

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

Sermon for the Lord's Day "A Few Good Reasons Why."

*Our Lord's Day
Plan...*

- Announcements** - Paul McCollum
- Opening Prayer** - Paul McCollum
- *Song Service** - Kerry Johnson
- Lord's Supper** - Charles Barry
- Lesson for Today** - Jordan Johnson



Jordan

* pending discussion

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We are praying for you!

*And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.
 Philippians 4:7 (KJV)*



The wisdom of Solomon...

*....Just as eating too much honey is not good, it is not good for people to always be looking for honor.
 Proverbs 25:27 (ERV)*

In Times Like These, You Need...

Raymond Elliott

Our world has been turned upside down because of the Corona virus. None of us has ever experienced what is now occurring in our lifetime and in our country. Perhaps it has caused us to consider what we really need in this life rather than just what we want.

There is definitely a need for food to sustain life. Because of health problems, there is a need for many to see a doctor while others may need to be hospitalized. Grandparents truly need to hug their grandchildren. Students need to be in school. There is a great need for family members who are separated to be together again. There is a great need for an owner to open his or her business soon! There are people who need to go back to work. There are multitudes of family members who need to see their loved ones who are in hospitals and nursing homes! There are individuals who are in an emergency room, an intensive care unit or in a hospital room who are in critical condition, who desperately need loved ones to hold their hands and express words of comfort and love to them. There are Christians who have a great need to assemble with their brothers and sisters in Christ to worship Almighty God and Jesus Christ.

During this crisis, we should all realize that we really don't have control over what a tomorrow may bring in this life. In the epistle of James, we read, "Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit'; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that'" (4:13-15).

We all agree that we need a cure for Covid-19; however, the greatest need we have in this life is Jesus Christ Who gave His life for us on Calvary's cross. There is a disease of the heart, and it is called sin. If it is not removed, it will lead to death (Romans 6:23). Jesus was born to be the Savior of the world (Luke 2:11). In fact, He came to "seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). Jesus, the great Physician, came to call sinners to repent (Matthew 9:12-13). The hope that we have in Jesus Christ is the anchor of our souls that is "both sure and steadfast" (Hebrews 6:19). Carefully read the words of the apostle Peter, when asked by his hearers what they should do to be saved. "Repent and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." The "saved" were added to the church, the body of believers (Acts 2:36-38, 47). In this time of uncertainty, anxiety, being quarantined, loss of loved ones, worry, fear of contacting the virus, etc., it is comforting to know that God "desires all men to be saved" (2 Peter 3:9). Truly, it can be said, "In times like these you need a Savior."

In times like these you need an anchor
 Be very sure, be very sure
 Your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock
 This Rock is Jesus; yes, He's the One
 This Rock is Jesus, the only One

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The Conclusion

Denny Petrillo

Much has been said. Many topics covered. Yet, Solomon in all his wisdom reduced his conclusion to two simple truths: fear God and keep His commandments (Ecclesiastes 12:13). Are these really simple truths? In one sense, yes. There isn't a whole lot of theology involved, not a need to call in the scholars to explain to us their meaning. In another sense, these points are remarkably complex. Indeed, volumes have been written discussing the many facets to these two statements.

Why, though, do these two truths entail "the conclusion"? Solomon explains with his two "because" clauses. Why should we fear God and keep His commandments?

First, because this applies to every person. While other points made through the book have application to some, this point doesn't. The rich need to hear this along with the poor. Those in foreign lands as well as our next-door neighbors need to hear these truths. The old and the young, the brave, the weak, the world leaders and the hermits also need the same. Think about it. Who doesn't need to be told to "fear God"? Who doesn't need to be encouraged to "keep His commandments"?

Second, because God will bring every act to judgment. Everyone needs to hear this because everyone will be judged (Revelation 20:11-14; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Acts 17:30-31). Does this mean that, literally, no one will escape God's judgment? Yes! This is why it is imperative for people to know what lies ahead. They need to think about the future and prepare for it (Matthew 24:36ff).

All has been heard. What remains to be said? "Fear God and keep His commandments!"

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A Home Ruled by God

Charles Box

A home ruled by God is a place where we develop a heart that will help the poor, weak, and unfortunate people around you. God expects us to reach out to the weak. "We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves." (Romans 15:1) We must protect, help, encourage and defend the helpless. In Zechariah 7:9 we read, "Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassion every man to his brother." We must be like Job. He said, "I delivered the poor who cried out, The fatherless and the one who had no helper. The blessing of a perishing man came upon me, And I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy." (Job 29:12-13) A benevolent spirit is at the heart of pure religion. "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." (James 1:27) Let's go to heaven together. I love you.

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Be very sure, be very sure

Your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock.

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July 5, 2020



Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am Class - 10:00 Worship

Wednesday Bible Class, singing & prayer - 6:30 pm

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