

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

Sermon for the Lord's Day
"DO You Have Need of Perseverance?"



Welcome Brothers and Sisters!

Jordan Johnson 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 ~

The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:
1 Peter 3:21

We are praying for you!

- Judy McCollum - for safety ss she travels back from Oregon this week
- David Z - for healing of his health issues
- The Lord's Church - for sharing the Word and being a living example.

God's Blessings to Everyone!~

Is Baptism a "Should" or a "Must"?
Thomas Baxley

I read something the other day that I had never considered. It's an idea that is glaringly obvious once it is read, but I never thought about it until I read it. In Acts 2, when Peter and the others were preaching on the day of Pentecost, just 50 days after the crucifixion of Jesus, some Jews became convicted at the message of Scripture being fulfilled before their very eyes; they had realized that they had crucified the Messiah. They, then, asked a very simple, yet an important question, "What shall we do?" They knew and understood that they were guilty and outside of the covenant, but they wanted to get back into a covenant relationship with God. Therefore, they inquired what needed to be done.

Peter, therefore, gave them the answer. "...Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins..." (Acts 2:38 NKJV). When they received their answer, there was no retort about John 3:16, Romans 10:9-10 or Ephesians 2:8-9. Why? Because those passages had not been written yet. Similarly, when Ananias told Saul to be baptized (Acts 22:16), there was no argument; he did as he was instructed.

Keeping that in mind, now think about the next 40 years as the New Testament was being written, and notice baptism is cited as uniting us with Christ in His death (Romans 6:3), is where our hearts are circumcised (Colossians 2:11-12), is how we clothe ourselves with Christ and become Abraham's offspring (Galatians 3:27) and how we appeal to God for a good conscience (1 Peter 3:21). John 3:16, Romans 10:9-10 and Ephesians 2:8-9 are surely important passages, but they do not represent the whole picture, and neither does baptism alone. All of these elements work together, and all are a "must."



Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
Acts 2:38

When the Government Moves In

Terry Wheeler

Government persecution is nothing new. It is as old as government itself. It is from the heavy hand of those in power to remind their subjects who is in charge. To think such is only ancient history is grossly naïve. We are surrounded by power-hungry individuals who would love to dominate us. The faithful Christian's response to this is all important for us to understand.

Tyranny is not the will of God (Lamentations 3:34-36). To fight for the oppressed is righteous (Isaiah 1:17). Yet, the Christian is also to be blameless and harmless (Philippians 2:14-16). Governments come from God Himself as an extension of His rule on earth. That must always be respected (Romans 13:1-7). To fail to do so is sinful. So, whatever government commands us to do, we must do (Galatians 5:23; 1 Peter 2:11-17). However, when the government would have us do anything that is contrary to the plainly revealed will of the Lord in His New Testament, we must obey God instead of men (Acts 5:29) or we sin (Psalm 94:20).

Therefore, when a government becomes corrupt or loses its way in reference to the New Testament, the Christian cannot act like nothing is happening. He must be awake and aware. Still, Christians cannot rebel against the powers God has set in place. Yet, the children of God must always be alert to avoid compromising Christ by acquiescing to evil, even by government edict. Christians must also speak up and speak out to power in rebuke, as did Paul (Acts 24:24-25), John the Baptizer (Matthew 14:3-4) and the prophets of old (Amos 7:10-11).

We must never be blind followers. As Christians, we must properly discern the will of God in all circumstances (Ephesians 5:11-17; 1 Thessalonians 5:21-22) – irrespective of the cost (Revelation 2:10).

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What is Sin?

- Sin is a violation of the conscience (Romans 14:23).
- Sin is knowing to do good, and not doing it (James 4:17).
- Sin is breaking God's law (1 John 3:4).
- Sin is unrighteousness (failing to keep God's commands) (1 John 5:17).

January 22 2023



Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am

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

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