

*Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal*

## *Sermon for the Lord's Day*

### **Jubilee (Part 1)**



**Welcome Brothers and Sisters!**

**Charles Barry** will lead our **Bible Class** and **Kerry Johnson** will lead us in **Song**, **Paul McCollum** will present the **Lesson**. may

*Our Lord's Day  
Plan...*

God bless their efforts!  
~ **Happy Lord's Day** ~

*Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee:  
because he trusteth in thee.  
Isaiah 26:3*

***We are praying for you!***

**Rosemarie Johnson** - for less stress and less back pain

**Charles Barry** - for less knee pain.

**Rob Redden** - for God's blessings for his work at Grover Beach, California.

**Gospel Preacher Sunl** - for all his work for and with the **Church of Christ India Mission Work**.

**The Lord's Church** - for sharing the Word and being a living example.

***God's Blessings to Everyone!***

## **The Last Best Hope of Earth**

Eddie Parrish

One month before signing the Emancipation Proclamation, Abraham Lincoln wrote a letter to Congress in which he addressed freeing the country's slaves. In it, Lincoln stressed the importance of doing the right thing to "save our country," which he described as "the last best hope of earth."

I want to borrow and amend Lincoln's words. The family unit in American culture is under attack from many sides: radical feminism, which denies the value of husbands and fathers; gay rights advocates who push for the endorsement of same-sex marriages; divorce and remarriage for any reason; people living together outside the bond of marriage – just to name a few.

Yet, God says, "Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it" (Psa. 127:1). When it comes to modeling for our world what the home should look like, the church of Jesus Christ is "the last best hope of earth."

When we admit that God both knows and wants what is best for us (Psa. 147:5; 1 Pet. 5:7), it should be easier to trust and obey him in everything (Prov. 3:5-8). God wants your family to succeed. He wants your home to be happy and stable. He wants your marriage to be a small taste of heaven on earth. He wants your relationship with your spouse and kids to be healthy and happy. But the key to experiencing all of those things is to build our homes according to his design.

### **In matters pertaining to the home, God has spoken regarding:**

- marriage being between man and woman (Gen. 2:18-24).
- the roles of husband and wife (Eph. 5:22-33).
- the responsibilities of parents to children (Eph. 6:4; Deut. 6:4-9).
- the role of children to parents (Eph. 6:2).
- the importance of intimacy (1 Cor. 7:1-5).
- the eternal consequences of adultery (Heb. 13:4).
- the permanence of marriage (Matt. 19:6).
- acceptable and unacceptable divorce (Matt. 19:3-12).
- the proper conduct of spouses to each other: love (1 Cor. 13),
- understanding and honor (1 Pet. 3:1-7), calm tempers (Prov. 15:1),
- and the golden rule (Matt. 7:12).

God has said much regarding human conduct, marital relationships, and family dynamics. We are unwise if we refuse to hear and heed his words.

## Not a Good Idea?

Bill Brandstatter

I was watching a television program in which a number of preachers were asked questions from viewers. One viewer asked a very important question. The question dealt with why there are different denominations. The viewer asked, “Wouldn’t it be better to have just one church?” The moderator of the program stated that would not be a good idea! Only a couple of preachers responded. They indicated that varying opinions of interpretation of scriptures was the reason for all the denominations. Since, there are varying opinions, according to them, denominations are justified.

Apparently some of the men on the program may not have been familiar with some statements in scriptures that would have answered the question. Jesus prayed for unity and that “all may be one” (John 17:21). Paul pleaded with the Christians at Corinth “That there be no divisions among you but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind, and in the same judgment.” (1 Cor. 1:10). The idea of unity is according to the Bible, a good idea.

The Bible teaches also that one church is a good idea. Paul wrote that Christ is the head of the church which is His body (Eph. 1:22). He says in 1 Cor. 12:20 that there is “yet one body.” Also, Paul mentions in Eph. 4:4, “There is one body.”

There is one church whose members have their names written in heaven (Heb. 12:23). Regarding this one church, Paul emphasized “We being many are one body in Christ” (Rom. 12:5). Further, Paul indicated there is one way into that one body. He indicated, “For by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body” (1 Cor. 12:13). This happened when the church was established in Acts 2:47. Luke writes there, “And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.”

There was in the New Testament time only one church. They were consistent in message (1 Cor. 4:17; 7:17). There was just one system of faith that had to be obeyed (Jude 3; Eph. 4:5). There is just one gospel (Rom. 1:16).

May we understand the simple plan for unity as outlined in the New Testament. There is one church. That is God’s plan, and is therefore a good idea.

August 28, 2022



*Looking west from Fremont Peak*

### Meeting Days and Times

Sunday ..... 9:00 am

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

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