

Thank you...Iota Cocione
Speaker for today

“New Every Morning!”

*The Lord's acts of mercy indeed do not end, for His
compassions do not fail. They are new every morning;
Great is Your faithfulness
Lamentations 3:22-23*

December Birthdays

17 Bill Brown 18 Alexis Brown 22 Elizabeth Medina
31 Bob Pescador

December Anniversaries

18 Jim & Marie Burruss

January Anniversaries

8 Bob & Debbie Pescador

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. 35 No. 51

December 22, 2024

Following the Pattern in the New Year

By Joe Slater

What do you suppose God's people were doing on New Year's Day roughly 3500 years ago? Would you believe they were putting up the tabernacle? *"On the first day of the first month, you shall set up the tabernacle of the tent of meeting"* (Exodus 40:1). *"And it came to pass in the first month of the second year, on the first day of the month, that the tabernacle was raised up"* (40:17). Earlier in Exodus (chapters 25-31) God had given Moses explicit and detailed instructions about the tabernacle and all its furnishings, beginning with this exhortation: *"According to all that I show you, that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so shall you make it"* (25:9). The Lord repeated this command several times as He specified the dimensions, materials, design, etc., of the tabernacle and its furnishings. *"And see to it that you make them according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain"* (25:40). *"And you shall raise up the tabernacle according to its pattern which you were shown on the mountain"* (26:30). *"As it was shown you on the mountain, so shall they make it"* (27:8).

Moses and the Israelites took God seriously! *"Thus, Moses did according to all that the Lord had commanded him, so he did"* (Exodus 40:16). The tabernacle and things associated with it were a shadow of the better things Jesus Christ established in the New Covenant. The Hebrews writer taught that we ought to be even more diligent to be faithful in the New Covenant than Moses and the Israelites were in the Old Covenant (Hebrews 2:1-4; 10:28-31). In this new year, let us renew our determination to follow God's pattern set forth in the New Testament!

Guess Who?

By Bruce Evans

The morning of January 12, 2007, a rather unique experiment played out in a subway train station in Washington D.C. A world-renowned master violinist was asked to perform, incognito in the station while passengers scuttled by he played. He played for 45 minutes, during which times 1,097 people passed by. Twenty-seven dropped money in his open violin case, totaling \$32.17. Only seven people spent any appreciable times listening to the music Joshua Bell, who is described as being the “poet of the violin”. What is striking is that two days before, Bell had used the same \$3.5 million Stradivarius violin for a sold-out concert where people paid over \$100 a seat to hear him perform much of the same material.

The idea of a person not being recognized for his greatness isn't new. People get so caught up in what they are doing, where they are going and for the most part are oblivious to what is going on around them. While it is one thing to not recognize a virtuoso with a violin, it something different when it comes to Jesus. *“He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.”* (John 1:10-11) How could anyone overlook Deity? *“For in Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.”* (Colossians 1:16-17)

Riddle me this, why did the people in Jesus' day, who were looking for the Messiah, not recognize Him for who He is? Maybe the answer to that question comes back to what people expect. People today don't expect world class musicians to lay in a subway station for “chump change”. In the days of Jesus, they didn't expect the Messiah to be born of humble circumstance. They longed for and expected the Messiah to be a physical king and establish a physical kingdom-not the head of a spiritual kingdom. This thinking was in evidence up to the times Jesus ascended to the right hand of the Father, *“Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?”* (Acts 1:6)

To say that the people in the first century were blinded as to God's purpose in sending His Son, would be an understatement. He came to effectively deal with sin (John 1:29), fulfill the Law and the

prophets (Matthew 5:17-18) and build His church/kingdom (Matthew 16:18- 19). All of which He did as is in evidence by numerous passages of Scripture, not the least of which is Colossians 1:13-29.

That day on the subway, how many hundreds of people passed by and missed the beauty and genius of a master musician? So sad that people are too busy to appreciate beauty. However, what is even more pathetic, is how millions have not awakened to the beauty and majesty of Jesus, who is the Christ. He walked with mankind, and most did not recognize Him. Not much has changed, has it?

“A New Year, A New Beginning”

Author Unknown

*The old year ends, a new begins
With pages clean and new;
And what is written on each page
Will now depend on you.
You can't relive the year that's past,
Erasing every wrong;
For once a year, or day, is spent
It is forever gone.
But don't give up in dark despair
If you have failed some test;
Seek God's forgiveness and resolve
Henceforth to do your best.*

*Resolve each precious day to do
Things good and kind and pure;
Though days and years may pass away,
These things shall still endure.
You know not where your path may lead
Nor what's beyond the hill;
But know that God walks by your side,
If you will do His will.*

*All things are possible with God,
Though days be bright or dim;
So do your best and know that you
Can leave the rest to Him.*