

Plain Path

Weekly newsletter of the Fry Road church of Christ

Sunday, April 20, 2014

Volume 19, Number 16

“Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path... Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart” (Psalm 27:11-14)

A DAY LIKE NO OTHER

by Bob Pulliam

We can only struggle to imagine the depths of despair into which Jerusalem had been plunged by the crucifixion of Jesus. A crowd did, indeed, cry for His blood; but they were not the majority. No, not even close. The majority had held Jesus to be the coming one, and had shown their conviction in the following manner:

“And as He was going, they were spreading their garments in the road. And as He was now approach-

ing, near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the miracles which they had seen, saying, ‘Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord; Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!’ And some of the Pharisees in the multitude said to Him, ‘Teacher, rebuke Your disciples.’ And He answered and said, ‘I tell you, if these become silent, the stones will cry out!’”
(Luke 19:36-40)

Matthew adds that the multitude was crying out, “Hosanna to the Son of David; Blessed is

(Day, continued on pg 2...)

MEETING NOTES

by Bob Pulliam

Another gospel meeting has come and gone, and we have been blessed by gospel truth, and mutual edification by one another.

Brother Wolfgang did an excellent job presenting truth from God’s word concerning Jesus’ church and the our obligations regarding it. If you missed any of the lessons in his series, I urge you to go to our website and listen to his lessons. There is much going on in the world today that would draw our affections away from the wisdom of God in the church (Eph 3:10). Some of this evil has crept in among preachers and members around the country. They want us to believe they have found a better way, that past beliefs were just “traditions”.

Make sure our fall meeting with Joseph Casimier is on your calendar (Sept 7-10).



V.B.S. Countdown Schedule

(for Teachers *and* helpers/volunteers)

April 26 - Workday
May 17 - Workday
June 23-26 V.B.S.

Each work session
is scheduled for
10:00 AM

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(Day, continued from pg 1...)

He who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest!” (Mt 21:9). And this is very significant, because the words were ascribing glory to Jesus as the Messiah (which is the point of Luke’s quote, although a little less direct). These people believed that the Messiah had come. They believed Jesus was that Messiah. And they were ready for the kingdom to appear at any moment with great glory and grandeur (Lk 19:11). But not many days further, they found their Messiah hanging on a cross just outside the city gate.

If you’ve ever lived in the mountains, you know that in places the elevation does not appear to be that great. A high plateau of

2,500 feet softens the effect of a peak of 2,800 feet. Put that peak next to the ocean and it looks like the tallest mountain on earth. And when we consider the resurrection of Jesus, I believe we miss that same effect. In this case, the contrast of emotions in Jerusalem. These people went from euphoric jubilation and expectation to the depths of despair. I believe I could make a fair case for many of these people being confused to the point of thinking no possible remedy could exist. No one could match Jesus in teachings and miracles, and yet He was put to death by the Romans.

I find it difficult to put myself into their shoes, and grasp the despair that must have fallen over the city. This, my friend, was a valley of despondency like no other. But early Sunday morning a day like no other would dawn. Suddenly, they would find themselves on the other side of the valley, and there would be a mountain peak. From their despair, joy and glory would spring as they learned of the empty tomb. As reports trickled in, the heights of their joy would ascend from uncertainty to the clarity of eyewitness accounts (I Cor 15:4-7). The story circulated by the guards was an impossible tale that insulted any thinking person (for they would have been executed if their story were accurate). The chief priests and elders weren’t providing an answer to these reports, even though it was in their best interest to do so. If they had the body, they would produce it. That the body was guarded, but went missing, made the event an impossibility for human tampering. And do not miss this one point above all!... Lazarus had been

raised from the dead by Jesus just a little over a week before His crucifixion. Multitudes had been going and confirming the fact (Jn 12:9-19). If they have already been convinced that He had raised Lazarus, how difficult would it have been for them to conclude that He was raised from the dead?

Yes, this was a day like no other. And it was a beginning. A kingdom was about to erupt, with it’s law going forth from Jerusalem (Isa 2:2-3; Acts 2). When you see the spectacular response on that day, do not miss the fact that it was drawing on this day that was like no other. And this kingdom would reach into all the world as it’s King’s apostles went forth with that law (Mt 28:19-20).

We celebrate that resurrection day, but not like the world around us. They celebrate it with a yearly holiday that God never instituted, and they have named that “holy day” after an Anglo-Saxon goddess (eostre - goddess of the dawn). But we celebrate that resurrection day each time someone dies to sin, and is baptized into Christ (Rom 6:3-5). It is then that they are baptized into His death, and rise to walk a new life (Col 2:12). It is then that the power of His death and resurrection appear in the salvation of a soul from sin, and a new birth into the Messiah’s kingdom. What a glorious day like not other. One that still brings life to all who will turn their lives over to the one who died for them! A day that shines in the heart of every Christian. Not as a simple point of history. It shines as the greatest hope that we may possess. The day when we rise from the dead unto everlasting life (I Cor 15).



THIS WEEK'S DAILY BIBLE READINGS

NEW TESTAMENT READING

MARK 9 - 12

April 20 - 22

OLD TESTAMENT READING

EXODUS 34 - 40

April 23 - 26

I TIMOTHY 4:13

FAMILY NEWS & NOTES

*News and Notes of Interest
to Fry Road Members*

Because of the large number of visitors to our services, we would ask those wishing to identify with the congregation to do so by expressing this interest directly to the elders.

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

V.B.S. ("We Would See Jesus") **Annual Singing**
June 23 - 26, 2014 **September 6, 2014**

Gospel Meeting (Joseph Casimier)
September 7 - 10, 2014

Sick and Shut-Ins

Sections have been removed to preserve members' privacy

Sermons:

Next Sunday:

I'm in the Lord's Army

Tonight:

Did You Think About It?

Grief Stricken

Preaching Abroad...



"... just as the Lord had commanded Moses." (Ex 40:32)

The phrase found above is not just found in the passage cited. In fact, from Exodus 39:1 through the end of the book it is found fifteen times. It is also found eight times in the book of Leviticus, and fifteen times in the book of Numbers. One can quickly get the idea that doing just as the Lord commands is a virtue. Many of the things being obeyed are things that people today would consider trite and insignificant.

To take this a step further, the phrase is used three more times in Joshua as the Israelites conquered the promised land. But as we move from Joshua to Judges, the concept of obedience falls by the wayside, and is replaced by another attitude. One where everyone does what is right in their own eyes (Jdgs 17:6; 21:25). This new attitude brings nothing but heartache and death to Israel.

In your family devotions this week, look through the details of the passages using the phrase above. Discuss how God expected obedience in *all* things.

FOR THE RECORD

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS

Sections have been removed to preserve members' privacy

IN KEEPING WITH OUR LONG STANDING AGREEMENT, THOSE SERVING PUBLICLY ARE REMINDED TO PLEASE DRESS IN A MANNER RESPECTFUL OF THE GOD WHOM WE SERVE.

ELDERS:

Ruben Amador
Matthew Heaton
Donnie Mangrum
Steve Voss



DEACONS:

John Coleman	Ken Dunsmore
David Ellison	Ray Farrell
Aubrey Garner	Steve Geraci
Steve LaGrasta	John Light
Steven Martin	Mike McMurray
Jason Mock	David Stevenson
Glenn Tomblin	

TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Assembly	10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Assembly	6:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes	7:30 PM

EVANGELIST & EDITOR:

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