

TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE

(part two)

Ed Smithson

Some folks think it is time to call people “back to the Bible,” but what does that mean? For many years now some in the church thought the idea was too strict, saw that other churches were getting people interested by using other means than gospel preaching to attract them. Some seemed to think there was no attractiveness to Bible study and we needed to do something else, so they let the ideas and slogans of the past fall by the wayside.

Do you have any idea how difficult it is to bring people back to something they once knew? Peter describes those who have fallen away as “For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein and overcome, the last state is become worse with them than the first. For it were better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after knowing it, to turn back from the holy commandment delivered unto them. It has happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog turning to his own vomit again, and the sow that had washed to wallowing in the mire.” (2 Pet. 2:20-22 Read carefully/emphasis mine)

The writer of the Hebrew letter might have taken it further: he said, “For as touching those who were once enlightened and tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the age to come, and then fell away, it is impossible to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.” (Heb. 6:4-6 Emphasis mine)

There is no question, it is difficult to get one to renew their faith and become faithful to the Lord again. It is difficult enough the first time with all the peer pressure and arguments the world makes against being faithful Christians. To convert many in the first place is a difficult job and to get them to renew and return is almost impossible, the reason the Hebrew writer said what he did.

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displayed by His children will meet with His approval.

When the early Christians displayed such extreme awe and reverence, loved God and Jesus so much as to give their lives to Him and even die for Him...We have to wonder just what WE are doing that is worthy of our salvation. These things should always be on our minds.

We now are on radio station KKMC 880. We have 60 second announcements 4 times each day seven days a week! Stay tuned because there will be more coming.

April 15, 2018

church of Christ at Alisal

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Water plants in Hawaii

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. (John 1:1-5)

MEETING UPON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK

Listen on AM Radio 880 KKMC in Salinas, California
2nd Friday of each month @ 1:30 pm

Bible Classes..... 9:00 A.M.
Assemblies..... 10:00 A.M. & 5:00 P.M.

<http://churchofchristalisal.com/>

WEDNESDAY

Bible Class, Singing, & Prayer..... 6:30 P.M.

Welcome

Good Morning Brothers and Sisters!

This Week's Sermon's

A.M. - Rich Young Ruler

P.M. - Worship

Reverence In Worship

Joel Hendon



It is biblical truth that, under the Mosaical Law, the rituals of worship to God were to be carried out rigidly to the letter. The high priest as well as the other priests, had certain things to observe concerning cleanliness, dress, and performance of their jobs. All was to be done according to instructions given by God and with all respect and reverence to Him. All of this is explained in the books of Exodus, Leviticus, Deuteronomy and other Old Testament writings. There are references to incidents where some fell prostrate to pray and implore of God.

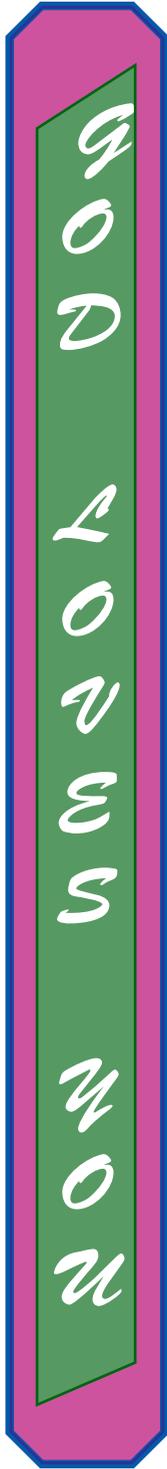
The prophets also spoke of God with submission and reverence. David, and others, wrote the psalms, proverbs and other poetic verse filled with praise and reverence towards God.

Historical writings inform us that many of the Israelites held such reverence to God that they would not even speak His name for fear of mispronouncing it. The scribes devoted long agonizing hours meticulously copying His Holy Scriptures to avoid mistakes of any kind.

From the beginning of the early church even up through the first one-third of the twentieth century, deep reverence was displayed towards God, especially within the periods of gathering together to worship and praise Him. It remained customary for the devout men to get onto their knees during public prayer and the house would be totally quiet. The same silence was very obvious during the observance of the Lord's Supper. Children were made to sit quietly during the entire service, and even the least breach of this prompted the parent to remove the child from the assembly so as not to disturb or influence the reverent attitude of the worship.

We have become exceedingly careless about such reverence and many of our young people are now being brought up without any training or even mention of such attitudes or behavior. Our prayers lack the reverence and praise towards God that they once had. Now, people would think that a man had gone crazy if he got on his knees to pray. Some wear immodest clothing to the worship services. The mood before the start of services no longer reflect the somber, reverent preparedness for worshipping God. God has granted us many liberties such as being able to approach His throne individually and talk with Him, but one has to wonder if the excessive lack of reverence and humility now

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The Savagery of Sin

by Richard Mansel

It sounds innocuous at first glance. In the first few verses of Job, God asked Satan where he had been, and Satan answered, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it" (Job 1:7, NKJV).

Yet, Satan is by no means a detached observer of mankind. On the contrary, he is active and engaged and leaves destruction in his wake (1 Peter 5:8; Revelation 9:1-2).

His world is filled with darkness and shadows, and his fingerprints are never at the crime scene (Ephesians 6:11-12). Lies roll easily from his lips, and willing humans do his bidding each and every day (John 8:44; 13:2).

Satan is cruel, heartless and vicious, and no one is completely safe from his savagery. Only through Christ can we be safe (James 4:7). Nevertheless, Satan will never stop hunting us.

People can deny Satan's existence, but he is always around. We see the devil's blood-soaked footprints all over history as he walks among the: killing fields of our inner cities. abortion clinics. victims of war, terrorism and bombings. drug dealers and users. destroyed lives of abused and discarded children. broken marriages and homes. prisons. liars, cheaters, proud, the haters, etc. rocky hearts of the racists and bigots. darkened street corners and back alleys. pornographers and the traffickers.

Satan is a monster who can hide in plain sight. In all of his dastardly deeds, he is cloaked in suspicion, disbelief and obscurity. Moreover, people will blame God for all of his crimes.

As long as we deny his existence, he will continue his war of savagery against mankind. When will we wake up and hold Satan responsible for evil? Or, will we continue to fall victim to his lies?

Announcements

1. Brother Paul will be giving the invitation this Wednesday evening.
2. Romans Class this coming Wednesday evening. Chapter 1 part 4.

~ On the Prayer list

Please make an effort and take the time to pray for each of the members here at the Alisal congregation and the surrounding congregations

The church at Alisal - for growth, sowing the Word, and all our works here in Salinas.

Have a blessed week!