THE SWORD

March 30, 2025

LMCC
LAWRENCE & MARDER
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Psalm 28:7 (KJV)
The LORD is my strength and my shield;
my heart trusted in him,
and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth;
and with my song will I praise him.

Sunday Bible Class: 9:00 A.M.
Sunday Worship Experience: 10:00 A.M.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 P.M.

2600 Lawrence St.
Dallas, TX 75215
church@landmcoc.org

Word of Week

New Creature: kainos <G2537> ktisis <G2937>

Here is another expression that describes our new life in Christ. As mentioned on January 1, while neos <G2537> refers to something new in *time,* something that recently has come into existence, kainos <G2537> refers to something new in *quality,* as it would be distinguished from something that is old and worn out. In Classical Greek, ktisis <G2937> meant the act of creation, the created thing, or the result of the act. It (and the verb ktizō, 2936) was often used in the Septuagint to translate the Hebrew bara <H1254> "to create from nothing."

While there is today a debate over so-called Lordship Salvation, such controversy is unfortunate, because the real issue boils down to one simple principle: *When Christ comes into your life, your life changes.* God's Word *everywhere* declares that a change is automatic when someone truly believes.

One of the greatest examples of this principle appears in Acts 19:8-10, where we read that Paul encountered many "hardened" (sklērunō, <G4645>, to make hard or stiff) hearts while preaching the Gospel in the synagogue for three months. But there were also those in Ephesus who believed. As verses 18-20 recount, the Gospel turned Ephesus on its ear. It changed that society. Those who were involved in occult practices burned their books on spells, sorcery, and other such things. Their life change was dramatically demonstrated by the value of those books. Five thousand pieces of silver today would be worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. We're reminded here of how even some Christians today ignorantly dabble in such things as horoscopes and Ouija boards, things that ought to be burned.

Verses 23-29 go on to say that believers no longer invested money in pagan practices or paraphernalia, which was a devastating blow to local commerce. Silversmiths were being driven out of business because people no longer bought silver shrines of Diana, which were household idols. Paul's statement that these were "no gods" at all and the stir churned up by the silversmiths combined to trigger a riot. So serious was the situation that there was the danger of Diana worship being destroyed altogether.

That is what the Gospel does. It changes lives. If one chooses to call this "Lordship Salvation," so be it, but the fact is: True *conversion* means true *change.* Christianity is not a creed, code, or a system of ethics. Christianity is a *life,* a new reality that comes when we trust Christ as Savior *and* Lord.

Scriptures for Study: How many NT examples can you list where a change of life was clearly evident after salvation?

Minister's Minutes

From Sorrow To Praise

Psalms 150:1 - *Praise ye the Lord…*

This is the final Psalm in the Book of Psalms. This would really be called the Deuteronomy of the Psalms. The Psalms are divided into five categories like the Pentateuch in the Bible - The Genesis, The Exodus, The Leviticus, The Numbers, The Deuteronomy. Notice the last Psalm begins differently than the first Psalm. The first Psalm opens with man being blessed by God, but the last Psalm opens with man blessing God. Psalm 1 says, "Blessed is the man." The last Psalm says, "Praise ye the Lord." Now between Psalm 1 and 150 a whole lot of things have happened.

I hear echoes in the field from Psalms prior to this saying, "Fret not thyself because of evildoers." meaning that the Psalmist had run into some crooked folk, difficult dilemmas, and trying situations. Psalms prior to this say, "Weeping may endure for a night." letting us know the Psalmist had run into tough times and that his eyes had focused upon the calendar of time; he was counting the hours at night looking forward to the morning. The Psalmist said, "I lifted up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help." indicating he ran into something he couldn't get out of. He couldn't think his way out, pay his way out, or trick his way out. I listened to the Psalmist as he seemed to say to us at one time he had been isolated from the church of God. Because I heard him say, "I was glad when they said unto me let us go to the house of the Lord." He went to the sanctuary to praise God.

And so from Psalm 1 to 150, the Psalmist had run into sorrow. He had experienced sadness, suffering, and sin. He had been in sour situations, but this Psalm says that in spite of what you have gone through, it's time to praise the Lord. Just being here is an indication that God has brought you through.

