

ACTS 31

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ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE WORK



PSALM 50

This year, 2022, will be a year to reckon the great importance of the institution that God Himself planned and established on earth – His Church.

Our theme, Always Abounding in the Work of the LORD, echoes this contention.

Our main goal for the whole year is to develop in each member an active and fruitful engagement in the Church that Jesus built. It is our task to be part in the building the Church as our Saviour did.

Our year's text and at the same time our memory verse commands each of us to do so.

"Therefore, my beloved brethren..." Here is the Apostle Paul's concluding statement as regards the doctrine he expounded and defended in this chapter, the Gospel. Here further is his love and care to the Church disturbed by carnality. Brushing aside those who questioned his apostleship, the apostle still calls them his own beloved brethren!

"...be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding..." Here are three actions that the Apostle wants the Church to be engaged in despite the problems that swept them as a Church. To stand strong on to where they were called, to be deeply rooted in their convictions on the doctrines taught them, and to keep growing in their involvement in the Church.

"...in the work of the Lord..." Here is the phrase referring directly to the Church that Jesus built, that particular kind of assembly that our Loving Saviour established on earth. It is that assembly which He personally called and organized while He was still on earth as recorded in Luke 6:12-16 (PLEASE READ) and attested in I Cor. 12:28 (PLEASE READ). It is the same gathering which He called, "My Little Flock" in Luke 12:32 (PLEASE READ), which tells us that it is that assembly that will rally around His Words, His teachings, and His preaching! It is that group of people that would gather PRIMARILY TO HEAR HIM SPEAK! Thus, it would be that assembly that will congregate for the teaching and preaching of the King James Bible! It is a phrase suggesting action, an active assembly. It is that kind of assembly that is particularly so organized to carry out His Will and His Word! It is that assembly

whose main purpose is to gather together for the glory of God. It is that gathering so ordered by the Lord to carry the letter and the spirit of the Great Commission – preach the gospel, baptize believers, and teach the same (Matt. 28:19-20). It is the assembly whose members are those who have believed in Jesus (saved) and are baptized by the Baptist. It follows therefore, that this assembly is the gathering of the Baptists. Hence, the assembly is a Baptist Church! And in Los Banos, at Nature's Ville, we are that Church, the Christian Bible Baptist Church-Los Banos (CBBC-LB).

"...forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." Here is a statement telling us that involving in Church is never in vain. It is that which our Saviour favors. It is that work that merits His approval and reward.

Our proper response to our Church Covenant spells our success as individual believers as well as a Church.

Our text tells us how. Verse 14 says, "Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High:" Verse 23 further says, "Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God."

As we open our New Year, may we then be found ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE WORK OF THE LORD.


Pastor ARNOLD N. VALTEJO

2022 CHURCH CALENDAR	
February 2022	
2	Church Prayer & Fasting/Lord's Supper
6	Child Dedication
13	First Fruits Sunday/Foundation Day

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE			
Sunday AM	335	FTV	5
Sunday PM	240	Baptism	2
Prayer Mtg	127		

TITLE: ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE

WORK OF THE LORD

TEXT: PSALM 30

MEMORY VERSE: I CORINTHIANS 15:58

I. LET EACH OF US BE FOUND ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT OUR CHURCH COVENANT IS A _____ UNDERTAKING.

- A. Primacy to always abounding in the work of the Lord is being able to appreciate our Church _____ and being able to abound in everything in it as each of us fulfils the letter and the spirit of this divine covenant.
- B. We understand that as fallen creatures, our enthusiasm for Divine work has been quenched. Our _____ nature re-directed our activities to self, world, and the works of God's archenemy. II Cor. 4:4 reads, "In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."
- C. But because of the _____ of God, which He shed abroad in our hearts (Rom. 5:8; 8:1, 5), we have become partakers of the divine nature (II Pet. 1:4). Indeed, we love God and the things of God because He first loved us (I John 4:19). And it is this love that we must develop in our hearts for the Church.
- D. Church is a covenant and is voluntary. Our text in verse 5 mentions the gathering of saints who have made a covenant with God. "Gather my saints together unto me..." is a clear definition of the word, Church. Church means "called out ones." Luke 6:13, which is a record of the organization of the First Baptist Church, harps the same. It reads in part, "And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples..." The same statement means an assembly of specific kinds of people, the sanctified or the saints or the saved! Heb. 10:25 further mentions of the necessity of attendance in this assembly. Further our text reads, "...those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice." This is expres-

sive of our individual soul

- E. Covenant is a _____ design. Amos 3:3 declares, "How can two walk together except they be agreed." The same is expressed in our text as regards God's command to gather people - only those who have willingly decided to offer God sacrifice.
- F. Covenant is based on _____ . Our text mentions that God and man had one mind and heart. Verse 5 reveals this truth. Verses 1 and 6 of our text also express this truth. Observe, "The mighty God, even the LORD, hath spoken, and called the earth..." and "And the heavens shall declare his righteousness..." From such, we deduce both parties trust each other. This is where human contracts generally differ. Human contracts are entered in because each doubt that the other contracting party may fail to follow the stipulated agreements.
- G. Our Church Covenant is a _____ agreement between and among members who have decided to walk together according to the precepts of the gospel in brotherly affection.

