

Upcoming Events

Meet Up Class

Monday, November 29 at 7:00 p.m.
28561 Sunnyslope St.
Desert Hot Springs CA 92241

Visiting Needs...

“Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world...I was sick, and you visited Me...”. Matthew 25:34, 36

December Birthdays

17 Bill Brown 18 Alexis Brown
27 Sue Tanner 31 Bob Pescador

December Anniversaries

12 Ron & Peggy Woodruff 18 Jim & Marie Burruss

Indio Informer

Vol. 32 No. 48

November 28, 2021

Perspective

Blessings

By Joe Chesser

Blessings probably aren't always what we think they are. I may be way off base, but I have a sneaky suspicion that when most people think of blessings, they only think one dimensionally. Blessings are things that make us happy or satisfied or comfortable. For most people, blessings are only things that are good and/or pleasing, such as good health, good jobs, good families, good times, good church, etc. Blessings are things like having a safe trip or having a good meal or having a comfortable place to sleep. Indeed, these truly are blessings, but

...on the other hand, it's rarely considered a blessing to have a car wreck or to lose a job or to get sick. It doesn't seem like much of a blessing to have the stock market drop or to not get a promotion. Things that happen which are not only unpleasant but that may even be harmful are rarely seen as blessings. Generally speaking, from the world's viewpoint, blessings are defined as things or events that are good within themselves. That's why the dictionary defines "blessing" as "a thing conducive to happiness or welfare."

Thankfully, God sees "blessings" much differently and enables Christians to see "blessings" through His eyes, not the eyes of the world. While the world seeks events and circumstances that bring pleasure for the moment, God sees a much broader picture. He works things out for our good in relation to eternity (Romans 8:28). The journey may not be pleasant at all, but the destination brings the greatest possible reward (Hebrews 11:25-26; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18). God knows how to turn tragedy into triumph. But even more important, He has promised to do it for each and every one of us who *"love him and are called according to his purpose."*

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)

Stuffing

John M. Buttrey II

For the Christian, blessings must be seen only through the eyes of God. Knowing that God wants only what is best for us, knowing that God can turn anything Satan can do into victory for His people, and knowing that God is more concerned about creating God-like character than about providing pleasant circumstances, allows us to understand His “blessings” in a much different way. Job’s faith and understanding of God made it possible for him to endure the loss of his flocks and herds, his children, and even his own health without blaming God. In fact, he *“fell to the ground in worship”* and said, *“may the name of the Lord be praised”* (Job 1:20-21).

So, when we don’t get the job we wanted, we know it is a blessing from God. When our prayers aren’t answered in just the way we expected them to be, we know that God is blessing us in greater ways. When life hands us a lemon, we don’t have to make lemonade. Just see the lemons as blessings from God and wait on Him to make whatever He wants out of those lemons. One thing’s for sure – it will be a blessing!

Seeing the Blessings Instead of the Sorrows

By Joseph D. Chase

It really is up to us! We can see the myriad of problems that plague us in this world and worry about them. We can complain about them. We could curse them or many other actions. However, there is only one way that we, God’s family, ought to respond to these troubles...

God has given us the opportunity to shine our lights before men and so glorify the God of heaven (Matthew 5:16). I can decide to work for the Lord and right wrongs that I see...lift up the broken and hurting. I can become a part of God’s solution for a lost and dying world...*“Go out and make disciples...”*, visit the poor, the widowed, the orphan (James 1:27), offer a simple cup of cool water in the name of our Lord Jesus. When we do the Lord’s work it makes the world a better place. We bless and are blessed when we view problems as opportunities.

It won’t be easy, but it will be worthwhile.

On Thursday evening of this week (and really any day of week during the year), most all of us will be able to say, “I am stuffed.” We will have had plenty of turkey, vegetables, and desserts. In the days following Thursday, we will likely be stuffed again with leftovers. While being stuffed may give you a cramped kind of feeling in your stomach, think how blessed you are to be able to be stuffed. The condition of being stuffed, though desired, is not possible for everyone.

Consider also that we are stuffed with things other than food. Our houses, cupboards, shelves, refrigerators, freezers, drawers, garages, rooms, closets, pockets, purses, wallets, and trunks are all stuffed. Our phones are stuffed with songs, apps, contact information for people we love, and who love us, as well as photos of family, friends, vacations, and celebrations.

Spiritually speaking, we are also stuffed. Paul says we have been blessed with *“every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ”* (Eph. 1:3). Peter says we have been granted *“everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us”* (2 Peter 1:3).

Throughout our lives we have been stuffed with favorably answered prayers from God. We have been taught wonderful truths from His word. We have been recipients of God’s grace and mercy. We have been forgiven, redeemed, justified, sanctified, and saved. All of these examples of our “stuffing” shows us we ought always be very thankful to God. However, another reminder concerning stuffing is also necessary. Even when we are not stuffed, we should be thankful to God. The apostle Paul said it well:

“I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the **secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.**” Philippians 4:12 (Emphasis Mine)

Paul reminds us that whatever our condition might be in life, whether stuffed or being without, we are to be content and give thanks to God.