

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

Sermon for the Lord's Day

"The Church at Laodicea" (6)



Welcome Brothers and Sisters!

Paul is with us to present the **Lesson**. **Charles Barry** will lead our **Bible Class** and **Kerry Johnson** will lead us in **Song...** may God bless their efforts!

*Our Lord's Day
Plan...*

~ **Happy Lord's Day** ~

*Ye shall walk after the Lord your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments,
and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him.
Deuteronomy 13:4*

We are praying for you!

James King - for recovery from his heart attack.
Deloras King - for comfort while her husband James recovers.
Judy McCollum - for relief from the pain of her twisted knee.
Jordan Johnson - for a safe and peaceful weekend away.
David Z - for spiritual guidance and understanding.
The Alisal Congregation - for more people added to our group of Christians.

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

**GOD'S GRACE, LOVE AND MERCY- FOR WHICH WE SHOULD BE
THANKFUL!**

Raymond Elliott

Grace, love and mercy are inherent in the very nature of our Heavenly Father, God Almighty! There are two passages of Scripture that have these attributes mentioned regarding our God. They are Ephesians 2:4-8 and Titus 3:4-7. Please read the first passage in Ephesians 3 and observe what is written about mercy, love and grace: "rich in mercy", "great love", "exceeding riches of His grace" and, "For by grace you have been saved". Now read the passage in Titus 3 and observe what Paul wrote about love, mercy and grace: "Love of God our Savior, "but according to His mercy He saved us" and "justified by His grace".

God's grace is "greater than our sins." "He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone" (Hebrews 2:9). "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace" (Ephesians 1:7). Our iniquities demanded God's justice, but instead He extended His unmerited favor to us so we could be redeemed by the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ His beloved Son!

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). "There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13). "For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly" (Romans 5:6). In our finite minds we will never be able to comprehend the "width and length and depth and height" of the love of God and Christ (Ephesians 3:18,19).

It is "not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior" (Titus 2:5,6). "For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, So the Lord pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust" (Psalm 103:11-14). Oh, how great is the kindness and compassion of our Heavenly Father!

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There is an old story that tells of two angels who were dispatched from heaven, each with a basket. One to bring back the prayers of petitions, the other, prayers of thanksgivings. Both returned in great distress and trouble. The collector of petitions had his basket full and a sack as well, but the angel of thanksgiving had only three. It is right and good that we should make intercession for others (Romans 10:1); petitions to God (Matthew 6:11, Colossians 1:9), and supplications (Philippians 4:6, 1 Timothy 2:1,2). What is often lacking in our prayers, both private and public, is the giving of thanks to God! Should we not “praise God from whom all blessings flow”? In Revelation 7:11,12, we read that the angels, elders and the four living creatures worshiped God, “saying: “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might Be to our God forever and ever, Amen.”

My brothers and sisters in Christ, when we pray let us praise God and give thanks to Him for His infinite grace, steadfast love and tender mercy! Our hearts should overflow with gratitude for these blessings, without which we could not be saved! And it would be good if our songs and prayers in our assemblies would be filled with praise and adoration to God for such blessings from our Heavenly Father! Let us all “think on these things”.

“Bless the Lord, O my soul
And all that is within me, bless
His holy name!
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
And forget not all His benefits;
Who forgives all your iniquities,
Who heals all your diseases,
Who redeems your life from destruction”
- Psalm 103:1-4

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“I can’t change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to
always reach my destination.”
— Jimmy Dean

October 10, 2021



Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am

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

church of Christ at Alisal

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