PLEASE READ HERE OUR CHURCH COVENANT.

II. LET EACH OF US BE FOUND ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE WAY WE _____ OUR CHURCH COVENANT.

- A. Every Church member must understand that our Church Covenant is reflective of how our Saviour _____ for the Church. Acts 20:28 says, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood." Christ Jesus our Saviour has invested so much for His Church, so we should also be willing to sacrifice in fulfilling our obligations mentioned in our Church Covenant.
- B. Believers who _____ aside our Church Covenant shows how lightly they take the love of Christ. Eph. 5:25 states that "...Christ also

loved the church, and gave himself for it;" Christ loved the Church so much that He willingly gave Himself for it. Thus, when we say we love the Lord, may we be willing also to give ourselves – our time, treasure, and talents – in following our Church Covenant.

- C. May each of us then take _____ our Church Covenant by knowing it personally and by striving to act according to the letter and spirit of the Church Covenant. We show our respect and love for God by the way we treat our Church Covenant.

III. LET EACH OF US BE FOUND ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN COMPREHENDING THE _____ OF OUR CHURCH COVENANT.

- A. Fulfilling each part of the Church Covenant brings _____. Since a covenant is a solemn agreement of fellowship and faith, it definitely brings joy from God. To function as the Lord designed us to be is a great joy indeed. To be a part of the growth and source of encouragement is really a blessing from God.
- B. Being faithful to the Church Covenant brings _____. Peace pervades when the whole body goes toward one fruitful direction and goal. God is delighted when He sees every part of the body of Christ functioning faithfully according to his/her designated duties and responsibilities.
- C. Faithfully following the letter and spirit of our Church Covenant will keep the body _____ from defilement (Eph. 5:26-27). It is essential that believers in the New Testament Baptist Church covenant together to walk according to the same rule and mind. Phil. 3:16 reiterates this truth. As Church members, we must bear in mind that we have a duty not only to the Lord (I Cor. 6:19-20), to the world (Rom. 1:14, I Pet. 2:9) but also to each other. Why?
1. We are members one of another, Eph. 4:25.
 2. We are commanded to do good to each other, Gal. 4:25.

3. We all form part of the body which is necessary for growth, Eph. 2:21-22.
4. We are encouraged to follow things which make peace that we may edify one another, Rom. 14:19.

IPAGDIWANG ANG ATING GAWAIN

Tinig ng pagaawitan ang siyang naririnig
Kawal ng katotohanan
ang siyang nananaig
Sa larangan ng digma
ang watawat ay pagibig
Hayo't makisanib

Lakad lakad h'wag umurong
Si Jesus ang Siyang katulong
Lakad lakad lumingon
Tagumpay mayroon

Hukbo ng kalalakihan
ang siyang mangunguna
Sa lahat ng gawing nauukol sa Iglesiya
At ang kababaihan ang siyang pangalawa
Hayo't makisama

Pagtulungan itatag ang kaharian ni Jesus
Mga kawal ng sama'y
piliting lansaging lubos
At nang upang lumaya
kaluluwang binusabos
Hayo't makihamok

Halina kayo at samasamang ating awitan
Ipagdiwang isigaw ang ating mga gawain
Makipaglabang matatag,
matibay at mahinhin
Si Cristo'y syang sundin

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE Day 154-160

Mon	03-JAN	Rom. 9:1-29; 1 Sam. 17:55-18:30; Ps. 63
Tue	04-JAN	Rom. 9:30-10:21; 1 Sam. 19; Psalm 64
Wed	05-JAN	Rom. 11:1-24; 1 Sam. 20; Psalm 65
Thu	06-JAN	Rom 11:25-36; 1 Sam. 21-22; Psalm 66
Fri	07-JAN	Romans 12; Samuel 23-24; Psalm 67
Sat	08-JAN	Romans 13; Samuel 25; Psalm 68
Sun	09-JAN	Romans 14; Samuel 26; Psalm 69

CBBC-LB COVENANT

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; we do now in the presence of God, angels and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this New Testament Baptist Church in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel to all nations; as well as to follow and support the leadership of God through His chosen man.

We also engage to maintain family and personal devotions, to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage; to abstain from membership in lodges and secret organizations and to avoid taking secret oaths which are contrary to Scripture; and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the work of the Saviour.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love, to remember each other in prayer, to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the laws of our Saviour, to secure it without delay.

We, moreover, engage that when we move from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other New Testament Baptist Church of like faith and practice where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

NAME/ SIGNATURE/DATE