

Gospel Meeting...Starts today!!!

- Randall Jarrell from El Centro –

**Yes...We have daily struggles...but...
maintain perspective!
Keep the End Goal in Mind**

***“For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not
worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.”***
Romans 8:18

October Birthdays

8 Esmeralda McCollum 28 Allan Brown

Regular Meeting Times

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

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Faithful and Steadfast: Navigating Trials and Temptations

By Jeff Arnette

In life, we often face trials and temptations that test our faith and character. It is during these moments that we must cling to our convictions and remain faithful to God’s word. The profound wisdom found in Revelation 2:10, Jude 21, and 2 Peter 2:20, provides guidance on how to navigate through challenging times while remaining steadfast in our devotion to God.

Revelation 2:10 – “Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

The book of Revelation offers encouragement to those enduring trials and persecution. This verse reminds us of the eternal reward that awaits those who remain faithful to God, even in the face of death. It serves as a powerful reminder that our temporary struggles pale in comparison to the glory that awaits us in eternity. We are called to persevere and hold fast to our faith, knowing that God is with us through every trial.

Jude 21 – “Keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.”

Jude’s exhortation emphasizes the importance of actively maintaining our relationship with God. To “keep ourselves in the love of God” implies that we should consistently seek His presence, abide in His word, and cultivate a life of prayer. By doing so, we remain grounded in His love, eagerly awaiting the ultimate mercy and salvation that comes through Jesus Christ. In times of trial, let us hold on to God’s promises and trust in His faithfulness.

2 Peter 2:20 – “For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them

and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first.”

This verse serves as a warning against falling back into the entanglements of sin after experiencing the transforming power of God’s grace. It reminds us of the importance of staying vigilant and not becoming complacent in our faith. If we allow ourselves to be swayed by worldly temptations and return to our former ways, the consequences can be devastating. Let us strive to maintain a pure and steadfast faith, continually seeking God’s guidance to avoid the snares of sin.

As believers, we will undoubtedly face trials, temptations, and moments of doubt along our journey of faith. However, by anchoring ourselves in the wisdom of God’s word, we can find strength and guidance to remain faithful and steadfast. It is my hope that we will be encouraged to persevere, stay focused on the eternal crown of life, eagerly awaiting the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, and faithfully using our gifts for God’s glory.

The Beauty of Jesus

By Al Behel

Someone has said that by the time you are 50 years old you have the face you deserve. Perhaps there is a lot of truth in that statement. The years we have spent frowning, scowling, worrying, smiling, or laughing are etched on our faces. Every day we are making a face that will tell a great deal about how we have lived our lives.

Billions of dollars are spent each year by both men and women trying to change our faces. Plastic surgery, cosmetics, herbal supplements, lotions, creams, and countless other techniques are used to erase the unwanted marks and create a new image.

Paul tells us that if we keep looking at Jesus we will start to look more and more like him (2 Corinthians 3:18). Those compassion lines and smiles of kindness lines will be permanently etched on our faces. We will become more like him on the inside and the outside will glow with his presence within us. We will be transformed into “his image”.

When Moses descended from Mount Sinai after being in the presence of God his face was aglow with a radiance that made it impossible for the people to look upon him. When the apostles

Peter and John stood before the threatening Sanhedrin Court, that august body could not miss the fact that they had been with Jesus. That’s the way it is for all of us. When we spend time with him, his beauty becomes a part of us. The hymn expresses it so well:

*Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me,
All His wonderful passion and purity;
Oh, Thou Spirit divine, all my nature refine
Till the beauty of Jesus be seen in me.*

No cosmetic surgery or any other treatment will give us the face of Jesus. As we behold his glory and experience his grace, we will begin to look more and more like Him.

It is Enough

By Steve Higginbotham

It seems we are always wanting more. No matter the subject, and no matter how much we already have, we seem to always want more. But when is enough, enough? Can we be content with “enough?”

Is it enough to have a car, or must we have the latest model? Is it enough to have a house, or must we have a “nice” house? Is it enough to clothe ourselves and our children, or must we have a certain brand of clothing? Is it enough to meet our financial obligations or must we have additional money to “play” with? Is it enough to be a servant of God, or must we be in the spotlight?

It’s really this last point I want you to consider. Have you ever heard of Quartus? He’s probably unknown to you by name, but he’s mentioned in the Bible. What the Bible records about him is remarkable. He had no particular fame. He didn’t slay a giant or survive a fiery furnace. In fact, I know of nothing that this man did that would cause him to be remembered. But here’s what the Bible says about him, “*Gaius, my host and the host of the whole church greets you. Erastus, the treasurer of the city greets you, and Quartus, a brother*” (Romans 16:23).

Did you catch that? “*Quartus, a brother.*” Nothing more; just a brother. But that’s enough, isn’t it? Whatever else I may or may not be able to achieve in life, if I can just be remembered as “a brother in Christ,” it will be enough!