

Thank you...Alexis Brown
Speaker for today

WHAT A WONDERFUL GOSPEL MEETING!
A hearty "thank you" to brother Hawkins!
Continue the "COME AND SEE" message!

Another New Christian!
Baptized Tuesday Evening
Julio Cesar Lugo
83327 Ruby Avenue
Indio, CA 92201
Phone: (442) 471-4259

November Birthdays
10 Daniel Brown

November Anniversaries
TODAY
2 Shannon & Susan Hudson

Regular Meeting Times

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

Website:
indiochurchofchrist.com

Preacher: Vacant

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

(Address Service Requested)

Indio Informer

Vol. 36 No. 43
November 2, 2025

*"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"*

Distressed and Road-Worn

By John M. Buttrey II

Maybe it is a sign that I am getting older, or just the times in which we are living, but I sure see a lot of funny thinking today. Take, for example, the popular trend of purchasing new blue jeans with holes already worn in them. These are cleverly marketed as distressed jeans. When I get holes in my jeans, I throw them away. Well, I used to throw them away until I discovered there are stores that will buy a preacher's "hole-y" jeans to sell them to people who are not torn at all in their desire for such fashionable attire.

On some home improvement shows, you will see the designers or homeowners buying new furniture only to beat it with a chain and hammer to make it look like old furniture. They do this to adorn their old house that is made to look new. As a child, I would get in big trouble for scratching my parents' furniture! If only I could have convinced them I was only trying to give it some style." Ironically, you will see antique shows where people have ruined the value of a piece of antique furniture or other vintage item by refinishing it!

As a collector of guitars, brand-new distressed and road-worn guitars demand a higher price. I confess to purchasing one of these "relic'd" guitars for my collection. While it does

have a nice “vintage” look to it, the dings and dents don’t make it play or sound any better. Interestingly, if you go to sell a guitar that has scratches, dings, and dents, you will get less money for it!

Thankfully, this fascination of making things look old and beat up does not apply to everything. We certainly would not want to apply it to our bodies! On the contrary, the common desire is to remove or cover up the dings and dents we have acquired through our many years. Generally speaking, we don’t like looking distressed and road-worn! Some want to continue to look younger, even as they age, and will pay large sums of money to specialized surgeons to make a youthful look possible. Aging is hard on the body. We bruise easily, both emotionally and physically. Bones weaken, organs fail, hair thins or disappears, skin wrinkles, vision blurs, hearing becomes faint, and memory becomes a forgotten gift. Time certainly takes its toll on the body. Eventually, we all become distressed and road worn.

No one wants to accelerate this inevitable and painful process. One person has rightly said, “Remember, old folks are worth a fortune—they have silver in their hair, gold in their teeth, stones in their kidneys, lead in their feet, and gas in their stomachs.” Solomon described it all very well in the last chapter of the book of Ecclesiastes. Listen to how he poetically describes the difficult process of aging and its effects on the body. In the day that the watchmen of the house tremble, and mighty men stoop, the grinding ones stand idle because they are few, and those who look through windows grow dim (**Ecclesiastes 12:3**). The “watchmen of the house” trembling is a poetic reference to the failing of our legs. All the years of our walking and running distress the joints of the knees. Knee replacement surgery is becoming more and more common as we grow older. Our legs truly become road worn. The “mighty men” stooping appears to be a picture of the weakening of the back. All those years of lifting and reaching distress the muscles and bones in our back. The “grinding ones” standing idle speaks of the losing of our teeth. Those looking through windows

who “grow dim” is a picture of our failing eyesight. Perhaps, those experiencing some of this will appreciate the following little piece of writing I came across:

“I have become a little older since I saw you last, and a few changes have come into my life since then. Frankly, I have become quite a frivolous old gal. I am seeing five gentlemen every day. As soon as I wake up, Will Power helps me get out of bed. Then I go to see John. Then Charlie Horse comes along, and when he is here, he takes a lot of my time and attention. When he leaves Arthur Ritis shows up and stays the rest of the day. He doesn’t like to stay in one place very long, so he takes me from joint to joint. After such a busy day I’m really tired and glad to go to bed with Ben Gay. What a life!”

Moses put it all like this: *“As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, or if due to might, eighty years, yet their pride is but labor and wickedness; For soon it is gone and we fly away”* (**Psalms 90:10**). While our mortal bodies are destined to become distressed and road-worn, there is good news: The moment will come when we in Christ will possess new bodies. Paul wrote about it: *“So also, is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown a corruptible body, it is raised an incorruptible body; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body”* (**1 Corinthians 15:42-44**). Notice that Paul refers to our new body as being imperishable. This means it will not be a body subject to aging or death. It will be a body designed to house our spirit for all eternity. This imperishable body will not bruise, break, or fail as do our physical bodies. It is a spiritual body. In other words, it will never become distressed and road worn. How wonderful that will be! When we get to heaven, I cannot imagine anyone asking God to give them a vintage-looking, distressed, and road-worn earthly body, can you?

The old hymn says it well:

“How beautiful heaven must be!”