Announcements

- Let us keep all those who have lost loved ones, and those hospitalized, in our thoughts and prayers.
- We would like to wish a happy birthday and/or anniversary to everyone who is celebrating this week.
- Attention, church family! To ensure that all announcements and print requests are processed in a timely manner, please submit them by **Wednesday at 7:00 PM** of the preceding week **to church@landmcoc.org**. We understand that emergencies may arise, and we will do our best to accommodate urgent requests. However, **verbal, written, or texted announcements during the Sunday worship experience are strongly discouraged** to maintain the flow and reverence of our service. Thank you for your cooperation and support in keeping our worship experience focused and organized!
- If anyone would like to assist with transportation for Crossroads/LMCC Food Distribution please see brother Mac Fulbright.
- LMCC Ladies 1st Annual Spring Tea Party is scheduled for April 12, 2025 from 10:30AM - 2PM.
- Lawrence and Marder 5-Year Luncheon will be at Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen (3520 Oak Lawn Avenue, Dallas, TX) on August 16, 2025 from 3PM-6PM. Cost is $60 per person and must be made no later than August 3, 2025.
- If you would like to volunteer to help with the 5-Year Congregational Dinner or the 100 Year Anniversary please see Felton Davenport, Mac Fulbright, Reginald Osborne, George Robinson, Gary Walker.
- Sunday Morning Worship experience can be watched on the church website: www.landmcoc.org/broadcast; Church Facebook Page and YouTube Channel. Please "Like" and "Share".
- Children's Worship Hour is for children Pre-K through 4th grade.
- Church Zoom Information for Adults and Youth Wednesday Night Class: **Meeting ID: 915 0578 2664 Password: 859242 Call In Number: 1-346-248-7799**

Continuous Announcements

- Every 2nd Sunday Marsalis Avenue host a Zoom Grief Support Meeting at 4PM (Meeting ID: 880 4065 3591, Passcode: 411521)
- California Avenue Church of Christ in Bakersfield, CA host a Sunday Evening Spiritual Encouragement Hour each week on Zoom at 7:30PM central time (Meeting ID: 875 1387 3553, Passcode: 1020cal#)

What is the Plan of Salvation?

I Peter 1:20 (NASB) says, "For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you." Before God said let there be light, the plan for mankind's salvation had already been created by the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Before God formed man from the dust of the earth, the heavenly trinity had already established a plan for the redemption of mankind. Before God beheld that all He created was "very good" and decided to rest on the seventh day, the Godhead formulated a mystery that would be revealed to reunite mankind with God. We must be thankful to God that His love for us reached back before there was an us. In knowing this, we should follow after the WORD that was made flesh and dwelt amongst us without hesitation. Jesus the Christ is everything that we need (II Peter 1:2–4).

Hear the Gospel of <u>Jesus the Christ</u> (Romans 10:14). One must hear the glorious message that Jesus the Christ sacrificially died for the penalty of our sin, and that he was raised from the dead by the power of God.

Believe in <u>Jesus the Christ</u> (Hebrews 11:6). One must believe that Jesus was more than just a man, but the Christ.

Repent in the name of <u>Jesus the Christ</u> (Luke 24:46–47). Repentance is required; however, it is not said to take away sin, but rather it produces in us a desire to be vindicated by Jesus the Christ.

Confess that <u>Jesus the Christ</u> is the Son of God (Acts 8:36–37). A person must be willing to make the greatest proclamation ever known to mankind, and that is Jesus the Christ is the Son of God.

Be baptized for the remission of sins in the name of <u>Jesus the Christ</u> (Acts 2:38). Baptism is not a sign of salvation, but rather a New Testament requirement for salvation. The action emulates our Lord and Savior's death, burial and resurrection.

Being faithful until death like <u>Jesus the Christ</u> (Philippians 2:4–8). If we stay faithful to God's will, God's word and God's way, we will have a home not made with hands awaiting us some day.

What is the Plan of Salvation? How do I become a Christian?
The Answer: <u>JESUS the CHRIST</u>

Sermon Notes for March 30, 2025

Speaker: Bro. George Robinson

Text: Romans 12:1

Title: Worship as a Lifestyle

Notes:

Minister's Email: minister@landmcoc.org

QR CODES

VISITOR CHECK-IN

MEMBERSHIP CHECK-IN

RESPONSE CARD REQUEST