

church of Christ at Alisal

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cont'd from front...

wants us to live. It is much easier for those who do evil to influence us than for us to influence them for good.

Look around at those who have become Christians and now no longer attend worship services. With all the converts over the years, our church buildings should be full and overflowing instead of evidencing dwindling attendance as they do now. Some congregations used to house over 300, and now they are fortunate if they have 100 in attendance on Sunday morning; the evening service and Wednesday Bible class have fewer than that attending.

These words "Hear no evil, see no evil and speak no evil" are not quoted precisely in the Holy Scriptures. Yet, if we investigate many books of the Old and New testaments, we can find these commandments to obey. In James 1:19, we are told to "be swift to hear, slow to speak and slow to wrath." God gave us two ears and one mouth. This should be a good sign that we are to listen more than we are to talk. Unfortunately, most of us are more likely to run our mouths and turn on our hearing to evil things. If we are swift to hear, then, we should be hearing and listening to good things. We are not to listen to dirty jokes or tell them either.

The second little frog or monkey sees no evil. We are not to watch things on our televisions that are immodest, immoral or filthy in any way. We each have a television remote, and therefore, we can turn off the evil things coming into our homes.

I have a friend, that when he was a young boy, whose father set the best example I have ever heard. When something came on television or if they were in public and someone was dressed immodestly, he and his dad would stare at each other instead of looking on the immodestly dressed girl or woman. This young man instilled this good action into his sons. What a great way to teach our children to see no evil.

The last little frog or monkey was to speak no evil. He was not to swear or to take the name of our God (or our Savior Jesus Christ) in vain. To use the name of God or Jesus in a profane way is to swear. We hear God's name used all the time, even by very young children. Of course, they have heard adults use these words all the time. We say things like gosh, golly, gee and, the worst to me, is "OMG." In Exodus 20, God gave Moses the Law or the Ten Commandments. In verse seven it states, "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain." Most people do not realize what they are saying. To them, it is just another word, but God says we will be held accountable for such language. We should really think and act like the frog or monkey to speak no evil.

This does not just mean our word choices but includes gossiping, lying or saying nasty things about and to others. We should follow the golden rule in Matthew 7:12, which reads, "Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets." In other words, treat others as you want to be treated.

Let us all act like the frogs or monkeys. "Hear no evil, see no evil and speak no evil." We want to do all we can to inherit eternal life and also not to hinder others from entering Heaven.



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

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. - Worldliness

P.M. - Pride



Jordan

MORALITY ALONE CANNOT AND WILL NOT SAVE!

Raymond Elliott



Charles

There is the tendency among many people to equate morality with being a Christian. While it is true that every devout Christian is a good moral person, it does not follow that every good moral person is a Christian. The moralist, separate and apart from Christ is a sinner. The apostle Paul, quoting an Old Testament passage, stated that "There is none righteous, no not one." He further declared, "for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:10, 23). It isn't that a man is born a sinner; he simply becomes one through violating the commands of God (I John 3:4).

The moralist may be known for his sweet disposition, his kind words, his charitable deeds, his good citizenship and his participation in community affairs. But, if he has never obeyed the gospel of Christ he is in a lost condition. When a person as previously described passes from this life, his peers are apt to say, "Well, he was not a member of any church but he certainly was a good man, worthy of salvation."

The basic difference between a moralist who is not a Christian and a Christian is morally clean is found in their relationship with God. The moralist exclaims that he deserves to be saved upon his own meritorious goodness. This attitude was found in the Pharisees "who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others"; and, is found in the words of a self righteous individual as recorded in Luke 18:9 – 12), "The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men-extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. 'I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess'. The Christian admits his inability to save himself and submits to the will of God. He cries out, "God, be thou merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13). If one moralist can be saved without the blood of Christ, then it must be concluded that all moralists can be saved. If this be true, Christ died in vain. There was no need for his crucifixion on Calvary.

Surely, if any moralist could have been saved without the vicarious death of Christ, the man Cornelius would have been. It is rather doubtful that any living person would have been more moral in character than Cornelius. He was a centurion in the Ro-



man army. This meant that he was a Gentile. He was a devout man and one that feared God. He was a benevolent individual and was habitual in his prayers to God. He is referred to as a righteous man and one who enjoyed an excellent reputation, even among the Jews (Acts 10:1, 2, 22). In spite of such high standards, Cornelius was instructed by an angels of the Lord to "Send to Joppa, and fetch Simon, whose surname is Peter; who shall speak unto thee words, whereby thou shalt be saved, thou and all thy house" (Acts 11:13, 14). This morally upright person needed to hear the gospel of Christ in order that he might be saved. It is no different today. God is no respecter of person. He saves all men alike and in like manner – through the blood of Jesus Christ (Acts 10:34; Ephesians 1:7). God requires faith, repentance, and baptism on the part of the alien sinner in order to receive remission of sins (Hebrews 11:6; Acts 17:30; Acts 2:38). If we are saved, it is not by our own goodness but by God's grace (Ephesians 2:5, 8).



Hear No Evil, See No Evil, Speak No Evil!

Martha Lynn Rushmore

In most cases, this saying is used with three little green frogs or small monkeys. They cover their ears, so they cannot hear bad language or dirty jokes. They cover their mouths, so they will not say anything bad or nasty. Lastly, they cover their eyes, so they cannot see anything evil. Hear no evil, see no evil and speak no evil! These little frogs or monkeys are very good examples for us to follow.

We are told in 1 Corinthians 15:33, "Do not be deceived: 'Evil company corrupts good habits'" (NKJV). Therefore, we do not want to be with those who speak evil, do sinful things and enjoy hearing evil talking. We must be careful with whom we spend our time. We should try to pick our friends from among those who are trying to live as Christ

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Announcements

1. Brother David will be giving the invitation this Wednesday evening.
2. Wednesday evening class, "Romans - chapter 6 #1". Be prepared - bring your notebook and your listening ears!

~ On the Prayer list ~

Norma - for spritual and physical healing.

Rosemarie - for relief from her psysical problems.

Michael White - for good success in his classes and job hunt.

All of us - for a more dedicated Christian life. Let us not frow weary.

Have a blessed week!