



# Sunday, February 5, 2012

## Reflections

If God were not angry at injustice, that God would not be worthy of worship. The only means of prohibiting all recourse of violence by ourselves is to insist that judgment is legitimate only when it comes from God. My thesis that the practice of non-violence requires a belief in divine vengeance will be unpopular with many, but it takes the quiet of a suburban home to believe that human non-violence results from a belief in God's refusal to judge. In a land soaked in the blood of the innocent, it will invariably die with other pleasant captivities of the liberal mind.

*Miroslav Volf, Exclusion and Embrace*

There was plenty of charismatic fervor, plenty of atonement theology in the blood of multiple sacrifices, plenty of assurance of salvation in the recitation of sound-bite claims for the temple, plenty of religious observance at great festivals and conventions. But beneath their noses and under their feet, the poor were uncared for at best and trampled on at worst. Spiritual religion flourished amid social rotteness. And God hated it. God longed for somebody to shut down the whole charade, and finally he wiped it out of his sight.

*Chris Wright, The Mission of God*

I hate all your show and pretense  
The hypocrisy of your praise  
The hypocrisy of your festivals  
I hate all your show

You turned your back on the homeless  
And the ones that don't fit in your plan  
Quit playing religion games  
There's blood on your hands

Instead let there be a flood of justice  
An endless procession of righteous living,  
Instead let there be a flood of justice  
Instead of a show  
I hate all your show

*Jon Foreman, "Instead of a Show"*

Cover art by Jeremy Millington, a member of our community

# God Calls Us to Worship

**Call to Worship** – from Psalm 89 – *Joe White*

*Leader:* I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;  
with my mouth I will make known  
Your faithfulness to all generations.

*All:* Righteousness and justice are the foundation  
of Your throne;  
steadfast love and faithfulness go before You.

## Prayer for Regeneration

O God of the highest heaven,

Occupy the throne of my heart,  
take full possession and reign supreme,  
lay low every rebel lust,  
let no vile passion resist Your holy war;  
manifest Your mighty power,  
and make me Yours forever.

You are worthy  
to be praised with my every breath,  
loved with my every faculty of soul,  
served with my every act of life.

I was dead in sin,  
having no eyes to see You,  
no ears to hear You,  
no taste to relish Your joys.

But Your Spirit has given me life,  
has brought me into a new world as a new creature,  
has opened to me Your Word as light, guide, and joy.

O God of the highest heaven,  
occupy the throne of my heart.

*From the The Valley of Vision,  
a Puritan prayer book*

## Offerings of the People

If you are a guest we are glad you are here today. Please feel no obligation to give.

# God Speaks to Us

**Scripture** – Isaiah 1

<sup>11</sup>“What to Me is the multitude of your sacrifices?  
says the LORD;

I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams  
and the fat of well-fed beasts;

I do not delight in the blood of bulls,  
or of lambs, or of goats.

<sup>12</sup>“When you come to appear before Me,  
who has required of you  
this trampling of My courts?

<sup>13</sup>Bring no more vain offerings;  
incense is an abomination to Me.

New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations—  
I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly.

<sup>14</sup>Your new moons and your appointed feasts  
My soul hates;

they have become a burden to Me;  
I am weary of bearing them.

<sup>15</sup>When you spread out your hands,  
I will hide My eyes from you;

even though you make many prayers,  
I will not listen;  
your hands are full of blood.

<sup>16</sup>Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;  
remove the evil of your deeds from before My eyes;  
cease to do evil,

<sup>17</sup>learn to do good;  
seek justice,

correct oppression;  
bring justice to the fatherless,  
plead the widow’s cause.

<sup>18</sup>“Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD:

though your sins are like scarlet,  
they shall be as white as snow;

though they are red like crimson,  
they shall become like wool.”

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**Sermon**

*The Offense*  
Jeremy Weese

# God Sends Us Out

## Lord's Supper

### Why do we come forward together?

Because we are all members of one body in Jesus Christ. In coming forward for the Supper together, we see and participate in the visible display of this truth.

### Can someone pray for me?

Yes! People who desire to pray with and for you will be standing in the front of the auditorium after the service. All prayer requests will remain confidential. Also, if you would like to learn more about Jesus, they're available to talk with you.

### What if I'm not a Christian?

We are glad you're here. Consider using this time to reflect on your experience today. If you're looking for God, He is near. Take some time to pray to Him. Use your own words or one of the prayers printed below.

*Prayer for Those Searching for Truth.* Lord Jesus, You claim to be the way, the truth and the life. Please guide me, teach me and open me to the reality of who You are. Give me an understanding of You that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life You promise.

*Prayer for Belief.* Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through You I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. Thank You for paying my debt on the cross and offering me complete forgiveness. Knowing that You have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive You as my Savior and Lord.

## God Sends Us Out – Jeremy Weese

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**Want prayer?** Our prayer team is available to pray with you after the service at the front of the auditorium. All requests are kept confidential.

**Welcome Center.** If you would like more information about our church, please visit the Welcome Center in the refreshments area.

**Ministry Contacts.** If you have a question or a need, we are here to serve you. To contact a pastor, discuss financial or mercy needs, find a Community Group, and for other information, please visit: [www.PacificCrossroads.org/Ministries](http://www.PacificCrossroads.org/Ministries)



## Our Vision

Changed Lives by God's Power  
Renewing Los Angeles for Christ's Fame

## Our Values

**Gospel.** The gospel is the good news of what God has done for us through Jesus Christ: it is expansive and animates everything we do.

**Community.** The gospel gives birth to a new community of sincere humility, indiscriminate love, and deep concern for both spiritual and material needs.

**Discipleship.** We desire to see lives changed by the gospel of grace so that the people of God, grounded in the Word of God, are equipped for the ministry of God.

**Mission.** The gospel defines our identity and our mission as one: we are witnesses to the gospel of God, declaring with our words and our lives that Jesus is Lord.

## Sunday Worship

*Westside:* 9:00 am, 11:00 am

John Adams Middle School  
2425 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Santa Monica, CA 90405

*Downtown:* 5:00 pm

St. John's Episcopal Cathedral  
514 W Adams Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90007

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