

Upcoming Events...

1 Corinthians Class: Every Tuesday at 12:00 p.m.

Barnabas Group Meeting: October 31

Daylight Savings ends, next Sunday...November 5;
change clocks back one hour

The Focus of our Love

“And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?” Luke 6:46

“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.”

1 John 2:15-17

“Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.” 1 John 4:7-8

November Birthdays

6 Ashley Tanner

10 Daniel Brown

21 Garroll White

27 Lupita Guzman

November Anniversaries

2 Shannon & Susan Hudson

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. 28 No. 44

October 29, 2017

Do You Keep His Commandments?

By Jon Mitchell

“Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.” John 14:21

All who profess to follow Christ will unhesitatingly state that they love God. That’s a given, and from a certain perspective it’s a good thing. It speaks of their sincerity and of a heart-felt gratitude they have towards their Creator.



Do I Keep His Commandments? Yet, so many of us profess to love God...while unrepentantly doing things that grieve him, anger him, and displease him. Consider this...

- We say we love God but we hardly ever open our Bibles. Do you truly love someone if you’re not interested in learning what they have to say?
- We say we love God but we hardly ever pray. Do you truly love someone if you’re not interested in talking to them?
- We say we love God but we choose to worship him according to what we think will please him rather than according to his will revealed to us in his Word. Do we truly love someone if they ask us to give them a certain gift and instead we give them what we think they will like?

- We say we love God but we then say he has saved us in a way which is foreign to how he has told us he saves us in his Word. Do you truly love someone if we basically call them a liar, especially over something as important as our salvation?
- We say we love God but we do not care enough about the souls for whom he sent his Son to die to share with them the gospel as he told us to do. Do we truly love someone if we don't care enough to do everything we can to save the person for whom they gave such a high sacrifice?

If we truly love God and his Son Jesus, we will obey their commandments. And when we sin and fail them, we will repent and try again because we love them. Otherwise, all we are doing is lying to them, to others, and to ourselves.

I Drive a Donkey

Neal Pollard,
Denver, Colorado

There is an obscure Bible character that holds a great deal of fascination for me. His name is Harbona and his name only appears twice, both in connection with the account of Esther. He is introduced in Esther 1:10 and plays a key role in this divine story of providence in Esther 7:9.

His name means “donkey driver.” Granted, his name means more than that. The Exhaustive Dictionary of Bible Names says his name means, “Warlike; martial; a destroyer; ass driver; the anger of him who builds” (Cornwall and Smith 96). Harbonah was the eunuch in Ahasuerus’ court who informed the king of Haman’s treachery, saying, *“Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, which Haman had made for Mordecai, who had spoken good for the king, standeth in the house of Haman. Then the king said, Hang him thereon”* (Esther 7:9).

Thus ended the life of the man who tried to end the life of the Jews, through whom the Messiah of the world would eventually be born. Harbonah has an important footnote in the beautiful unfolding of

God’s providence in the life and book of Esther. His name is favorably included in the only sacred volume God ever moved men to write. That’s a pretty good legacy for a man whose name means “donkey driver.”

All of us are probably curious, if uninformed, about what our name means. I once learned that my middle name, by which as a “junior” I am called, Neal, means “champion.” Lest I should be exalted above measure, my first name, Gary, means “hunting dog.” My surname, Pollard, means “tree topper.” Thus I can be proud to know that my full name means “champion hunting dog tree topper.” Solomon wrote that a good name is better than great wealth (Proverbs 22:1) and better than a good ointment (Ecclesiastes 7:1). Regardless of what your name means, the words and actions associated with it, good or bad, determine how that name will be remembered by others. So even if your name is Rafe Bosephus McGillicutty, wear it in a way that honors the Lord and promotes His cause; then that name will always be sweet on others’ lips.

God’s Three Steps to Success

By Mike Riley

In successfully leading the Israelites into the Promised Land, Joshua had to obey God’s simple instructions. The first step being to **“be strong and of good courage”** (Joshua 1:6); the second step included **continually meditating on the Book of the Law**; and finally, he was to **do everything it said** (Joshua 1:8). As long as Joshua followed these three steps, God promised him “good success.”

Notice that God’s idea of success has little to do with fame, fortune, or knowing the right people. In the original Hebrew, the phrase, *“then you will have good success”* (Strong’s 7919) means *“then you will act wisely.”* Just as God called Joshua to walk in wisdom, He wants us to *“walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise”* (Ephesians 5:15). As we take courage in the Lord (John 16:33 NASB), feast on His Word (1 Peter 2:1-2), and obey Him (Romans 6:17), we have a recipe for godly success that’s better than anything we could possibly think up on our own.