

Speaker for Today
Thank you again, Alexis Brown

Pray for our brothers and sisters



True Love

“Love is patient, love is kind, it is not jealous; love does not brag, it is not arrogant. It does not act disgracefully, it does not seek its own benefit; it is not provoked, does not keep an account of a wrong suffered, it does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; it keeps every confidence, it believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.” 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

July Birthdays

19 Sal Contino

Regular Meeting Times

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

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

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

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“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.”

Proverb 3:5

- *“Fight the good fight”*
- *“Keep the faith”*
- *“Finish the course”*

What Jesus Has Done for Us

By Dan C. Bailey

All of us have been assisted by friends in some way and somewhere along the road of life. With gratitude in our hearts, we reflect upon that assistance, and we usually express it with our lips by saying, "Thank you." Jesus has done so much for us, yet so few thank him by surrendering their lives to His service and submitting to His blessed will. It is good for us to take the time to think about what Jesus has done for us.

Jesus came down from heaven and left the glory that He had with the Father for our sakes. *“And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was”*(John 17:5).

Jesus was rich but He became poor for us. *“For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich”*(2 Corinthians 8:9).

Jesus became flesh in order that He might die for all of mankind. *“But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with*

glory and honor; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man"(Hebrews 2:9).

Jesus had no sins but He was reviled and beaten in order that we might be healed. *"Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed"*(I Peter 2:22-24).

Jesus was wounded for our transgressions. *"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed"*(Isaiah 53:5).

Jesus was oppressed and afflicted in order to obey the Father and to die for our sins. *"He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth"*(Isaiah 53:7). *"And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt"*(Matthew 26:39). *"Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father"*(Galatians 1:4).

Jesus was despised and rejected of men in order that we might be acceptable to God. *"He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not"* (Isaiah 53:3). *"In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace"*(Ephesians 1:7). *"And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby"* (Ephesians 2:16). *"This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders,*

which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved"(Acts 4:11-12).

These are just a few of the things that Jesus has done for us. We need to ask ourselves, **"What have we done for Jesus?"**

Through Adversity with a True Friend

By Bud Cauley

What does it take to be a true friend? Proverbs 17:17 says *"A friend loveth at all times; And a brother is born for adversity."* A true friend is someone who loves us at all times, and someone who is willing to go through adversity with us. Not too many people are willing to do that, and when we find someone who will, we know that this is the kind of person that we want to have around. Those who will not do this may be superficial friends, but not friends that are true.

Proverbs 27:17 says: *"Iron sharpeneth iron; So a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend."* The notion here is that friends challenge one another to improve their attitudes. A good friend is not going to let us pass when you appear to be affected by something. He is going to inquire as to our problems and show genuine care and concern for them. Perhaps one of the greatest attestations of friendship in the Bible is what Jesus said in John 15:13, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." This verse is often cited at the funerals of those who have given their lives for others. Self-sacrifice and the ability to give to others meaningfully—without expecting anything in return—is the ultimate character of a friend. Faithfulness, encouragement, and self-sacrifice make up the core of what the Bible teaches is the character of a true friend. Are we being this kind of friend to others? God certainly has been this kind of friend to us, and will be, if we will let Him in. God bless you and I love you.