

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

Sermon for the Lord's Day

Why the Grumbling?



Welcome Brothers and Sisters!

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

*Our Lord's Day
Plan...*

~ **Happy Lord's Day** ~

Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

2 Peter 3:13

We are praying for you!

George and Cindy Brown- for George's Colon Cancer operation on January 21.
The church worldwide - for all of us living more faithfully.

We praypray for a blessed New Year for all people and especially those of the household of faith. May we all share the gospel message with those outside the body of Christ and may many hearts be open to the call.

Have a great 2022!

1 Peter 1:1-2

(1) Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, (2) elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.

It is the life that is obedient to God and separated from the world that provides the proof of one's conversion. If the Christian is legally cleared of guilt before God and obedient to Him, he no longer "belongs" to the world; the Bible no longer perceives such a person as being "in the flesh."

Philippians 3:20 offers understanding of another separation from the world: "For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ." His spiritual separation produces for the Christian a legal transfer of citizenship that he must recognize.

Colossians 1:12-13 confirms this: "Giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love." As a result of these separations, the Christian must live his life as a stranger and pilgrim as if in a foreign land, obeying the laws of his new nation by placing higher priority in his activities as a citizen of the Kingdom of God.

This opens the door to another line of practical thought, conduct, and attitude: "Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself the enemy of God" (James 4:4). We normally do whatever we can to avoid our enemies, even to the point of fleeing from them if necessary. This reality should help us to understand why God commands us:

Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? . . . Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you." (II Corinthians 6:14, 17)

It is by means of conduct motivated by the Holy Spirit that we are to come out from among unbelievers and be separate. We cannot—we must not—straddle the fence; we cannot serve two masters. Once we are called, we must serve God, or we will have received God's grace in vain (II Corinthians 6:1).

— *John W. Ritenbaugh*

Appreciation

Thomas Baxley

The number one reason people leave a job is because they feel underappreciated. Employees who continually feel like their good work goes unnoticed are not likely to stick around. With that being said, I want us to think about two things. First, be an encouraging presence wherever you are. It costs nothing and takes very little time to be kind and offer up encouraging words to people. Strive to be a Barnabas (Acts 4:36; 9:27). Secondly, how often do you show appreciation to God for all the blessings in your life? How often do you take time to acknowledge your blessings? Let us always consider that what we have are gifts from God, and let us always show appreciation for the blessings in our lives.

Editor's Note: Don't forget that the greatest blessings we enjoy as Christians are not tangible. We cannot embrace them with the five senses because they are spiritual, and hence, they are intangible. Thank God, first of all, often and heartily for our spiritual blessings – namely the forgiveness of sins and a relationship with Deity – via the sacrifice of the Son of God and known to us through the Gospel. ~ Louis Rushmore, Editor] (credit for this article goes to "Gospel Gazette Online")

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If I Had...

Cliff Holmes

A penny for every time I said, "I can't"

A nickel for each time I said, "It won't work"

A dime for all the times I said, "It can't be done"

A quarter for each time I said, "That's impossible"

Over the 80+ years of my life, I would have amassed a fortune.

However, since no one is going to make me rich that way, I would be miserable, penniless and frustrated because...

"It won't work" begs the question, "Did you try?"

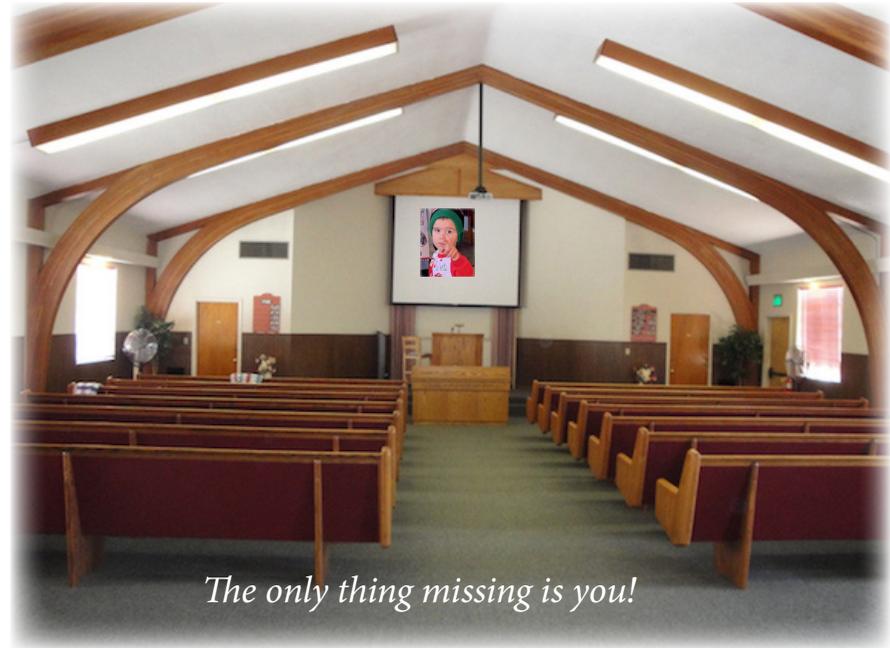
"It can't be done" says, "How do you know?"

"Impossible" says, "Is it?"

Then, there is, "I can't,"

But of course, "I can't" never did do anything anyway!

January 2, 2022



The only thing missing is you!

Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am

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

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