

From Mark 3: 28 "Assuredly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they may utter; **29** but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condemnation"--**30** because they said, "He has an unclean spirit." **31** Then His brothers and His mother came, and standing outside they sent to Him, calling Him. **32** And a multitude was sitting around Him; and they said to Him, "Look, Your mother and Your brothers are outside seeking You." **33** But He answered them, saying, "Who is My mother, or My brothers?" **34** And He looked around in a circle at those who sat about Him, and said, "Here are My mother and My brothers! **35** For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother."

Sunday: What is blasphemy? Give thanks for the ministry of Pastors Joseph Friedly and Sam McCracken and their families at Black Forest (Colorado Springs, Colo.) RPC. **Pray** for the Gateway (Derry, Northern Ireland) Christian Fellowship (RPC), and especially for Eugene, a student from Ghana who worships with the congregation. **Pray** for Clarinda (Iowa) RPC.

Monday: How does Jesus' assurance in v. 28 give comfort? Give thanks with Russell, Ont., RPC for 25 years of Pastor Matt Kingswood's ministry of the Word. **Pray** for the ministry of the Word and the growth of the kingdom in South Africa. **Pray** for revival to sweep our nation.

Tuesday: Is there any sin that cannot be forgiven? Give thanks for new members joining Orlando, Fla., RPC. **Give thanks** for the years of pastoral service of Daniel Drost at the Washington (Iowa) RPC, and **pray** for him as he takes a break from pastoral ministry; **pray** for the congregation as it seeks a new pastor.

Wednesday: What is meant by blasphemy against the Holy Spirit? In light of the great need for more men for the ministry, please pray that the Lord would be raising up more men that would come to the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary to train to be pastors. **Pray** for the Lord's Supper preparatory service tomorrow at Airdrie (Scotland) RPC and for the communion service itself Lord's Day morning; **pray** that the Supper would be a sweet time of fellowship with Jesus and with one another.

Thursday: What are other passages that speak of eternal condemnation? Pray for the RPCNA's Pakistan Commission and others who will be traveling next month to Pakistan; **pray** that God would pave their way and go before them; **pray** for visa approvals. **Pray** for Pastor Venkatesh and his wife Shamma and the Anugraha RPC in Bangalore, India. **Pray** for the meeting of Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery next week.

Friday: What does Jesus mean when He says that His brothers and sisters are those who do the will of God? Please pray for God to bless the Oneonta RP Church as they worship Him in upstate New York. **Pray** the needed building renovations here at Atlanta RPC could quickly be done.

Saturday: Jesus is here teaching that the spiritual ties of Christian believers are more important than the ties of family; what are ways in which that principle might be applied? Pray for nurses to join the RP Home to provide compassionate

care. **Pray** for the communion service at ARPC tomorrow, that it would be a time of spiritual growth and fellowship and conviction and comfort.

Atlanta Reformed Presbyterian Church

*The Lord's Day
February 19, 2023*

Meeting every week at
574 Western Avenue
(corner of Western and Walnut Street)

Atlanta, Georgia

Worship at 3:30 PM

Pastor Frank J. Smith, Ph.D., D.D.

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Proclaiming the Kingship of Jesus Christ

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions

The Call to Worship Psalm 122:1

*The Invocation

*Psalm 92C “It’s Good to Thank the Lord, To Praise Your Name, Most High!”

Scripture Reading I Samuel 21:10-22:5

*Psalm 27C “Leave Me Not Nor Forsake, O God”

Pastoral Prayer

*Psalm 14A “The Fool Is Saying in His Heart, There Surely Is No God”

Scripture Text Psalm 56

The Sermon “Fears and Faith”

*Prayer

*Psalm 56 “Be Gracious unto Me, O God, For Man Would Me Devour”

*Benediction

*Psalm 37A “Have No Disturbing Thoughts About Those Doing Wickedly”

** Congregation will please stand.*

We are so glad that you could join us today! Please be sure to return next week and bring a friend.

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions & Answers

“If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.”—Luke 14:26. “Jesus wept.”—John 11:35.

Q. 31. What is effectual calling? A. Effectual calling is the work of God’s Spirit, whereby, convincing us of our sin and misery, enlightening our minds in the knowledge of Christ, and renewing our wills, he doth persuade and enable us to embrace Jesus Christ, freely offered to us in the gospel.

Q. 32. What benefits do they that are effectually called partake of in this life? A. They that are effectually called do in this life partake of justification, adoption, and sanctification, and the several benefits which in this life do either accompany or flow from them.

Q. 33. What is justification? A. Justification is an act of God’s free grace, wherein he pardoneth all our sins, and accepteth us as righteous in his sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.

The psalmist acknowledges his fears and expresses his faith.

I. Fears

A. Enemies who hate us and would seek to destroy us

1. This is the particular context (vv. 1-2; 5-6)

2. Exodus 14; II Kings 6

B. Other times when we might be afraid: *finances;*

health and pain; sin; death; assurance of salvation

II. Faith

A . Answer (v. 3)

1. At the Exodus; when Elisha was surrounded

2. Jesus told us not to fret about tomorrow, but to trust

3. Paul learned to trust God re his thorn in the flesh

4. Paul tells us that death has lost its sting

5. He who’s begun a good work in us will continue it

B. Assertion (v. 4)

C. Assurance (vv. 8-9)

1. God numbers his wanderings

2. He treasured up David’s tears and wrote them in a book

3. David is certain that all his enemies will be turned back

D. Affirmation (vv. 10-13)

Application—what should you do when you’re afraid?

A. Trust in God, that He will take care of you

B. Look to Christ

1. He had to wrestle with all kinds of things

2. He shed great drops of blood along with tears

3. The Father stores up the tears of the only begotten Son

4. Our Elder Brother holds onto us when we would stumble

5. He is the One who protects us from our enemies

6. He guarantees us salvation, purchased by His blood

7. He is the One who delivers our soul from death (v. 13)

