

Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

The Lord's Day Message

"When Adversity Strikes"



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** ~

*Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.
Luke 21:33*

We are praying for you!

Cindy and George Brown - for peace and comfort because of George's prostrate cancer. George will start radiation therapy soon. They are meeting the doctor this week.

Robert Sagun - has multiple myeloma with severely critical amyloid.

Terisita Sagun (Tess) - Has stage 4 bone cancer.

David Z - for his ongoing health issues.

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

God's Blessings to Everyone!~

Thyself and Thy Doctrine

T. Pierce Brown

I do not know of anyone who is more concerned than I am, and sometimes also dismayed, by what I consider doctrinal errors that have made large inroads into the church of our Lord in recent years. Of course, we can truthfully say, "It is not just recent years. It has been going on ever since the days of Paul," and then, perhaps shrug it off as insignificant. Paul did say in 2 Thessalonians 2:7, "The mystery of lawlessness ["iniquity" KJV] is already at work" (NKJV) and in 2 Timothy 4:3 "The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers." The fact that it was happening then does not make it less reprehensible now.

However, the thrust of this article is somewhat different. We think we see preachers and elders who are so concerned with doctrine that they seem to forget that their responsibility is to attend to the total spiritual welfare of the flock – not just make sure it has pure food to eat.

A farmer may get so concerned with keeping his fence repaired and his fence row clean that he may forget that his cows, hogs and sheep need more than to be kept in the right pasture. They can stay in the right field and still die of neglect. Likewise, a person can stay in the right church and hear the right doctrine and still die of neglect!

The principle Paul stated in 1 Timothy 4:16 has a broad application. "Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you." I know of a preacher who was a powerful and an accurate proclaimer of the true doctrine concerning the sanctity of marriage, etc., but who had an affair with another woman, and he actually took off and lived with her. Another was as sound as a dollar (that may have been his problem, considering the state of our economy!) on doctrinal matters, but apparently embezzled or misused thousands of dollars that he controlled.

So, elders and preachers need to take heed to themselves first, then to the doctrine. Paul repeated that idea in Acts 20:28. "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood." The word

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“feed” is not bosko meaning “feed” but poimaino meaning “shepherd.” It involves more than simply giving them the right doctrine. It involves their total spiritual welfare.

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Words of Eternal Life

Roger Wright

Preachers and church members often ask why people don't seem to be interested in spiritual things anymore. The problem of apathy toward the things of God is not really a new problem at all.

The children of Israel who experienced the first Passover, crossed the Red Sea on dry land and ate the manna from heaven constantly complained and wished to go back to Egypt. In the days of Ezra, the people neglected the Temple of God to work on their own houses. In Jesus' day, the people ate the bread and the fish that the Lord multiplied but had no appetite for the Bread which came down from Heaven. One after another, they went away (John 6:66-69).

Jesus must have been heartbroken when He asked His disciples if they would go away too. Peter boldly spoke, "...Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (John 6:68 NKJV). How much better to fill our souls with the Word of the Lord than to fill our stomachs with food. Job said, "...I have treasured the words of His mouth More than my necessary food" (Job 23:12).

How hungry are we for the Word of the Lord? We rarely miss filling our bellies at least three times a day. Are we hungry enough to eat and drink from the Word of God at every opportunity? Do we attend each session of our Gospel meetings? Do we attend all of the Bible classes? Do we listen to sermons from the Bible? Do we read and study our Bibles at home? Do we pray for wisdom, understanding and faith to apply God's Word to our lives?

The only way for us to have eternal life is through the Scriptures – the Word of God – by which we come to know the saving message of Christ. People around us are spiritually starved and spiritually dying, and yet, they don't know it. Let this not be said of us. Jesus is the Bread of life (John 6:48). Having Jesus in our hearts and lives is vital to sustaining spiritual life. There is no other one Who can give us eternal life. **Make it your aim to make the most of every opportunity to take in the message of Christ for the eternal life He offers to you.**

April 23, 2023



Worshipping with the church at Honolulu, Hawaii

Meeting Days and Times

Sunday 9:00 am

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

church of Christ at Alisal

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