



John 2:1; Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:9-10; Acts 2:38; Revelation 2:10). However, those who have not done so will be without an Advocate (Matthew 10:33; Matthew 7:21-23). Then, the Lord will judge us all and He will separate the faithful and the unfaithful like a shepherd does the

sheep and the goats (John 5:29; Matthew 25:31-32). The faithful He will welcome into Heaven where they will live eternally in praise to God, free of molestation (Matthew 25:33-40; Revelation 21:1-7). But the unfaithful, He will send to Hell where they will eternally feel the pain of being completely separated from God (Matthew 25:41-45; Revelation 20:14-15; Revelation 21:8; Revelation 22:15; Mark 9:42-48). And, this is where we will all stay eternally, the righteous in Heaven and the unrighteous in Hell (Matthew 25:46).

Friends, believe what the Bible says about the second coming of the Messiah. Also, obey the words of the Messiah from the first time He came so, when He returns, you will know what to expect and be ready to meet Him in the sky. Praise be to God forever. Amen.



Faithful Sayings Issue 11.24 June 14, 2009

Welcome Visitors

We are so glad that you joined us today.
Please come again.

● Let us know if you have any questions.

ISSUE

11.24

BULLETIN OF
THE OLSEN
PARK CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Faithful Sayings

June 14
2009

Services

Sunday: 9:30 AM
10:20 AM
6:00 PM

Wednesday: 7:00 PM

Elders:

Ken Ford
Charles Kelley
Pat Ledbetter

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Bill Davis
Pat Goguen
Neil Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Fred Perez
Rusty Scott

Evangelists:

Kyle Pope
Curtis Carwile



“Your Father
knows that you
need these
things”
Luke 12:30

When He Comes by Curtis Carwile

I love the Muppet Show. It is just such an oddball menagerie of puns, fur, puppetry that I can't help but laugh. One of the things that I love the most about the show is when Sam the Eagle (who is the show's proponent for normalcy) pops out from time to time to inform everyone that “You are all a bunch of *weirdoes!*” One of my favorite episodes was when the guest star was the Russian ballet dancer, Rudolph Nureyev. At the beginning of the episode, Sam the Eagle was very excited that they would “finally” have culture on the show when Mr. Nureyev arrived. However, when Mr. Nureyev finally arrived wearing a leather jacket and motorcycle goggles, Sam the Eagle forced him out of the theater because he did not recognize him. Sam the Eagle did not recognize him because Mr.

Nureyev did not look like what Sam the Eagle thought a great cultural icon should look like. Eventually, he came to accept that Mr. Nureyev was who he claimed to be even though he no

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longer held him in as high of regard as he once had.

I think this is very similar to how the Jews must have felt when Jesus arrived on the scene. Since the period of Babylonian captivity, the Jews had been in continual submission to other nations (Daniel 2). However, during a period of about 100 years (167BC-63BC), the Jews had regained their



Olsen Park church of Christ

independence under the rule of the Maccabees. Yet, in 63BC, the Romans conquered Palestine and the Jews were once again in submission to another nation. During this time, many Jews opposed Roman rule and, as a result, several zealot groups formed in order to actively oppose the Roman Empire. It was, also, during this time that talk of the coming Messiah shifted from a primarily spiritual context to a primarily physical one by which the Messiah would deliver the Jews from their physical oppressors, the Romans, and rule on the physical throne of David in Jerusalem (Psalm 2; 2 Samuel 7:16; Psalm 110; Amos 9:11-14). It was into this setting which Jesus was born. By the time of Jesus' earthly ministry, this idea was still somewhat prevalent as is evident from the fact that even one of His twelve disciples was known as "the Zealot" (Luke 6:15). The point is that when Jesus the Messiah finally arrived, people were expecting something totally different than what they received. Instead of being at odds with the Romans, He made a tax collector one of His closest friends (Mark 2:13-17). Instead of following the traditions of the Pharisees, He encouraged His disciples to do what was lawful according to the Lord (Mark 2:18-22). Instead of adhering to the interpretation of the Law by the religious leaders, He taught and followed what the Law really said (Mark 2:23-3:6). Jesus was completely different from what many people had anticipated. As a result, many of the Jews rejected Him (Mark 6:1-6; John 6:60; John 7:45-52; Luke 23). However, at least some of those same Jews who were disappointed with the

Messiah or even doubted that Jesus was the Messiah eventually accepted Jesus for who He really was and obeyed Him (Acts 2:37, 41-47).

Just like Sam the Eagle and Rudolph Nureyev, the Jews had in their mind who Jesus was supposed to be. I wonder if in this day and age, people have really changed that much. It's very likely that if you spoke to ten different people about what is going to happen when Jesus returns, you would get ten different answers. So, instead of looking to the religious leaders of the day or the people being taught by those religious leaders, why not look at what Jesus says within the pages of the Bible about His return? There won't be any "signs of the Apocalypse" such as wars, famines, plagues, or death as so many people claim today (Revelation 6; Matthew 24:4-34). In 2 Peter 3:10, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit sent by Jesus, Peter said that the Day of the Lord will come as "a thief in the night." It is as Jesus said regarding the time of the coming Day of Judgment, "**of that Day, no one knows, not even the angels of Heaven, but only My Father**" (Matthew 24:36). And, when that Day finally comes, Jesus will return with a great noise from the shout of the archangel and the trumpet of God and call everyone to meet Him in the sky just as was foretold by the angels at Jesus' ascension (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Acts 1:11). Those in Christ will be called up to meet Him in the clouds and all those who are dead—everyone

who has ever lived and even those who are lost at the bottom of the sea will be judged (1 Thessalonians 4:14-17; Revelation 20:13). As we are called up to meet Him, we will be changed within the twinkling of an eye with the physical heavens and the physical earth melting away with a fervent heat to the point where nothing is left behind us (1 Corinthians 15:50-53; 2 Peter 3:10-12). When we meet Him, He will bring us all before the Judgment Seat where each one of us will be judged according to how our deeds compare with the words of Jesus (2 Corinthians 5:10; Ezekiel 18:30-32; John 12:47-50). At that Judgment scene, Jesus will advocate for those who have verbally, physically, and continually confessed His name during their lifetimes (1