

Upcoming Events

Revelation class: Today at 2:30
“Numbers in the Bible and in Revelation”
When was Revelation Written?

Tuesday Meet Up Class
July 20 at 7:00 p.m.
New Location:
77682 Country Club Drive A-2
Palm Desert

Latest Preacher’s Blog
Brother Critchfield’s *“Bible Thoughts”* for the week!
A Commitment for the Day
The article contains the “key” for making it through each day.
Check it out!

Indio Informer

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How Much Have I Committed?

By Dan Jenkins

When Paul wrote his second letter to Timothy, he knew the end was near. He looked back over his life and used two illustrations from the Grecian games to describe it. He mentioned fighting (wrestling or boxing) and racing. *“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith”* (2 Timothy 4:6). It is at times like this that a man reflects on how his life has been spent. It is a time for self-evaluation.

Look at his words in chapter one. He urged Timothy to never be ashamed of the gospel nor of Paul. *“Share with me in the sufferings for the gospel”* (2 Timothy 1:8). Four verses later he mentions his suffering again. *“For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed...”* Throughout much of his life he had been despised, mocked, blasphemed, beaten and imprisoned. The world looks at such men with contempt, yet Paul was not ashamed.

How could this be? Read the rest of this verse. *“For I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.”* Just what had he committed to the Lord? Take time to consider the following thoughts as if we knew our life was about to end and then reflect back on it. What have we committed to the safekeeping of God until the day of judgment?

- He had committed to the Lord his choice to suffer shame at the hands of men for Him to recompense on the final day.
- He had committed his soul to the Lord. That eternal spirit was about to depart from his body, and he had loved the

Regular Meeting Times

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

Preacher:
Jack Critchfield

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

(Address Service Requested)

Lord with all of his heart and soul. He believed the Lord knew this and would keep it until the end.

- He had committed his body as a living sacrifice and it was offered on the altar of service. Now the time had come for his life to be sealed with his own blood. With absolute confidence he knew he would be vindicated someday.
- He had committed the future into God's hand and while there was much uncertainty about that future, he knew Who held the future. *"I know whom I have believed..."* He may not have known the "what," but he knew the Who!
- He had committed all that there was to Him who was able. On this earth there were times when Paul was bound and helpless because there were those who were able to do this to him. Yet Paul knew that their power was nothing compared to the power of the Almighty. There is no comparison to be made between the two. Those Roman soldiers thought they were able to control Paul's future. He knew better.

How deep is our commitment to the Lord? How much of ourselves or our life belongs to Him?

When We Don't Feel Like It

By Jack Critchfield

We all struggle with spiritual discouragement and lethargy. Some days our circumstances threaten to overwhelm us, and we struggle just to pray. For one reason or another, God sometimes seems far off and unreachable. The Psalms give us the key to living victoriously during the dark periods of life. Let's take a quick look at Psalm 119:89-95.

"Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven. Your faithfulness continues throughout all generations; You established the earth, and it stands. They stand this day according to Your ordinances..."

My circumstances or feelings do not change God. He is the same God today as He was when He hung the stars in the sky, led the Israelites through the Red Sea, and fed the five thousand.

"For all things are Your servants."

All things, even the things affecting me right now, are God's servants. The circumstance, people, and events around me are all under God. They are His servants, designed to help and bless me spiritually.

"If Your law had not been my delight, Then I would have perished in my affliction. I will never forget Your precepts, for by them You have revived me. I am Yours, save me; For I have sought Your precepts. The wicked wait for me to destroy me; I shall diligently consider Your testimonies."

Recalling God's faithfulness and control over everything that touches us gives us strength to walk with God even when we feel like giving up in despair. After all, our feelings and circumstances have not changed God. He is perfectly capable of sustaining us if we will only let Him. We simply need to choose to *delight* in and *diligently consider* God's precepts (His principles and character) despite how we feel. Choosing to delight in God might not be easy. It might even involve hard work. But only God can revive and save our soul from spiritual lethargy.

Next time we feel spiritually drained or inadequate, remember that we have a choice. We can wrap ourselves up in excuses and self-pity, or we can choose to draw our strength from an unchanging God.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and pleading with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:6-7