

Oak Grove Church of Christ Newsletter - 2025.11.16

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Sermon recordings

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Speaker-AM: Patrick Hite

Title: But If Not

Recording:

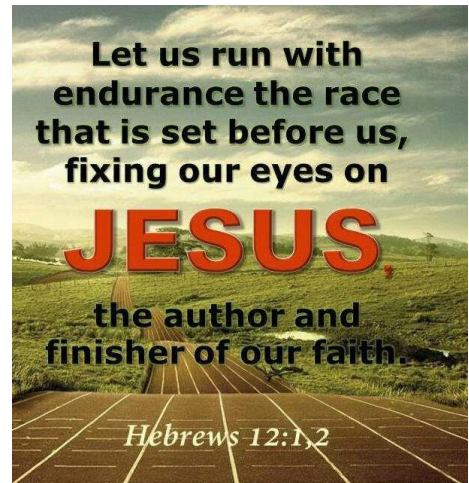


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SET UP.”
DANIEL 3:17-18

Speaker-PM: Kraig Benney

Title: Failed Athletes

Recording:



From Donkey To War Horse, 10/30/2025 By Sam Bunyard

Jesus repeatedly told His disciples that He would be executed in Jerusalem, be buried and rise the third day (Lk. 9:22, 44; 11:29-30; 17:25; 18:31-34). And yet, the prevailing idea among the believing multitudes was that Christ had come to restore the physical kingdom of Israel! As Jesus approached Jerusalem, many “thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately” (Lk. 19:11). In fulfillment of prophecy, and to demonstrate that He was not coming to overthrow the Roman occupation, Jesus rode into Jerusalem as a peacetime King: on the colt of a donkey (Lk. 19:28-40; cf. Zech. 9:9).

But make no mistake! Jesus may not have been on a military campaign, but He was at war! When He arrived in Jerusalem, He wept for their rejection of His authority (Lk. 19:41-44). They had chosen the losing side. Then Jesus made His way into the Temple to drive out those who had made His Father’s house a place of financial profit (Lk. 19:45-48). Jesus was on the offensive! In Luke 20, Jesus cast down the authority of the Jewish leaders (1-8, II Cor. 10:5).

He informed them that they would soon be removed from their stewardship, again predicting His own death (vv. 9-19). He embarrassed the Jewish political aspirations (vv. 20-26). He schooled the Sadducees (vv. 27-40) and didn’t let the Pharisees off easy either (vv. 41-47).

All of this before putting the final nail in the coffin by condemning the entire Jewish system and the Temple itself to destruction (Lk 21). Jesus did not come to launch a physical war on Jerusalem, but there would be one (Lk. 21:20)! And it would be His judgment against His rebellious people (Lk. 19:41-44).

Don’t be fooled into thinking the King of Peace doesn’t wield a sword. His battle isn’t just about saving nations – it’s about saving souls! And when He returns, it won’t be on a donkey but on a war horse (Rev. 19:11-16)!

In a Manner Worthy 11/17/2025 by David Gibson

- “. . . like a father with his children, we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory” (I Thessalonians 2:12).
- “. . . we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God” (Colossians 1:9-10).
- “Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that . . . I will hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel . . .” (Philippians 1:27).
- “I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Ephesians 4:1-3).
- “I commend to you our sister Phoebe . . . that you receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and that you help her in whatever matter she may have need of you . . .” (Romans 16:1-2).
- “Beloved, it is a faithful thing you do in all your efforts for these brothers, strangers as they are You will do well to send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God. For they have gone out for the sake of the name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. Therefore we ought to support people like these, that we may be fellow workers for the truth” (III John 5-8).

Living in a manner worthy involves both the vertical dimension: “fully pleasing to Him” (Colossians 1:9-10) and the horizontal: “with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love” (Ephesians 4:1-3) and assisting Christians who actively serve and evangelize (Romans 16:1-2; III John 5-8).

What a tall order He has given us! But He never requires the impossible. With His strong help, walking in a manner worthy is altogether doable. Otherwise, He wouldn’t expect it of us, would He?