

**Thank you, Alexis Brown!**  
**Speaker for today**

**Important Reminder!!**

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6*

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**Business Meeting**

Postponed until April 14, 2024

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**April Birthdays**

3 Amanda Hoffman 6 Susan Hudson  
16 Alana Hudson 23 Shannon Hudson  
30 Aaron McCollum 30 Margaret Graddon

**April Anniversaries**

19 Bill & Kena Brown

# Indio Informer

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**Precious Is the Death of a Saint**

(Psalm 116:15)

By Mike Johnson

Psalm 116:15 informs us, *“Precious in the sight of the Lord Is the death of His saints.”* What does this mean? People think of death in many different ways. A loved one’s death is one of the greatest agonies people typically face in their lives. We think of losing a loved one in terms of heartache, tears, sorrow, and pain. Yet this passage says the death of a saint is precious in the sight of the Lord! This verse is looking at death more from God’s perspective. God delights when people become Christians — there is rejoicing in heaven; He delights in our progress and finally looks at our death as coming home to Him. To us, death is a departure; to God, a saint’s death is an arrival.

Consider a statement made by Paul in his letter to the Philippians 1:21-23. *“For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.”* At this time, Paul was in a Roman prison expecting to be released. He stated that if he lived, he would be able to continue helping the Philippians. However, if he died, he would be able to depart and be with Christ, which, he says, would be far better than life upon the earth.

When faithful Christians die, they can look at God as welcoming them to their new home. It is important to serve God faithfully. One day we will pass from this life, and we can be welcomed home by God. Precious is the death of a saint.

**Regular Meeting Times**

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

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

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

**Website:**  
**[indiochurchofchrist.com](http://indiochurchofchrist.com)**

**Preacher: Vacant**

***Church of Christ***

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

(Address Service Requested)

## **Bearing Fruit? Works Salvation? Or Do Nothing?**

By Tim Dooley

There are those who will proudly proclaim that no one has to do anything in order to be saved and loudly complain about a perceived works salvation. So, let's be clear and balanced here: Does the Bible teach that we don't have to do anything? Not even close! Does the Bible teach that we somehow merit our salvation by the works that we do? Nope, doesn't teach that either. The truth, as often is the case, lies somewhere in between these two extreme ideas.

John demanded that those who came out to be baptized return and "bear fruit" if they hoped to be saved (Luke 3:8-9). When many came to him asking what they needed to do he didn't say that they didn't have to do anything but instructed them in the ways of righteousness. When Jesus came along, he not only taught righteous living but also went about doing good, leaving us an example to do just as he did (Acts 10:38).

Obedience to God is absolutely essential! Yet we must also consider that just going about doing good doesn't define Christianity or righteousness. Jesus also said that the gospel needed to be preached (Mark 13:10). Doing good and bearing fruit is a vehicle through which we gain the opportunity to tell others about Christ, His love, and the hope we have in Him. Obey God, bear fruit, and preach the Good News. Faithful living is essential to our salvation (Matthew 25:21, 23)!

## **Do We Keep His Commandments?**

By Jon Mitchell

*"Whoever has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."* (John 14:21)

All who profess to follow Christ will unhesitatingly state that they love God. That's a given, and from a certain perspective it's a

good thing. It speaks of their sincerity and of a heart-felt gratitude they have towards their Creator.

## **Do We Keep His Commandments?**

Yet so many of us profess to love God...while unrepentantly doing things that grieve Him, anger Him, and displease Him. Consider this...

- We say we love God, but we hardly ever open our Bibles. Do we truly love someone if we're not interested in learning what they have to say?
- We say we love God, but we hardly ever pray. Do we truly love someone if we're not interested in talking to them?
- We say we love God, but we choose to worship Him according to what we think will please Him rather than according to His will revealed to us in His Word. Do we truly love someone if they ask us to give them a certain gift and instead, we give them what we think they will like?
- We say we love God, but we then say He has saved us in a way which is foreign to how He has told us He saves us in His Word. Do we truly love someone if we basically call them a liar, especially over something as important as our salvation?
- We say we love God, but we do not care enough about the souls for whom He sent His Son to die to share with them the gospel as He told us to do. Do we truly love someone if we don't care enough to do everything we can to save the person for whom they gave such a high sacrifice?

If we truly love God and His Son Jesus, we will obey Their commandments. And when we sin and fail Them, we will repent and try again because we love Them. Otherwise, all we are doing is lying to them, to others, and to ourselves.