Place Stamp Here

Northside Church of Christ 4217 Highway 39 N Meridian, MS 39301 MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI APRIL 10, 2022

Northside Church of Christ

"God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

John 4:24



The Anvil Of God's Word

By John Clifford

"Last eve I paused beside the blacksmith's door, And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;
Then looking in, I saw upon the floor, Old hammers, worn with beating years of time.

"How many anvils have you had,' said I, 'To wear and batter all these hammers so?'

Just one,' said he, and then with twinkling eye, 'The anvil wears the hammers out, you know.'

"And so, I thought, the Anvil of God's Word, For ages skeptic blows have beat upon;

Yet, though the noise of falling blows was heard, The Anvil is unharmed, the hammers gone."

Hebrews 4:12

[12] For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Matthew 24:35

[35] Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

SUNDAY MORNING

Triple E
Edify, Exhort,
Evangelize
Transformed
8:30 AM

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

I Timothy

9:30 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:30 AM

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

The Book of Acts
7:00 PM



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"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

2 Timothy 2:15

NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST APRIL 10, 2022

The "Risk" Of Being A Disciple Of Christ

By Mike Riley

On Saturday morning, February 1, 2003, as most of us were awakening, President George W. Bush spoke seven saddening words to the nation: "The Columbia's lost. There are no survivors." When an fiery accident destroyed NASA's oldest space shuttle moments before the scheduled end of its twenty-eighth voyage, seven people – five men, two women – lost their lives. As one observer noted, "They were just fifteen minutes from home."

A "Risky" Business

Being an astronaut is a risky profession. Everyone who enters the space program knows and understands this fact. Astronauts recall the Apollo 1 test module fire that took the lives of three astronauts in January 1967, and the explosion of space shuttle Challenger in January 1986 that claimed its seven-member crew. Astronauts know the risks and they willingly accept them.

Virgil "Gus" Grissom, the second American in space and one of the three men killed in the Apollo fire, said, "If we die, we want people to accept it. We're in a risky business, and we hope that if anything happens to us it will not delay the program. The conquest of space is worth the risk of life."

Everything In Life Involves Risk

It can be argued that everything in life involves risk. In terms of the danger to physical safety, some courses of action are riskier than others. Strapping oneself to a fuel tank containing one-half million gallons of liquid hydrogen and oxygen definitely qualifies. However, there are different kinds of risk. For example, becoming a Christian carries incredible risk!

The apostle Simon Peter knew this. Jesus told him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish" (John 21:18). With these words, Christ foretold the death Peter would be called upon to die. A Christian preacher named Stephen learned the risk. When he delivered a sermon that angered enemies of the faith, Stephen was beaten to death with stones (Acts 7:57-60). James, the son of Zebedee, learned about risk: "Now about that time Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church. Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword" (Acts 12:1-2). Certainly the apostle Paul knew the risks: beatings, imprisonments, stoning, scourging, shipwreck, and more (2 Corinthians 11:22-26). No one better appreciated the risks of obeying God than the Son of God Himself, who "did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28; Mark 10:45; cf. 1 Timothy 2:6).

Conclusion

What "risks" might you face as a Christian? No one can say for certain. Jesus acknowledged that some would lose family relationships as a cost of being His disciples (Matthew 10:34-37). Would you accept that risk? Would you accept the risks that Peter, James, Stephen, Paul and countless others (Hebrews 11:35-38) accepted? Do you believe what Jesus offers is worth the price? Before you answer, know this. As great as the risk of following Jesus is, the risk of not following Him is infinitely greater – "everlasting punishment" (Matthew 25:46). Now ask yourself: are you willing to "risk" that?

Announcements

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Prayer Requests This Week

Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments



Sermon Notes

Communion Preparation

- Sign up sheet for 2022 is in foyer
- April Rowell
- May Montgomery
- June Thrash

April Birthdays & Anniversary's

• Lennon Joiner - 27th

Men to Serve

Announcements/Opening Prayer - Don Potts
Scripture Reading - Hebrews 10:23 - 29
Lead Singing - Mark Potts
Head of Lord's Table - Shay Cooper
Assist on Lord's Table - Camden Cooper
Scripture Reading - 1 Corinthians 11:23 - 29
Closing Prayer - Dwight Callens

Every Sunday Morning
@ 8:00 AM
on WTOK-TV



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