

The Feast of the Reformation (Observed 2019)  
 Year of the Lord 2019  
 John 8

**“Holy Spirit, Light Divine, shine upon this heart of mine;  
 Chase the shades of night away; turn the darkness into day!”  
 “Let me see my Savior’s face; let me all HIS beauties trace!  
 Show those glorious truths to me which are only known to  
 Thee!”**

**Revelation 14:6–7** Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. And he said with a loud voice, **“Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”**

**Romans 3:19–28** Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

**Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith.** For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

**John 8:31–36** So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, **“If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”** They answered him, **“We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”**

Jesus answered them, **“Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.**

In the Name of Jesus:

Today, Jesus speaks ALSO to the Gentiles who have put their trust in Him; not just 'His own;' not only His people, the Jews, though they are first: 'If y'all remain in My Word, y'all are truly my disciples; and y'all will know the Truth of the Gospel and that Truth will set y'all free!'

The 'y'all' is His Church; His Church remains in His Work Accomplished; in His New Arrangement between the Spirit Who is God and Flesh and Blood you and me...AND HIM! And He gives us HIS Word!

My dear ones, dear Lutherans, excommunicated with Doctor Martin Luther, under the same ban and curse declared by the one, holy, Roman and apostolic pope and Church:

Fear not! But I have heady news for y'all!

Y'all are IT! Y'all—even your poor, miserable pastor—we are what the Holy Spirit has been cooking up, brooding over, Creating, before the foundation of the world, from all eternity—as long as God has been God and that's always!....

The world that God has loved by the giving of His Second Self has The Pledge of That God right here, at this location, on Perkins Road, in the capitol city of the Louisiana.

Y'ALL...ARE...HIS...WORD! His guarantee to just ANYONE... 'Whoever believes in Him will not perish, but have life that cannot end!'

Sorta makes you wanna get more respect from the world, doesn't it? Happy for us, His Word excises all such boasting from our mouths.

Y'all are God's Word to the world of salvation for just whoever—because y'all, and my majestic self too: we are slaves set free;

sinner raised from the death which we DEMAND daily and much...raised to sing about The Peace of the One Who was not in the tomb when the women went there to complete their loving work for a loved one now dead for good.

‘What then of BOASTING?’ asks Saint Paul? It is excluded! NOT because of the law of Moses, good works...

The tyranny of sin will hobble along until Jesus comes again; because...we...men...DEMAND...to be tyrannized!

And so, in this death we have made for ourselves, it is quite proper to commend those who behave and rebuke those who misbehave. Even the government will make a ‘SHOW’ of commending law-keepers and punishing lawbreakers—as long as that fits UNDERNEATH the program of advancing the lusts of those in power.

There I go again, my dear ones! Your poor pastor has a real problem with authority. Pray for me. Because my problem is NOT with men, but with God. My problem is I refuse, daily and much, to agree that this world is lost between two poles: boasting and jealousy, provoking and envying. I am not alone.

Doctor Martin Luther had a problem with authority also. How’s the old song go? ‘I fought the law and the law won!’ One poor, German monk, with no influence, no power-base, no connections to the lords and masters of this mess—dared to...do what? He nailed up on the church notice-board, October 13, the Year of our Lord 1517, a list of theses for the church to discuss.

Luther dared to ask a question of the masters in charge of boasting. From that moment, his life was forfeit in this world.

‘WHY are we teaching men to question the certainty of Christ’s work of salvation?!’

‘WHY are we polluting the Church, turning the Father’s House of

Prayer back into a den of thieves, or into a business?

‘WHY do we act and preach and do ‘CHURCH’ in such a way that we take the call of Christ—‘Repent, ALL Y’ALL, ALL THE TIME!’—and tell men that by their pitiful works, by their pennies and nickels, they can escape that dreadful call?’

Four fast and furious years later, Luther and all who dared hear him were under the ban of the only church the world had; so that ‘church’ said.

I am beginning to believe that if I remain in His Word—if I remain among y’all, dear Lutherans—I have real hope of being saved from what I am daily and much!

A dear saint told me recently that she was put of by all the passages that tell us to ‘fear’ God. That fear being the beginning of knowledge, of wisdom, of life.

And here we are today: where the Spirit tells us of an angel flying over all the earth calling all men to FEAR God, the Maker of all!

My dear Lutherans: MEN, y’all, me too—we are GOING...TO...TREMBLE...ABOUT....SOMETHING!

If it is some THING, it is idolatry!

If it is SOME ONE: That ONE has come and taken away all our fear!

One of the reasons Luther was consigned to eternal damnation by the pope and his horde was because he taught the Church that the Word of God teaches only two things: the Law, the Gospel.

The LAW tells you and me, my friends, that each moment belongs

to God. AND, the Law JUDGES, that we do NOT fear God, as we ought; but, instead, we obsess over, think over, lose sleep over, THINGS; even THINGS that are PEOPLE.

The GOSPEL takes over the word 'FEAR.' And The Gospel says, 'FEAR the Word made flesh Who dwelt among us!'

You see the problem? How do we FEAR the One Whose first word to us is always and forever 'PEACE to you, to y'all, to the world!'

Doctor Luther taught the Church how.

Begin, end, fill the day with a BOAST: I am baptized, by HIS Word, His Work, His Spirit! And I will never perish!

PRAY to God as your own dear Father, with all the confidence of a dear child!

FILL the day with chaining in the Old Sinner inside each of us with the threats and promises of the Law. There is nothing else to do with him!

Confess your sins BECAUSE you are already forgiven; NOT to get anywhere with your God. 'It is FINISHED!'

Eat His Flesh and Drink His Blood: trust that the Word made flesh has now made flesh-and-blood you GOD-LY!

And also eat His Body and drink His Blood, to BE what you ARE: The Holy Spirit's revelation to the me, to each other, to the world, that God has attached Himself to, has Loved, an unlovable world in the Name of Jesus. Amen. M,