

Upcoming Events

Business Meeting: May 5 at 4:30 p.m.

Mother's Day: May 12

Ladies Bible Class: May 19 at 4:00 p.m.

Memorial Day: May 27

Panera Bread Open Bible Study: Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Hebrews class Thursdays at 11:00

Practical Quotes about Judging

“Eyes, so easily deceived, might judge more rightly with lids closed, allowing ears and heart to remain wide open.”

- Richelle E. Goodrich -

“The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart.”

- Helen Keller -

“You are only what you are when no one is looking.”

- Robert C. Edwards -

May Birthdays

2 Peggy Woodruff

15 Kena Brown

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.

Sunday.....10:45 a.m.

Sunday.....6:00 p.m.

Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Church of Christ

81-377 Ave 46
Indio, CA 92201
(760) 342-1859

Preacher:
Mike McKnight

(Address Service Requested)

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Soul For Sale

By Joe Slater

Several years ago an atheist tried to sell his soul at the online auction site eBay. Bidding advanced to \$400 before eBay officials caught on and deleted the item. The seller said he didn't mean for anyone to take it seriously - he was just bored. He wished the high bidder luck in collecting!

While obviously a prank, this incident highlights some serious matters. First, we ought to be concerned about the well-being of our souls above all else. A typical atheist doesn't believe he even has a soul - he thinks "matter in motion" is all there is. How sad! God is Spirit, and we are made in His image. The spiritual part of us (our soul) will exist eternally.

Second, while some joke about it, we really can sell our soul to the devil by sinning. *“Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey?”* (Rom. 6:16). Fortunately, Jesus paid the price to redeem (buy back) our souls, thus delivering us from the bondage of sin.

Third, our soul is worth far more than \$400. Jesus asked, *“What will a man give in exchange for his soul?”* (Matthew 16:26). Our soul is worth more than all the world's riches. Yet we spend decades accumulating this world's wealth while doing little or nothing to benefit our souls. Go figure...

Fourth, it is pitiful that so many people are bored - especially when there is so much good to be done. We are addicted to television and video games but bored with anything that requires us to

actually work or think! Learning the truth is a fine alternative to boredom! We can buy a Bible anywhere for almost nothing, yet the population is abysmally ignorant of the Bible. Selfless service also alleviates boredom. We have time and resources, yet we are bored!

What will we do with our soul? We can give it to Jesus or sell it to satan. Neither will have any problem collecting. It's up to us!

The “Fear Nots” of Christ

A wonderful insightful homily (part 3) from Pulpit Commentary

“*Fear not.*” This is a characteristic word of the Bible, but especially of the Gospel, and chief of all, of our blessed Lord. For He not only spoke the word many times but His whole message and mission to mankind was to banish the bondslave fear which had haunted them so long from their minds.

Another of these “Fear nots”, in Matthew 10:28 defies persecution. “*Fear not them which kill the body.*” That entire chapter is an armory of weapons wherewith the war with the world may be successfully waged. Not much of open and violent persecution exists in our day. The serpent has had its fangs drawn, and the mouths of the lions have been shut; but still the enemies of Christ know well enough how to inflict much of pain on those who will not take their side but are faithful to the Lord. Many a working man and working woman who have to mingle in their daily employ with large numbers of others in warehouses, workshops, factories, and the like, can bear witness to the truth of this; and many a boy at school likewise. To all such this “*Fear not*” of Christ’s specially comes. To be despised by men may be hard, but will it not be worse to be rejected of the Lord if you give in to the fear of man? And is not the glad welcome and “*Well done*” of Christ worth winning, even at the cost of a sharp, though short-lived persecution now? Surely it is. And think how little they can do. They cannot touch you. They may mangle and murder your poor body, though they are not likely to go so far as that; but that is not

you. And when they have done that, they have no more that they can do. And how utter has been their failure in the past! One would have thought that the Church of Christ must have been exterminated long ago, considering what a ceaseless storm of hell’s artillery has been beating upon her devoted head. But lo! here the Church of Christ is, invincible in him who himself is invincible. Satan, the prompter of all persecution, soon tires when he finds that failure follows all he does. “*Fear not,*” therefore; **be bold for Christ. Confess him, and he will confess you.** S.C.

Judging by Appearance

By Tom Moore

Two businessmen were traveling by train to an important business meeting. In the seat opposite them was an old man with a shaggy beard, dressed in a tattered sweater and jeans. Throughout the ride the two told each other crude jokes about bums and tramps, with particular reference to the chap in the next seat. When they arrived at the meeting they discovered this “tramp” was a world-class scholar and the meetings’ keynote speaker. Realizing he had heard everything they said on route, they apologized.

“It is not my forgiveness you need,” he responded, “but the forgiveness of all the common people you hold in such disdain.” Sadly, many are disrespectful to their fellowman based on outward appearances. I attended a Lectureship once, and as the speaker of the hour was about to take the platform, I said to myself, “He looks like a country bumpkin. This is sure to be a boring sermon.” To my surprise it was one of the most powerful sermons I can remember hearing. You can’t always judge a book by its cover. Perhaps we should heed the following words: “*for man looketh on the outward appearance, but Jehovah looketh on the heart*” (1 Samuel 16:7). Perhaps the following exhortation should be heeded as well: “*Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets*” (Matthew 7:12).