

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

The Lord's Day Message
**"Five W's of the
Second Coming"**



Welcome Brothers and Sisters!

Jordan Johnson will lead our **Bible Class** and **Kerry Johnson** will lead us in **Song**, **Paul McCollum** will deliver the **Lesson**.

*Our Lord's Day
Plan...*

May God bless their efforts!

~ **Happy Lord's Day** ~

Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.

1 Corinthians 4:5

We are praying for you!

Rosematie Johnson - for relief from her back and knee pain.

Kerry Johnson - for the best resolution to the leg injury he suffered years ago.

George Brown - for God to be with the medical treatments for George.

Don Blackwell - for good health and strength to carry on God's work.

Sweeti Parichha - for success in her spiritual and worldly pursuits.

Arron Yaras - for a smooth transition while he prepares for dialysis treatments.

David Z - for complete healing from his recent foot injury.

God's Blessings to Everyone!~

The Cross of Christ

Charles E. Burch

The apostle Paul wrote, "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" (1 Corinthians 1:18 NKJV). The cross has different meanings for different people, and it always has. To the people of Jerusalem in A.D. 33 the cross was just a cruel form of execution, usually reserved for the worst type of criminals. It was shameful, and that is the reason for the statement about Jesus that He "...endured the cross, despising the shame..." (Hebrews 12:2). However, for believers, the shame of that cross was overcome by the glory made possible by Jesus who died there. Paul wrote, "But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ..." (Galatians 6:14).

What do we see in the cross? Do we just see a religious symbol to be worn as decoration? Do we see a form of torture and execution? Do we see hope for eternity? Let us notice some things that we should see in the cross.

We should see the love of God. When Adam and Eve sinned in Eden, God drove them from His presence. Yet, He announced to them His intentions to overcome the devil's influence and save man from sin (Genesis 3:15). God sent His Son to do that. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). We can see God's love in the giving of His Son.

We should see the blackness of sin. Many think that because everyone sins, one little sin won't hurt. Contrariwise, we need to see sin as God sees sin! It is filth (Revelation 3:4), it is the dirt of the world (James 1:27), and it is described as a muddy hog pen (2 Peter 2:22). If we could see sin through the eyes of God for five seconds, it would change us forever.

We should see the torment of Hell. Solomon wrote, "...Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man" (Ecclesiastes 12:13 KJV). Regarding impenitent sinners, Jesus said, "And these will go away into everlasting punishment..." (Matthew 25:46). It took the cross to keep man out of

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We should see the glory of Heaven. Jesus made a great and glorious promise, "...I go to prepare a place for you" (John 14:2). It took His death upon the cross, as the perfect sacrifice, to make it possible for man to go to that place.

What do you see in the cross? A child of God will see the love of God, the blackness of sin, the torment of Hell and the glory of Heaven.

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When Times Are Tough

Larry Fitzgerald

I once read a story about an affluent man who lost his job. This led to him losing his life savings. Then, he lost his house and car. Last of all, the wife, who promised to love him "for richer, for poorer ... until death parted them," divorced him and took up with another man. In less than one year, this fellow lost his career, his fortune, his home, and the love of his life. It appeared that God was punishing him, but he couldn't understand why. He prayed and prayed but the Lord seemed to turn His back on the now homeless guy.

Understandingly, he sank into a deep depression. As he walked the streets, in search of a new job, he came upon some people building a new, three-story, rock house. The mansion was a gorgeous home for a very rich person. A stone mason was busy chiseling a stone. The depressed man watched for a few minutes and then asked why he was cutting the stone. The mason replied, "You see that small space up at the top of this structure? I am shaping this stone down here so it will fit up there."

The homeless man thought that over as he walked away from the scene and then, with tears in his eyes, realized that God was doing that to him down here so that he would fit "up there."

Once, he prayed to God to give him strength to accept the Lord's discipline, then peace came to his life ... along with new blessings (see Proverbs 3:11-12).

May 21, 2023



Hibiscus

Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am

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

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