

*Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal*

*Sermon for the Lord's Day*

**“Contrasting the Two Covenants” (Part 2)**



**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**.

*Our Lord's Day  
Plan...*

may God bless their efforts!

~ **Happy Lord's Day** ~

*...nailing it to his cross; And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.*

*Colossians 2:14-15*

*We are praying for you!*

**Rose Johnson**- for healing from her back and Siatic nerve problems.

**Raymond Elliott** - for God's Blessings as he serves our God.

**Jordan Johnson** - for a safe and entoyable weekend away.

**Sunil Gollapalli** - for God's blessings and support for his work for the Lord.

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

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

**The Grind**

Glen Elliott

“Back to the grind” is a transitional phrase bridging a brief or extended period of relaxation to the resumption of laborious or repetitive activity. Numerous studies have shown that taking breaks increases focus and productivity. Yet, experience teaches us that it can be difficult to get moving again after a period of rest. The mind must be convinced or the body will not follow. This is why Monday is seldom our favorite day of the week and why it is so challenging to get back into the swing of things after a vacation.

Getting back into the grind is likely an expression that takes us back to simpler times when people used millstones to grind their grain into flour. So important were these to the livelihood of the people that it was forbidden in the Law of Moses to take someone's handmill or upper millstone as a pledge for repayment of a debt owed (Deut. 24:6).

Jesus says, “the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah” (Matt. 24:37). There will be no tell-tale signs marking its approach. Just as usual, people will be “eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage” (vs. 38). Men will be working in the field and women will be grinding at the mill (Matt. 24:40-41). Milling grain was so much a part of everyday life that Jesus likened it to the conditions which existed “in the days of Noah” before the Flood came upon the world of the ungodly.

It is difficult for us to imagine life in the first century. This writer remembers hearing lengthy conversations of previous generations as they hearkened back to “the good ol' days” when baking bread in the home was replaced by sliced bread at the store. Although our grandparents may have baked bread in the home, they did not have to mill the flour from which such bread was made. Theirs was a simpler time—but not an easy life. In an age of smart phones and gadgets, we lose appreciation for the basic necessities of life. In teaching us to pray, Jesus says, “Give us this day our daily bread” (Matt. 6:11). His provision is promised to those who “seek first His kingdom” (Matt. 6:33), but our minds and hearts have become so distracted as to give temporal things and events far greater importance in our lives than those things which carry eternal significance. We have crowded out basic spiritual

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essentials. We hardly think about daily bread, much less appreciate its relationship to God's blessing and our work to put it on the table. We are too far-removed from the grind and, sadly, that is to our great disadvantage.

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**A Persian Fable**

*A Persian fable says: One day  
A wanderer found a lump of clay  
So savory of sweet perfume  
Its odor scented all the room.  
"What are you?" was his quick demand,  
"Are you some gem from Samarkand,  
Or pure nard in this plain disguise,  
Or other costly merchandise?"  
"No, I am but a lump of clay."  
"Then whence this wondrous perfume—say!"  
"Friend, if the secret I disclose,  
I have been dwelling with the rose."  
Sweet parable! and will not those  
Who love to dwell with Sharon's rose,  
Distill sweet odors all around,  
Though low and poor themselves are found?  
Dear Lord, abide with us that we  
May draw our perfume fresh from Thee.*

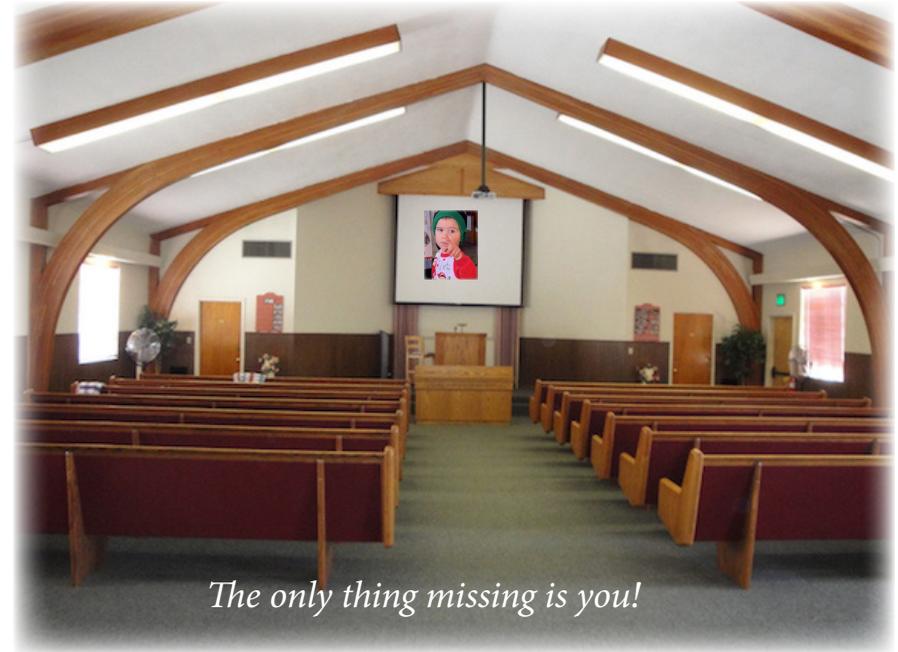
L. B. Cowman  
*Streams in the Desert*

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**Preach the Word, Church!**

Jesus tells us that He is the way, the truth, and the life, and no man comes to the Father but by Him (John 14:6). How does the world learn about Jesus? Through the truth of God's word (John 8:32; 17:17). Who is going to take it to the world? The church (Ephesians 3:10; Romans 10:14-17). Let's get to work!

**October 9, 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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