

Upcoming Events...

Budget preparations for 2018
Business Meeting: December 9
Ladies Bible Class: December 16
Establish Master Calendar for 2018
Christmas Day: December 25
Corporation meeting: Budget/Financial Report
Hebrews class Thursdays at 11:00; next class November 29

New Christian

Please welcome **Flor Diaz**, baptized into Christ last week; address is 80859 Dartmouth Ave. Indio, CA 92201; phone : (760) 984-8366; Email: DiazBflor@gmail.com

November Birthdays

18 Emilia Letalu 27 Lupita Guzman

December Birthdays

17 Bill Brown 27 Sue Tanner 29 Noah McKnight
30 Richard Karns 31 Bob Pescador

December Anniversaries

12 Ron & Peggy Woodruff 18 Jim & Marie Burruss

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The Secret of Contentment

Homilies by W.F. Adeney
(From the Pulpit Commentary)_

Contentment is a rare and precious Christian grace. It must be distinguished from spiritual self-satisfaction, which is sinful and fatal, and is concerned with our own inner condition, while true contentment has regard to our external circumstances. It must also be distinguished from the recklessness of folly and from the apathy of despair. It is a quiet restfulness in the midst of all kinds of changing events. It is rare and difficult of attainment, because outside events are frequently untoward; our own hearts are unhealthily restless; and we live too much in dependence on this world and its fortunes.

Contentment is most desirable. For without it the most propitious circumstances can minister little pleasure, and with it the hardest privations can produce little distress. The important question in regard to our happiness is not — What things do we possess? but — What kind of thoughts and feelings do we experience?

Contentment is requisite in every condition of life. It is not only the virtue of the poor and the solace of the disappointed. Rich and prosperous people are too often also discontented people. It is harder for some to know how to abound than to know how to suffer want. Wealth brings the thirst for more wealth. Pleasure palls. Prosperity wearies. It is a grand attainment to be able to pass up and down the whole gamut of social change and to behave one's self with equanimity and contentment in every stage up from abasement to abundance and then down again from fullness to need.

The secret of contentment is to be learned from Christ. There is a secret. Some have not yet found it out. But it exists and it is

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

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

(Address Service Requested)

well worth seeking. To be fully understood and enjoyed it must be learned as a long, difficult, painful lesson. St. Paul had learnt it, and his example should win fresh pupils to study the same great lesson.

Christ gives us strength to bear varying fortunes. St. Paul could speak of his contentment because he could also say, *“I can do all things in him that strengtheneth me.”* If we know and feel nothing beyond this, there is a certain satisfaction to be got from the mere sense of new power given to bear that which before seemed to be unbearable.

Christ enables us to live in faith. Thus believing that even now all things are ordered wisely and kindly by our heavenly Father, that they are working together for good not yet seen, working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, we learn to bear the present mystery of trial in hope of the future revelation of blessedness.

Christ leads us to live in the spiritual. This is the real secret. External circumstances are constantly changing. At best they will not satisfy the soul’s deep hunger. While we live in them we are necessarily often disappointed and discontented. In the inner world of spiritual things we must find our best experience, and when this opens up to the higher world of Divine and heavenly things we have a source of unending peace. Resting in God we shall be content in every variety of earthly affairs. — W.F.A.

Holy is Your Name

By Mark Stinnett

The meaning of holiness seems to be mostly lost in our day. We are more likely to hear the word ‘holy’ in a religious service or in a silly exclamation such as, “Holy Cow!” However, God is holy; we are to be holy; His name is holy. What does it mean to be holy? In a general sense, something that is holy is ‘set apart from’ or ‘separated from’ common things. In a sense, museum artifacts are holy because they are separated from common. They have an important connection to our past, a unique quality, or great value. These special objects are guarded from casual contact; protected

from the elements; and given a place of honor in a museum. Visitors are expected to give the artifacts proper respect.

God is holy. He is deserving of honor and respect (awe). We show our honor, not by admiring God as an artifact as in a museum, but by our devotion to His ways and our worship. He is holy because He is, by His very nature, separate from mankind. He is holy; man is common. He is righteous; man is unrighteous. He is eternal; man is finite. He is creator; man is created.

When Jesus taught his disciples to pray, he taught them that the name of God is holy (hallowed). It is not enough to accept that God Himself is holy; His name, also, is holy. At some point in their history the ancient Jews stopped saying the name of God. We are told of their reasoning, that if they did not say God’s name then they would not break the command: *“You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.”* (Exodus 20:7) The ancient Jews put God’s name up on a shelf as if it were an artifact. That was not God’s intent.

When God revealed His name to Moses it meant something. God told Moses to tell the Israelites that the God of Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob was about to deliver them from Egypt. He is The One Who Is: “I AM Who I AM.” God expected His name to be spoken, but with reverence and honor. His name was not to be on an equal level with the names of foreign gods. His name was above them, because He is real and He is supreme. His name is not a common name like that of any man or woman throughout history.

His name is not to be used as the punch-line of a joke or the subject of humor. His name is not for meaningless exclamations of surprise. God’s name is not to be shouted when experiencing sharp pain or anger. God’s name has meaning and it uniquely identifies God as deity; one who is self-sufficient, eternal in existence, and changeless. No other single descriptor is capable of encompassing His identity. His is not a “name that must not be spoken” but one that must be revered. The name of God can only be attributed to Him, for no man can make such a claim as does the name of God: I AM. “Our Father in heaven...HOLY IS YOUR NAME.”