

Good morning, Church. Daily Reading, Proverbs 24.

November 1st, also known as "All Saints Day" or "All Hallows Day."

According to Alex Crain, "This is a Christian memorial day celebrating the honor of all church Saints, whether known or unknown."

But who is a Saint? If you are a follower of Christ, you are.

Acts 9:13 "But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem." (ESV)

Romans 1:7 "To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." (ESV)

Persecution arose against believers, known as "saints." Those who are loved by God are called "saints."

In history, this was a day to celebrate the martyrs who suffered for their faith in Jesus. Added to this was the recognition of those who lived an exceptionally holy life, devoted completely to God.

Certain denominations will hold a special service or mass today with the reading of the Beatitudes and Special Prayers. Many will visit the graves of believers and serve a special meal their departed enjoyed.

However, a group might celebrate the remembrance of a loved one who has died in Christ, Jesus should be the focus. No one is called a "saint" (living or dead) apart from the work of Christ.

It is through the atoning work of Christ that salvation is possible. When a person comes to Christ in faith, one takes on the righteousness of God in Christ. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

November 1st is a day of remembering our departed. But November 3rd is our day to Pray for the Persecuted Church. "This is a day to pray for brothers and sisters of the faith who are met with threats, beatings, imprisonment, loss of family and income, and even death for the sake of Christ." (IMB)

Two days that might get lost between Halloween, the coming of Veterans Day, and Thanksgiving. Remember and pray for the beloved.

Happy Friday. I hope you are in church this Sunday.