# REDEMPTION CHURCH OF CHRIST OF THE APOSTOLIC FAITH



Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new (2 Corinthians 5:17).

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Thank you for visiting us today at Redemption Church of Christ! We pray you will enjoy the service. We know that there are no mistakes with God.

Ask Him for guidance in your life, and allow Him to speak to you this morning through the Word of God.

If you have any questions, feel free to ask! Elder and Sis. Massey

#### ORDER OF SERVICE

Selections

Prayer

Scripture Reading

Announcements

General Offering

Testimony Service

Selection

Sermon

Altar Call

Special Offering

Remarks and Dismissal

(Schedule subject to change accordingly)

Our services are broadcasted on radio stations with the call letters below:

WJIV 101.9FM (Cherry Valley, NY) Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

WHAZ 1330AM & 97.5FM; WMYY 97.3FM; WBAR 94.7FM; WMNV 104.1FM Saturdays at 12:00 p.m. and Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

# **Don't Fizzle Out**

by Elder John Massey, Jr.

Only 2% of the population has attained par excellence, while the remaining 98% settle for mediocrity. Do not fizzle out: to come to an end, especially after a promising start. Motivate yourself to work for the Lord by viewing it as an activity. "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men" (Colossians 3:23). Everyone around us should know that there is something different about us: smile, pleasantness, enthusiasm, singing heartily to the Lord. "If a man therefore purge himself,...he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work (II Timothy 2:21). As we upgrade ourselves, the Lord can use us.

As a laborer, the entrance level is an apprenticeship whether you are a mason, a carpenter, a plumber, or electrician. Scripture speaks of a spiritual apprenticeship: "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby" (I Peter 2:2). God expects us to mature. We should be strong to the point that we can help others. "We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves" (Romans 15:1).

There are stages that you go through before moving up. For example, in carpentry there are rough carpenters, then inside carpenters, then finisher carpenters, and then specialty carpenters. Some people do not have the patience to go through the needed stages. They end up mortgaging their futures for immediate gratification.

We need to mature spiritually. If we are not maturing, we will fizzle out. A loss of interest or apathy will cause you to fizzle. Do not tolerate mediocrity. Acclimate yourself, or you will find yourself in a rut.

"Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples" (John 15:8). Have I given my best to Jesus when I know He expects my best from me? "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).

Does indifference dominate you? "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another" (John 13:34). A Christian's priorities differ from those of the world. "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above" (Colossians 3:1). We should have J.O.Y. in our lives: Jesus first, Others next, and Yourself last.

We often struggle to get what we cannot keep. Apostle Paul admonished, "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out" (I Timothy 6:7). Instead strive for what you cannot lose: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God" (Matthew 6:33). As long as God is first in our lives, our Plan A, He will bless our

natural plans, our Plan B. "For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away" (James 4:14). Encourage yourself.

"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Galatians 6:9). Our "due season" is at God's discretion. God wants you to tough it out. No matter how weary, emotional, or embattled we feel, God will not allow us to be overwhelmed. "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed" (II Corinthians 4:8-10).

God has ordained you to be victorious, no matter what threatens you. "When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him" (Isaiah 59:19). Stop anticipating the worst. "Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof" (Matthew 6:34).

"For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake" (Philippians 1:29). "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (I Thessalonians 5:18). Your resolve should be—Somehow, I've got to make this journey, somehow! Even though you may not understand the way the Lord is taking you, be victorious. "But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold" (Job 23:10). Be convinced. "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? ....For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:35, 38-39).

### Schedule of Services

Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 12:30 p.m.
Monday Women of Faith/Men of Honor 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Class 7:00 p.m.
Friday End Time Prophecy Conference 7:00 p.m.
For information or transportation, call 518-272-6679.

## Pastor/Founder:

Elder John Massey, Jr.