

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

Sermon for the Lord's Day "The Barren Fig Tree"



Worship today will be via Zoom @ 9:00am

Write and let us know if you would like an invitation.

Bible Class - Nito

Hymn- Kerry

Opening Prayer - Nito

Hymn- Kerry

Lord's Supper - Jordan

Morning Lesson - Paul

Hymn - Kerry

Closing Prayer - Jordan

.....

Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:

Matthew 3:8

.....

We are praying for you!

Kenna Canti (neice of Charles) died suddenly last Saturday, Our Beverly took a bad tumble and broke her hip on October 12, a steel pin was installed and she is healing at Natividad in Salinas,

Charles overworked himself and his shoulder and back are in much pain, pray for us all.

Father bless our country and forgive us for our transgressions, in Jesus Name we pray, Amen.

The wisdom of Solomon...

The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.

Proverbs 10:1

Our Lord's Day Plan...

Why Calamities?

Edd Sterchi

Webster's dictionary defines calamity as: "a disastrous event marked by great loss and lasting distress and suffering." Without a doubt 2020 could be deemed the year of calamities. When pandemics, hurricanes, or wildfires hit, the question is asked by some: "Why did God allow it to happen?" I don't claim to have all the answers, but this and all catastrophes can serve to remind us of several important biblical principles:

God is an incredible God. He is all-powerful and not to be trifled with. He created the world and has control over it (Gen. 1; Psa. 148:1-5). When we observe the damage the powerful forces of the earth can do, we should stand in awe of a God whose powers are infinitely greater.

Man (not God) brought calamity and death into the world. After Adam and Eve sinned, disease, death, and destruction came into being (Gen. 3:16-19; 1 Cor. 15:21a). Without a doubt calamities wreak incredible damage, and that should remind us of how devastating sin is.

Our faith will be tested from time to time. We are told in the Scriptures that the storms and quakes of life are meant to make us stronger (Jas. 1:2-3; Heb. 12:5-11). How many Christians will God test through all this? How many will have their faith strengthened as a result?

Life is short. This can well remind us of the brevity, uncertainty, and frailty of our existence (Jas. 4:14; 1 Pet. 1:24). We are never guaranteed another day of earthly life.

This is an incredible opportunity to spread the good news about Jesus Christ. Through relief efforts, and through reminders of things like this, we can and should spread the gospel (2 Cor. 5:11; Gal. 6:10). Unfortunate incidents are often an open door for us to evangelize.

The Judgment will be much worse than this for some. Yes, many have lost their lives, but come Judgment Day many more will lose their souls (Matt. 7:21-23; 25:41-46; Rom. 1:18). Viewing the earth's tragedies should motivate us to make our lives right before our Maker.

Through times like these don't question God, but determine to find a greater quest in God and in working His will!

October 25, 2020

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

One of the most basic truths in God's program involves the fact that the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23). The death we are intended to understand is the second death. There are only two ways to satisfy this basic truth: First, all humans must be paid that wage because all have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). Second, another, an innocent One on whom death has no claim because He never sinned, must pay that wage in our stead, substituting His death for ours.

We find both aspects applied to practical Christian life in Romans. Paul writes in Romans 5:8, "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." It is essential that we thoroughly understand that Christ died, not merely as a benefit, but for us, that is, in our place. His death substitutes for our well-deserved death, which we earned through sin. Earlier, the apostle had written in Romans 4:1-5:

What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness.

When confronted by such scriptures that cannot be broken, our only possible conclusion is that the sin-debt that each person owes to God absolutely cannot be worked off. It is so huge and serious that an already sin-defiled person cannot pay it off. Once a person sins, his debt is absolutely irredeemable by anyone or any action except through death. Either each individual pays for himself, or Christ pays in his place. These are the only acceptable payments.

— John W. Ritenbaugh



When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.

— **Proverbs 10:19**

Thought

We are constantly filling our world with noise. If it is not the sound of our own voices, then turn up some other noise to fill the silence. With the proliferation of radio talk shows, we are even given the opportunity to sound off to that noise. Unfortunately, quite often we say things that are harmful, hurtful, or foolish. God's wisdom reminds us to learn to hold our tongue and let silence rule over more of our time rather than the noisy words that so often clutter our world.



'Lyda Rose'

Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am

Wednesday Bible Class, singing & prayer - 6:00 pm

Zoom Times...

church of Christ at Alisal

67 Eucalyptus Drive

Salinas, California 93905-2728

Paul McCollum, preacher

pulpitpaul@razzolink.com

(831)424-9800 or 206-5568

www.churchofchristalisal.com/