

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

The Lord's Day Message

“Christ the Mediator”



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** ~

(God) ...Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

1 Timothy 2:4-6

We are praying for you!

Rosemarie Johnson - for relief from her back and shoulder pain.

Cindy and George Brown - for peace and comfort because of George's serious health issues.

Virginia and Raymond Elliott - for full recovery from their latest bout with COVID.

The Billions of Lost Souls - for fchistians to share the Word and their hearts to be opened to the gospel call.

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

God's Blessings to Everyone!~

Satan Blinds and Binds

Jerry R. Kendall

Satan is working constantly to blind and bind people (2 Corinthians 4:4; Luke 13:16). When we are hurting, broken, beaten down, angered and facing things beyond our control, he uses these situations to get our feelings and emotions to work against God's will for our lives. His desire is to move us to be controlled by our circumstances and not by the will of Christ. It is his aim to lead us to become captives of, be blinded to and to be bound by our sins. When the painful results attack faith and the desire to pray, his blinders are there.

Jesus came to save us, to "bind up the brokenhearted" (Isaiah 61:1; Luke 4:18 ESV). When the unsaved see our reactions to life, this often leads them to question what good serving the Savior produces. If we don't give our broken, blinded and bound lives to the Lord, what do we expect the unsaved to do? Do we struggle to give ourselves wholly to Jesus Christ? Do we hold back and ignore the life He offers (John 10:10)? Is Satan more powerful than the Christ? We know he is most deceitful, and we must not let him deceive us (1 Timothy 2:14). Let's oppose and expose Satan and not be ensnared and enslaved by him. How does he bind people?

Ignorance and Apathy

Choosing to remain ignorant and not being energetic enough to question what we are told is used by our enemy. Imagine not wanting to leave slavery and have freedom because it meant work, hardships and responsibility. After the Civil War, one former slave commented, "A war was fought and a president was murdered, but many of the slaves lived on as slaves, as if nothing had happened" (cf., Galatians 5:1). Christ frees from sin, but some don't desire to be set free. Satan keeps them in darkness about the freedom available in Christ. Satan binds, while God in Christ set free (Ephesians 5:8-13).

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Pride and Self-Righteousness

Some have bought into the lie that following Christ will limit one's freedom. What do they mean by free? If it means to be able to do whatever one prefers in violation of God's Word, this is being blinded and in bondage. If freedom means rights but no responsibilities, Satan has one bound. When it means I can save myself through my goodness and personal efforts, he has me imprisoned.

Grief, Tragedy and Loss

Satan whispers to many, "God doesn't love you; if He did, why did this happen to you?" When life deals the unexpected or the unbelievable that knocks us down and leaves us looking up, we may become the captive of pain. Dreams are shattered, relationships ruined, a loved one's life is cut short, a business goes bad, etc., and God is forgotten. The devil uses such to blind and bind. God can heal broken hearts and shattered dreams, and He gives the promise of reunion with loved ones. He knows the pain of a loved One dying. Pain is not the measure of His love. The Bible faithful faced constant pain in triumph (Job, Moses, David)!

There are many other ways we can become bound by Satan. We must not think we can impress God by who we are and by what we accomplish through our abilities to sidestep obedience to Christ as our Savior. We cannot make ourselves worthy by what we do, earn His forgiveness by great feats and deserve Heaven. We can't climb to Heaven through our own power. Let's learn to bind the devil (Mark 3:26-27) through the work of Christ.

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"Grace makes salvation possible; obedient faith makes salvation actual." —
Batsell Barrett Baxter, The Family of God
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We learn from experience. Parents never wake up their second baby...just to see him smile.

February 5
February 19, 2023



Looking west from Fremont Peak

Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am

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

church of Christ at Alisal

67 Eucalyptus Drive

Salinas, California 93905-2728

Paul McCollum, preacher

pulpitpaul@razzolink.com

(831)424-9800 or 206-5568

www.churchofchristalisal.com/