#### **ATTENTION!!**

#### MeetUp Class

Monday, May 30, at 7:00 p.m. 28561 Sunnyslope St. Desert Hot Springs CA 92241

#### **Visiting Needs**

Jesus Said..." was sick, and you visited Me..."

Matthew 25:36

May God continue to bless us all.

#### **June Birthdays**

9 Debbie Pescador

#### **June Anniversaries**

5 Kurt & Debbie Hoffman

#### **Regular Meeting Times**

Sunday......9:45 a.m. Sunday......10:45 a.m.

Wednesday......7:00 p.m.

Website: indiochurchofchrist.com

**Preacher:** Jack Critchfield

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

(Address Service Requested)

# Indio Informer

Vol. 33 No. 22

May 29, 2022

### **Memorial Day**

By Kevin Cauley

The verse that immediately came to my mind when thinking about Memorial Day was John 15:13, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." This verse is often quoted on Memorial Day and frequently applied (in most cases, correctly) to the men and women who have died to serve our country. Memorial Day, then, is the day that we remember those who have fallen, whether in battle or in peacetime, who have sacrificed all simply for the sake of their fellow man's freedom. This day, in our culture, comes around once a year and to most, this day signifies the beginning of the summer season and the associated recreational activities.

What will you do on Memorial Day? Some will have backyard cook outs. Some will go to the lake or beach. Some will go to a park for a picnic. Others will attend a parade or some other Memorial Day celebration. But our eternal destiny does not depend upon us doing any one particular thing on Memorial Day.

There is another memorial day, however, that is much more significant than the Memorial Day which we celebrate every year. This memorial day commemorates One who not only gave His life for his friends, but also for His enemies (Romans 5:7, 8). This memorial day is not to remember those who have fallen in battle, but One who was triumphant over death (Colossians 2:15). This memorial day doesn't begin a single season of the year, but begins every week of the year. This memorial day is observed by those who are faithful Christians upon the first day of the week, every week. What is this day of which I speak? It is Sunday, the first day of the week (Mark 16:2, 9, Acts 20:7).

Yes, today is memorial day. The early Christians gathered upon the first day of the week to remember the Lord by partaking of the Lord's supper (Acts 20:7). Jesus said in Luke 22:19 "this do in remembrance of me" and Paul in 1 Corinthians 11:24, 25 reiterated this statement of Jesus in regard to the Lord's Supper as well. Yes, today is memorial day. When we eat of the bread and drink of the fruit of the vine, we remember the body and blood of Jesus. We remember that He died for us; we remember that He was resurrected to live again (Philippians 3:10); we remember that his physical death gave us spiritual life that we might live in Him each day (1 Thessalonians 5:10). Yes, today is memorial day as well as next Sunday, and the Sunday after that; each first day of the week we observe memorial day.

What will we do on memorial day? Many think that memorial day is a day to stay home and rest, or go to the park, or beach or lake. Yet others believe that we must make an observance of memorial day, but not the full observance by remembering His body and blood in His supper, at His table. We each have a choice this memorial day. We can abide by the instructions of the One who established memorial day and remember Him as He desires, or we can do whatever we desire whether that is not observing the day at all, or only partly observing it. One thing is certain; our eternal destiny will depend upon how we observe this memorial day.

## The Greatest Story: The Greatest Salvation By Ron Bartanen

The greatest story ever told is a true story. It is the story of how God has provided salvation for man through His Son, Jesus Christ. Obviously, this story would be without significance was it not for the fact that man is lost in sin and in need of a Savior. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23), while "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23).

Looking at the Bible as a whole, it is one story. It is the account of creation, the fall of man, the promise of a Deliverer, the coming of the Deliverer, His death for man's sins, His resurrection, His ascension into glory, and His promised return to "judge the quick and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom" (2 Timothy 4:1). The writer of the book of Hebrews wrote, "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation: which at the first began to

be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard Him?" (Hebrews 2:3).

There were other salvations in the Scriptures. Noah and his household were saved when God destroyed the world by the Great Flood. By faith, being warned and instructed by God, he obeyed God "to the saving of his house" (Hebrews 11:7). God saved Israel from Egyptian bondage as His servant, Moses, was empowered to miraculously lead them forth by faith and obedience, from Egypt toward the Promised Land. The story of these salvations, while great, serve as prophetic types of the greatest story—the great salvation wrought through Christ. For those who will step out in faith and obedience to Christ, there is deliverance from the guilt and the eternal consequences of sin, with a far more glorious hope. Truly, He is "the author of eternal salvation to all them that obey Him" (Hebrews 5:9).

The greatness of this story of salvation is based on a number of factors, among which are the following:

- God is its author (Hebrews 5:9).
- The greatest price was paid to make it a reality—the blood of God's Son: "God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.. Much more then, being now justified by His blood..." (Romans 5:9).
- We are saved from God's wrath: "...we shall be saved from wrath through Him" (Romans 5:9).
- We have the greatest hope, established upon God's promises: "We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness" (2 Peter 3:13).
- It is eternal in its duration (Hebrews 5:9).
- It is guaranteed by the resurrection of Jesus Christ: "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us...by the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:21).

The greatest story is that found within the pages of our Bible. The greatest story is His story. In His words: "Search the Scriptures: for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me" (John 5:39). The greatest story is the great salvation that is available to all through Jesus Christ. "How shall we escape?" if we neglect it?