

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

Sermon for the Lord's Day

“Striving for Contentment”



Jordan

Welcome Brothers and Sisters!

We are blessed to have **Jordan Johnson** with us to present the **Lesson**. **Charles Barry** to lead our **Bible Class** and **Kerry Johnson** to lead us in **Song**... may God bless their efforts!

~ **Happy Lord's Day** ~

But godliness with contentment is great gain.

1 Timothy 6:6

We are praying for you!

Rose marie Johnson - for God's blessing on her love and faithfulness to Him and for all she does for her family.

Norma Decker - for good health and joy in the Lord.

Rose marie Johnson - foer improved health and strong mental fortitude.

Charles Barry - for relief and healing from his neck, back and hand pain. Charles is waiting for the results of his the latest tests.

We pray for all people to seek God and obey his commandments.

Can We See Who We Really Are?

Brian R. Kenyon

A preacher was recently going through airport security when he saw an unusual sight. At the point where boarding pass holders must empty their pockets and send carry-ons to be checked, a blind man, being guided by his friend or relative, was removing large gold chains and charms from around his neck and placing them in the bin to send through the x-ray machine. Why would a blind man wear all that “bling, bling”? Whatever the reason, the preacher thought, “Wow! All that sparkle, and he can't even see himself.”

There is a greater spiritual lesson to this scene. Sometimes, a Christian can act in such ways that others legitimately wonder, “Does he actually realize what he's doing and how counterproductive that is to what he claims?” For example, do Christians who promote or defend immodesty, homosexual practice, or other acts of immorality, whether on Facebook or face to face, actually realize how they look to God and to worldly people? Do Christians who forsake assembling with the local church because they are too involved with recreation not realize they are idolizing passing pleasures of this world in place of the eternal satisfaction of spiritual enrichment? Do Christians whose actions show they love this world more than God not realize the jeopardy in which they place their souls and the harm their influence brings on the local church?

The only true way to see ourselves as we really are is to look into the mirror of God's Word. “For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does” (James 1:23-25). May each of us constantly examine ourselves with God's Word, not comparing ourselves with others (2 Corinthians 10:12-18). The more we see ourselves as God sees us, the better we can adjust to be more like Jesus!

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for re-proof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

All Scripture is profitable, but we tend to overlook or maybe even altogether neglect parts of it. Usually, these neglected parts appear in the Old Testament. Often, they are “the begats,” where passage after passage relates who begot whom for many generations, for instance, I Chronicles 1-8; Ezra 2 and 10; Nehemiah 7, 10, and 12. In most peoples’ Bibles, those chapters are in mint condition because they have never been read!

However, God through Paul says that the whole Bible is profitable. It is a practical and helpful tool for teachers and students alike. Scripture stands as the standard for testing everything that claims to be true. In that way, it is also our safeguard against false teaching, sounding a warning when we hear it. If we study it diligently, God’s Word is a source of guidance in the right path, training us to understand how to live and do Christ’s work in this world.

The apostle’s words in II Timothy 3:16 tell us that we need all Scripture to function properly—even “the begats”! God put them in the Book for some good reason. By combining Scripture, the Holy Spirit, and experiences in this life, God brings a person to spiritual maturity and holiness.

When “the begats” show up in the New Testament (Matthew 1; Luke 3), as in the Old, we pay scant attention to them. We must often force ourselves to read and study those chapters. But they are there and inspired by God. He made them a part of His Word for our edification. We dare not skip over them.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

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“Nothing under God’s control is ever out of control.”

— Charles Swindoll

July 25, 2021



Hibiscus

Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am

Wednesday (via Zoom) Bible Class, singing & prayer - 6:00 pm

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