

GOOD NEWS

Alone but not abandoned!

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray For: Logan's grandpa, Helen Spicer, Joe Clapp, Chloe Larson, Nell Kelly, Wayne Ezell.

Traveling/Working: Slope workers, Thad Douthitt (deployed)

Radio Program: Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program, Sundays at 9am, on 99.7 FM.

CHECK THE SIGN UP FORMS ON THE BULLETIN BOARD AND VOLUNTEER!

Today's Scripture: "I have been very zealous for the LORD God of Hosts," he replied, "but the Israelites have abandoned Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they're looking for me to take my life." **1 Kings 19:14 (HCSB)**

Today's Proverb: "Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am alone and afflicted. **Psalms 25:16 (HCSB)**

Attendance Last Sunday: 73 Record: 96

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

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December 17th, 2017 BULLETIN for the

Church of Christ
AT WASILLA

God's Plan of Salvation

Hear Romans 10:17
Believe Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
Repent Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
Confess Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
Arise & Walk in Newness of Life Romans 6:4

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

—Romans 1:16 KJV

MEETING TIMES

Sunday:
Bible Classes: 10AM
AM Worship: 11AM
PM Worship: 6PM
Wednesday:
Bible Study: 7PM

COME JOIN US!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:
2061 N. Merciful Circle
Wasilla, AK 99654
Visit our website at:
www.churchofchristwasilla.com
(907) 373-5773

Office Hours: Tuesdays/Thursdays 3PM-7PM

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

Alone But Not Abandoned!

By: Bill Beebe
Church of Christ at Wasilla

Sometimes we all feel alone and abandoned. It may be after something terrible happened in our lives. Perhaps you felt alone when your parents passed away, or your spouse died or maybe even when your children left the house. It could have been when you left your parents home and struck out on your own for the first time. Maybe this feeling comes over you occasionally when you are wondering how you are going to make things work in your life. When it seems that all you worked for has vanished and no one seems to care.

Moses felt alone and abandoned by God when the children were wandering in the wilderness. "Now Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, each man at the doorway of his tent; and the anger of the LORD was kindled greatly, and Moses was displeased. So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have You been so hard on Your servant? And why have I not found favor in Your sight, that You have laid the burden of all this people on me? Was it I who conceived all this people? Was it I who brought them forth, that You should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom as a nurse carries a nursing infant, to the land which You swore to their fathers'? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they weep before me, saying, 'Give us meat that we may eat!' I alone am not able to carry all this people, because it is too burdensome for me. So if You are going to deal thus with me, please kill me at once, if I have found favor in Your sight, and do not let me see my wretchedness." **Numbers 11:10-15 (NASB)**

Later in the history of the Israelites, Elijah found himself alone as a servant of God. "Then Elijah said to the people, "I alone am left a prophet of the LORD, but Baal's prophets are 450 men." **1 Kings 18:22 (NASB)** and a little later "Then he came there to a cave and lodged there; and behold, the word of the LORD *came* to him, and He said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the sons of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars and killed Your prophets with the sword. And I alone am left; and they seek my life, to take it away." **1 Kings 19:9-10 (NASB)**. And even David, the Star of God's eye, felt the bitterness of being alone; "Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am alone and afflicted. The distresses of my heart increase; bring me out of my sufferings. Consider my affliction and trouble, and take away all my sins. Consider my enemies; they are numerous, and they hate me violently. Guard me and deliver me; do not let me be put to shame, for I take refuge in You. May integrity and what is right watch over me, for I wait for You. **Psalms 25:16-21 (HCSB)**

Although the Bible gives us examples of people who felt alone and abandoned, God proved to them that that was not the case. When Moses felt alone in his care for the children of Israel, God always came through and provided them what they needed, when they needed it and in the amount that they needed. When Elijah felt alone, God gave him the strength to carry on. Elijah confronted 450 prophets of Baal alone and was victorious because God provided for him. When Elisha angered the King of Aram and he sent his army to capture Elisha, the servant saw the might of the army and was afraid. However Elisha prayed that God open his eyes and he saw the multitude of angels surrounding them and understood that they were not, in fact, alone but that God was providing for their safety. When David was alone and running from King Saul, God protected him over and over again.

This is the case today for Christians. Satan can, and does, cause us to feel alone and abandoned. Just like he did with Moses, Elisha's servant and others. But God is always there and only a prayer away! Our problem is that we don't recognize it and then we fail to take advantage of God's everlasting protection and love for His children. And just now and then, God uses our aloneness for His plans for us. When Mordecia was the target of the wrath of Haman, Haman decided not only to destroy Mordecia, but all of his people (the Jews). And it fell on a young woman alone to save God's people. It was only her, and her alone who could talk to the king and reverse the process that Haman had begun. Ester was reluctant because she knew that if she tried to see the king and he rejected her she would be killed. Mordecia couldn't go with her, none of the other women in the king's harem could go. Ester had to go alone. Can you imagine what she must have felt like on that walk, uninvited, to the king's chambers. How alone she must have felt! But Mordecia told her something simple and that is important for us to recognize today; "Mordecai told the messenger to reply to Ester, "Don't think that you will escape the fate of all the Jews because you are in the king's palace. If you keep silent at this time, liberation and deliverance will come to the Jewish people from another place, but you and your father's house will be destroyed. Who knows, perhaps you have come to your royal position for such a time as this." **Esther 4:13-14 (HCSB)** (emphasis added)

When we feel all alone in our lives and especially in the service of the Lord we need to remember that God always comes through for His children. And just sometimes, being alone may be what He has planned for us.