

Upcoming Events
Independence Day: July 4
Business Meeting: July 14 at 4:30 p.m.
Ladies Bible Class: July 21 at 4:00 p.m.
Fall 2019 meeting: Final Planning
Panera Bread Open Bible Study: Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.
Hebrews class Mondays at 10:00 a.m.

The Love of God

“But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 8:37-39 (NASB)

July Birthdays

22 Morgie McKnight

30 Willie Henderson

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.
 Sunday.....10:45 a.m.
 Sunday.....6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Preacher:
 Mike McKnight

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

(Address Service Requested)

Indio Informer

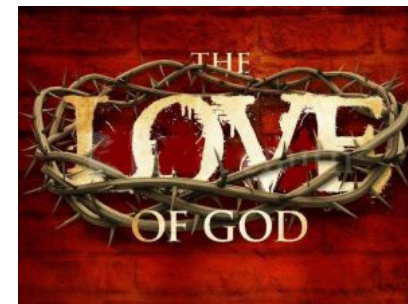
Vol. 30 No. 26

June 30, 2019

The Love of God

By Robert Notgrass

Paul said, “*Nay, in all things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.*” (Romans 8:37). He then catalogues things that cannot affect Christ’s love for us.



The love of God is unaffected by our conditions of life (Romans 8:38). A “*thorn in the flesh*” does not mean that Christ does not love us. It may best that we have problems so that we may not be “*exalted over much.*” (2 Corinthians 12:7). The grace of God can make perfect our weakness. (2 Corinthians 12:9) Even in death Christ has not forsaken us. Death does not affect the soul for which Christ died. In death there is only a change of the condition of the soul from an earthly abode to a spiritual realm.

The love of Good is unaffected by the order of things (Romans 8:38). “*Neither . . . angels, nor principalities, nor the things present, nor things to come*” will cause Christ to cease loving us. Trials may lead us nearer or away from Christ. Whatever may be our burdens and problems he still loves us.

The love of God is raised above the power of time. Neither things *“present, nor things to come”* will affect the love God for us. His love is constant. Christ loved us even when we were sinners—that is the reason he died for us.

The love is God is present everywhere. *“Neither height, nor depth . . . shall be able to separate us from the love of God.”* God is and he cares. He is not like a helpless idol nor a sitting Buddha.

It would be wonderful if our love for Christ was as firm as his love for us. God loves us but he hates sin. Sin can separate us from God. It is idle talk to say we love God and do not what he says. *“For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.”* (1 John 5:3)

God Gave Us Eternal Life

By Jon Mitchell

“And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.” 1 John 5:11-12

Christians, why should we be ashamed of this testimony? Eternal life is ours, the gift of God freely given! (Romans 6:23) Why should we be ashamed of the gospel? (Romans 1:16) To live forever in peace with God in heaven, when in reality we deserve the opposite (Romans 6:23; Revelation 21:8; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11). Our gratitude for this glorious gift should have us shouting his praises from the rooftops! (1 Peter 2:9)

So again, why SHOULDN'T we testify of God's love and grace? And why be afraid to say that the path to salvation is found in only one place, in one Man (John 14:6)? Why not tell of our allegiance to Jesus Christ? In him is life (John 1:4), and one resides in him only through repentance of sins and baptism (Galatians 3:26-27; Romans 6:1-5). Want to have the Son of God? Obey his command found in Mark 16:16. Obey his commands, period (Luke 6:46; John 14:21-23).

FREE FOR WHAT?

By A. Jay Kelley

“You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather serve one another in love.” Galatians 5:13.

There are three things that jump out at me in this passage. First, Christians are called for freedom, not bondage. Second, grace is not a license to sin. Finally, idle hands are the devil's workshop.

Many of the brethren do not understand that Christ has called us out of the penalties of sin and into a state of grace that exists, not because of our performance, but His. In other words, to doubt one's salvation is to doubt one's Savior. Man's performance has nothing to do with salvation; the salvation was brought by God. I know; faith without works is dead, but it still isn't the works God is looking at, it's the faith that produces the works.

Some argue both for and against the former proposition based on the idea that we would therefore be free to sin. That is precisely the argument that Paul addresses in both Galatians and Romans. Freedom from sin's penalty is not a get-out-of-jail-free card; however, it is far from it. The grace of God makes man responsible for his own destiny. No, I don't mean we can earn salvation, but it is certainly our choice whether we want God's grace or not! God's grace will not cover the presumption that we are free to do as we please because we are saved.

Some are probably wondering where that third point came from. Paul places a life of service in direct opposition to carnality. He does so in other letters when he encourages industry as a prevention for gossip. If we want to avoid all sorts of sin, we need to be busy doing what is right. But it's more than just being busy. We need to be busy about the Lord's work. Any work can help avoid boredom, but only God's work can help avoid sin.