

Upcoming Events...

Galatians Class: Every Thursday at 1:00 p.m.

Fall Gospel Meeting: Mike Wilson, November 11-14

Business Meeting: October 14

Ladies Bible Class: October 21

Barnabas Group Meeting: September 25

Welcome New Members!

Placed Membership: Tamasi and Emilia Letalu; son, Joseph; daughter, Jaileen. Address: 82097 Hansen Dr. Indio, CA 92201. Phone: (760) 672-1249

Baptized Sunday evening: Shelby Wolgamot. Address: 4405 Mockingbird Lane, Banning, CA 92220. Phone: (951) 292-2926

September Birthdays

2 Linda McGraw	3 Wendy Cortes	11 Marie Burruss
15 Marcos Perales	16 Jim Burruss	24 Mason Perales
28 Joseph Letalu	30 Dortha Gentry	30 Kurt Hoffman

September Anniversaries

13 Wendy & Luis Cortes

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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(Address Service Requested)

Indio Informer

Vol. 29 No. 39

September 30, 2018

Well Said...

"To become Christ-like is the only thing in the whole world worth caring for, the thing before which every ambition of man is folly and all lower achievement vain." – Henry Drummond (1851-1897) wrote "The Greatest Thing in the World" in 1874 that illuminates the importance of 1 Corinthians 13. Widely read and quoted during his lifetime, it went on to sell over 12 million copies and it continues today to influence people to follow God's two great commandments: to love God and to love each other.

So...for your consideration...a very fascinating read...the following is just the beginning section of this small book. (might peak your interest. JB)

THE GREATEST THING IN THE WORLD

Written at age 23 in 1874

By Henry Drummond (1851-1897)

Evangelist, Biologist, Writer and Lecturer



EVERY one has asked himself the great question of antiquity as of the modern world: What is the *summum bonum*--the supreme good? You have life before you. Once only you can live it. What is the noblest object of desire, the supreme gift to covet?

We have been accustomed to be told that the greatest thing in the religious world is Faith. That great word has been the keynote for centuries of the popular religion; and we have easily learned to look upon it as the greatest thing in the world. Well, we are wrong. If we have been told that, we may miss the mark. I have taken you, in the chapter which I have just read (1 Corinthians 13), to Christianity at its source; and there we have seen, *"The greatest of these is love."* It is not an oversight. Paul was speaking of faith just a moment before. He says, *"If I have all faith, so that I can remove mountains, and have not love, I am nothing."* So far from forgetting, he deliberately contrasts them, *"Now abideth Faith,*

Hope, Love," and without a moment's hesitation, the decision falls, "*The greatest of these is Love.*"

And it is not prejudice. A man is apt to recommend to others his own strong point. Love was not Paul's strong point. The observing student can detect a beautiful tenderness growing and ripening all through his character as Paul gets old; but the hand that wrote, "*The greatest of these is love,*" when we meet it first, is stained with blood.

Nor is this letter to the Corinthians peculiar in singling out love as the *summum bonum*. The masterpieces of Christianity are agreed about it. Peter says, "*Above all things have fervent love among yourselves.*" Above all things. And John goes farther, "*God is love.*" And you remember the profound remark which Paul makes elsewhere, "*Love is the fulfilling of the law.*" Did you ever think what he meant by that? In those days men were working their passage to Heaven by keeping the Ten Commandments, and the hundred and ten other commandments which they had manufactured out of them. Christ said, I will show you a more simple way. If you do one thing, you will do these hundred and ten things, without ever thinking about them. If you love, you will unconsciously fulfil the whole law. And you can readily see for yourselves how that must be so. Take any of the commandments. "*Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.*" If a man love God, you will not require to tell him that. Love is the fulfilling of that law. "*Take not His name in vain.*" Would he ever dream of taking His name in vain if he loved Him? Would he not be too glad to have one day in seven to dedicate more exclusively to the object of his affection? Love would fulfil all these laws regarding God. And so, if he loved Man, you would never think of telling him to honor his father and mother. He could not do anything else. It would be preposterous to tell him not to kill. You could only insult him if you suggested that he should not steal, how could he steal from those he loved? It would be superfluous to beg him not to bear false witness against his neighbor. If he loved him it would be the last thing he would do. And you would never dream of urging him not to covet what his neighbors had. He would rather they possessed it than himself. In this way "*Love is the fulfilling of the law.*" It is the rule for fulfilling all rules, the new commandment for keeping all the old commandments, Christ's one secret of the Christian life.

Henry Drummond, in this noble eulogy by Paul, has given us the most wonderful and original account extant of the *summum bonum*. He states that we may divide it into three parts. In the beginning of the short chapter, we have Love contrasted; in the heart of it, we have Love analyzed; towards the end we have

Love defended as the supreme gift. (That's what the remainder of the little book is about. JB)

Love

By Mike Benson

A soldier was finally coming home after having fought in Vietnam...He called his parents from San Francisco. "Mom, Dad - - I'm coming home, but I've a favor to ask. I have a friend I'd like to bring home with me." "Sure," they replied, "we'd love to meet him."

"There's something you should know," the son continued, "he was hurt pretty bad in the fighting. He stepped on a land mine and lost an arm and a leg. He has nowhere else to go, and I want him to come and live with us.

"I'm sorry to hear that son. Maybe we can help him find somewhere to live." "No, Mom and Dad, I want him to live with us." "Son," said the father, "you don't know what you're asking. Someone with such a handicap would be a terrible burden to us. We have our own lives to live, and we can't let something like this interfere with our lives. I think you should just come on home and forget about this guy. He'll find a way to live on his own."

At that point, the son hung up the phone. The parents heard nothing more from him. A few days later, however, they received a phone call from the San Francisco police. Their son died after falling from a building, they were told. The police believed it was suicide.

The grief-stricken parents flew to San Francisco and were taken to the city morgue to identify the body of their son. They recognized him, but to their horror they also discovered something they didn't know -- their son had only one arm and one leg.

THOUGHT: The parents of the story are like many of us. We find it easy to love those who are good-looking or fun to have around, but we don't like people who inconvenience us or make us feel uncomfortable. We would rather stay away from people who aren't as healthy, beautiful, or perhaps smart as we are. We want to love people who are easy to love. Thankfully, there's someone Who won't treat us that way. Someone who loves us with an unconditional love.