

# Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

## Sermons for the Lord's Day

### Be an Encourager



## Announcements Alisal Weekly

1. **Romans Class This Wednesday at 6:30 pm** - Chapter 11 #2
2. Wednesday Invitation - David
3. **Please make it a point** to invite a friend or neighbor to join you at worship or Bible class.

## Prayer List

1. **Norma Decker** - for better health and strength.
2. **Teresita Sagun** - for remission of her cancer.
3. **Robert Sagun** - for successful recovery from his heart disease (hATTR amyloidosis). Robert continues chemotherapy and testing.
4. **Rosemarie Johnson** - for improved health.
5. **Bobby Glover** - for continuing to reach out to the lost.
6. **Manuel Castillo** - for healing from complications after heart surgery.
7. **David & Vicki Ryal** - for good health and David's return to the pulpit.
8. **Raymond and Virginia Elliott** - for good health and strength to continue teaching those in and outside the body of Christ.
9. **Those serving the Lord** - for physical and spiritual strength in their service.

## Of Facts and Feelings

Tim Orbison

The movie and television industries exist to promote entertainment fantasy. One of the latest fads is the "reality" show. The only problem is that there is almost nothing even remotely "real" about these shows. So what?! Selling fantasy is about creating feelings not delivering facts. Except for a few documentaries and such, the purpose of television programming in general is to provoke emotions.

It is sometimes difficult in matters of religion to balance the dual presence of both facts and emotions. Some have argued that religion is exclusively about facts and there is no place for feelings. Not true. Others seem to care only about emotional responses and have little regard for truth.

Feelings are not equal to truth. Jacob grieved over the death of his son, Joseph, and could not be consoled by the rest of the family, (Gen. 37:33-35) even though Joseph was in fact not dead. The so-called evidence presented to Jacob led him to conclude his son was dead. Those "facts," though deceptive, caused Jacob to "feel" exactly the same as if Joseph was truly dead.

In Acts 23:1, Paul stated that he had lived with a clean conscience before God all his life. Later, to Timothy, he would say that he was the chief of sinners (1 Tim. 1:15), guilty of blasphemy and violence (v. 13). How could both be true? Simple, Paul actually did the deeds of animosity and destruction against the church while denying that Jesus was the Christ. However, since Paul believed he was fighting for God he felt good about his actions. Later, when he learned that he was wrong in what he had believed and was wrong in what he had done he felt very bad about the same actions he had previously felt good about.

Jacob's feelings of loss did not change the truth about Joseph. Paul's feelings of zeal in persecuting Christians did not change the fact that he was wrong and was harming the church of Christ.

Whether one is in a lost or saved condition cannot be ascertained by the emotions that one feels. It is one's obedience to the word of God, and not feelings, that determines salvation. However, when one has come to understand the truth of God, it is normal, and expected, that feelings will follow. The response of the Jews in Acts 2:37 shows that a proper understanding of the truth of the gospel can bring about deep convictions and that obedience to the word of God can also evoke great emotions "and he went on his way rejoicing," (Acts 8:39).

April 7, 2019

### Did Bugs Bunny Corrupt the Scriptures?

Barry Haynes

If I called you a Nimrod, how would you feel? If you are like most people you would probably feel insulted. The popular definition for a nimrod is an inept person, an oaf, a moron, an ignoramus. The original name Nimrod really meant to be a skillful mighty hunter. Its origin is found in Genesis 10:8-9:

“Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the LORD; therefore it is said, “Like Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.”

How did the mighty hunter become an inept oaf? Well, it’s all Bugs Bunny’s fault.

Ok, maybe not all his fault. You see in the popular cartoon featuring Bugs Bunny and Elmer Fudd, Bugs often times will refer to Elmer Fudd as a “little Nimrod”, a sarcastic reference to the mighty hunter of the Old Testament. The writers might have gotten the joke but the general public didn’t. They assumed, in their ignorance, the word was an insult and began to use it as such and the new meaning took over.

This doesn’t just happen in cartoons, there are numerous examples of people taking Biblical words and concepts and flipping their meaning till the point that more people accept the new definition rather than the Bible one. Words like pastor, grace, and baptism have been corrupted from the biblical meaning to a popular one. Pastors are not the Biblical group of overseers but a single preacher (Acts 20:28). Grace is made into a license to sin (Jude 1:4). Baptism has gone from a complete immersive burial in water to pouring or just sprinkling (Colossians 3:12).

Words have meaning. If we change that meaning we might as well change the word. Don’t fool yourself into thinking you are biblical if you still use a Bible word yet have a different definition than the Bible has. If we truly want to be biblical we must hunt thru the Scripture to see if the things we are taught are really the things that are in Scriptures (Acts 17:11).

When it comes to what the Bible says, we need to be a Nimrod, not a nimrod.

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**James 1:5**

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

*O Lord, be gracious unto us; we have waited for thee: be thou their arm every morning, our salvation also in the time of trouble.*

*Isaiah 33:2*



*The only thing missing is you!*

### Meeting Days and Times

**Sunday** ..... 9:00 am Class - 10:00 am & 5:00 pm Worship

**Wednesday** ..... Bible Class, singing & prayer - 6:30 pm

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