship will be a blessing to you.*

Order of Service

(hymns attached)

Welcome

Hymn #157, "The Love of God"

Hymn #655, "Sanctuary"

Opening Prayer

Announcements

Message

Scripture Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

Hymn #521, "A New Name in Glory"

Closing Prayer

Hymn #157: The Love of God

Frederick M Lehman; Meir Ben Isaac Nehorai

The love of God is greater far
Than tongue or pen can ever tell;
It goes beyond the highest star,
And reaches to the lowest hell;
The guilty pair, bowed down with care,
God gave His Son to win;
His erring child He reconciled,
And pardoned from his sin.

Chorus

*O love of God, how rich and pure!
How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure -
The saints' and angels' song!*

When years of time shall pass away
And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,
When men who here refuse to pray,
On rocks and hills and mountains call,
God's love so sure shall still endure,
All measureless and strong;
Redeeming grace to Adam's race -
The saints' and angels' song.

Chorus

Could we with ink the ocean fill
And were the skies of parchment made,
Were every stalk on earth a quill
And every man a scribe by trade,
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole,
Tho' stretched from sky to sky.

Chorus

Hymn #655: Sanctuary

John Thompson and Randy Scruggs

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
Pure and holy, tried and true;
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for You.

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Scripture Reading: **2 Thessalonians 2:13-17, NKJV**

13 But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, **14** to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. **15** Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle.

16 Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given *us* everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, **17** comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work.

CCLI #1440010/SCCLI #2078352 (3)

Hymn #521: A New Name in Glory

C. Austin Miles

I was once a sinner, but I came
Pardon to receive from my Lord.
This was freely given, and I found
That He always kept His word.

Chorus

*There's a new name written down in glory,
And it's mine, oh yes, it's mine!
And the white-robed Angels sing the story,
"A sinner has come home."
For there's a new name written down in glory,
And it's mine, oh yes, it's mine!
With my sins forgiven I am bound for heaven,
Nevermore to roam.*

I was humbly kneeling at the cross,
Fearing naught but God's angry frown,
When the heavens opened and I saw
That my name was written down.

Chorus

In the Book 'tis written, "Saved by grace."
Oh the joy that came to my soul!
Now I am forgiven, and I know
By the blood I am made whole.

Chorus

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September 20, 2020

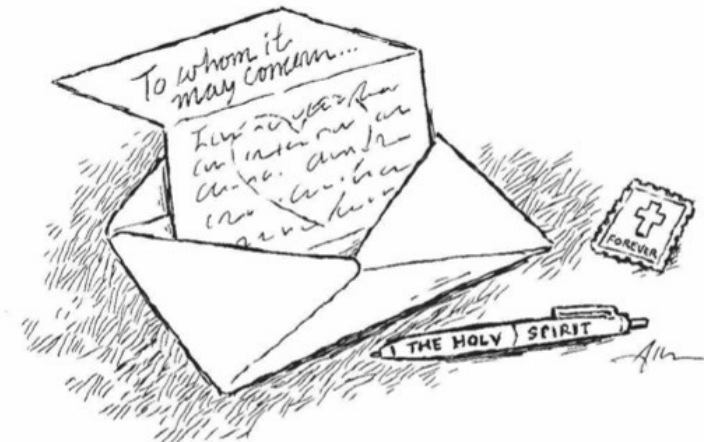
This morning's message is part of our ongoing study of the New Testament book of 2 Corinthians; and is taken from 2 Corinthians 3:1-3

CHRIST'S LIVING EPISTLE

The Bible gives us many examples of 'letters of commendation' or of 'endorsement' (see Romans 16:1; Philippians 2:25-30; Colossians 4:7-9; 1 Corinthians 16:10-11; 2 Corinthians 8:23-24). As believers, we are a living epistle that commends the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ to the world.

As this passage shows us, we are ...

- 1. A SUPERIOR EPISTLE OF COMMENDATION (v. 1).**
(See *Philippians 2:14-16.*)
- 2. WRITTEN TO BE READ BY THE WORLD (v. 2.)**
(See *1 Thessalonians 1:7-10.*)
- 3. BEARING A MARVELOUS ENDORSEMENT (v. 3).**
(See *Jeremiah 31:31-34; 2 Corinthians 3:4-6.*)



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Thank you for joining us! Be sure to visit our website at www.bethanybible.org for sermon and Bible study notes – and join us this Wednesday at 10:30AM (PST) for our Wednesday morning Bible study here on Facebook live! Special thanks to Robert Powell and Michael Diehl for their technical assistance. And don't forget – we now offer online giving! Visit <http://www.bethanybible.org/new/tithing> for details.

REMINDER: Next Sunday, September 27, 2020, we will be welcoming our very special guests, The Gideons International. We are asking that all donations to their mission be sent to us so that we can present it to them at the service. You can mail it or drop it by the church office. Please make checks payable to The Gideons and mail to Bethany Bible Church, 18245 NW Germantown Road, Portland OR 97231.

Thank you, and God bless you!