

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

Sermon for the Lord's Day "If You Love Me, Keep My Word"



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 - Paul

Hymn - Kerry

Lord's Supper - Nito

Morning Lesson - Paul

Hymn - Kerry

Closing Prayer - Kerry

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Whoever doesn't love me doesn't keep my words. The word that you hear isn't mine. It is the word of the Father who sent me.

John 14:24

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We are praying for you!

Yesterday (Friday) I officiated at a gathering of family members a remembrance and sermon for our sister Beverly Pereira Her sister and our sister Norma Deker was present with us and it was so good seeing Norma for the first time in well over a year. Her daughters Laurie and Deneen did a great job of displaying some of Beverly's favorite things. All the many flowers arrangements were beautifully displayed and were very lovely. It was a good gathering and I thought the ulogy went well. We will sorely miss sister Beverly and her positive influence and support of God's Word.

Daylight savings time ends -Set your clocks back one hour...

Our Lord's Day Plan...

THE SECOND GREATEST COMMANDMENT GIVEN BY THE LORD

Raymond Elliott

A scribe asked the Lord, "Which is the first commandment of all?" "Jesus answered him, "The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one, "And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This the first commandment. "And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these" (Mark 12:28-31 NKJV).

The "first", foremost, chief and greatest commandment is for a person to love God with all of one's being. This is the vertical relationship that mankind can have with Almighty God. This is the most important commitment that a person can ever make. The second commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself", is horizontal, it is our relationship with our neighbor. The fulfillment of the second command is predicated upon one being in submission to the first commandment. The apostle John wrote, "And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also" (John 4:21). John also wrote; "If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen" (1 John 4:20)? As you can plainly see, these commandments are closely bound together.

Now, if this is true regarding our brother and sister in Jesus Christ, would not the same principle be applicable concerning our relationship with our neighbor who is made in the image of God?. A certain lawyer asked the Lord, "Who is my neighbor?" Jesus told the story of a man who had been stripped of all his clothing and severely beaten and left for dead. Two of the leaders among the Jews saw him and kept walking; however, a Samaritan stopped and gave aid to him as well as additional future help (Luke 10:25-37). An important lesson in this story is that whoever is in trouble or is in need is our neighbor and not just the ones who live near us.

This love (Greek, Agape), is defined as being, "affection, good-will, love, benevolence: Of the love of men to men; especially that love of Christians toward Christians" (Thayer Greek English Lexicon). This love cannot be legislated by the government or by any human organization. This love has to come from a heart that possesses the love for God. The apostle Paul wrote "Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the Law." Paul mentions various commandments that one should keep and then he wrote, "And if there is any other commandments, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" He also wrote, "Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law" (Romans 13:8-10). This statement is so profound! This love is greatly needed in our world today and in our own nation. There is so much hatred in the hearts of many people. There is "harm" being manifested by evil deeds done by individuals and groups. In contrast, people who have the love of God in their hearts will only do good to their neighbors. This love is one of the fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22). Love is "a more excellent way" and its characteristics are found in 1 Corinthians 12:31;13:4-7. One characteristic of love is being kind to one another which is greatly lacking in our society today!. In closing, remember, "And now abides faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13).

2 Corinthians 5:9-10

(9) Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. (10) For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

These verses state a reality we all face: We are accountable to the Creator for our conduct. We know that standing between us and God is an internally generated pride that, if allowed, will greatly hinder our desire to please Him by submitting.

We must understand that God's calling of us, His granting of repentance to us, and His providing us with His Spirit have given us a valuable power, an "edge." He has not given us an impossible challenge. Receiving the Holy Spirit has given us the wherewithal, the powers, to meet our responsibility to submit voluntarily to Him. What is the solution? In short, it is to exercise humility before the Holy One of Israel. Humility can defuse pride's power.

There is a major difference between pride and humility. Because of exposure to Satan and the world, pride is within us almost from birth. Humility, though, is not part of us from birth. Spiritual humility is most definitely a developed characteristic, derived because of contact with God and our choosing to be humble before Him.

— John W. Ritenbaugh



Eyes That See Not
By Travis Robertson

Jeremiah 5:21- "Now hear this, O foolish and senseless people, who have eyes but do not see; who have ears but do not hear."

I can recall asking my mother if she knew where my socks were for my baseball uniform. Of course, she knew exactly where to find them and told me where they were. I went and looked for them, but didn't see them. Being frustrated with me, she walked into my room, opened the drawer, grabbed my socks, and said to me, "Open your eyes!" God is saying the same thing here. You have eyes but you are not seeing anything.

God is upset that His people who should see Him and hear Him do not. How many of us in the fold of God do not hear our Shepherd's voice calling out to us? We fail to open our eyes and fix them on Jesus (Hebrews 12:2). I hope and pray that we will not find ourselves in the same position as the Jews here in Jeremiah. Instead, let us train our eyes and ears with God's word, so that we will see Him, hear Him, and obey Him.

November 1, 2020



Hibiscus

Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am

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

Zoom Times...

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