

# Northside Church of Christ

“God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”  
John 4:24



**Be Ready** By Ron Boatwright

Jesus says "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect" (Matthew 24:44). To be ready we must have "purified your souls in obeying the truth" (1 Peter 1:22). To be saved from our past sins we must believe in Jesus and be willing to do all He says in His word (John 8:24), repent of our sins (Luke 13:3), confess Him before men (Matthew 10:32), and be baptized for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38, 22:16), so we can be saved (Mark 16:16, 1 Peter 3:21). If you haven't done this, you are not ready.

Christians have to "Watch therefore for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming" (Matthew 25:13). How do we continue to be ready? "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin" (1 John 1:7). If as a Christian we are not walking in the light of His word and having fellowship one with another, then we are not ready. But if we are ready when Jesus comes, "we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure" (1 John 3:2-3). "Therefore, my beloved brethern, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing your labor is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58). Our eternal fate is sealed when we draw our last breath or if the Lord comes before we die. It will be too late if we are not ready. Are we ready?

### SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

No Bible Study This  
Week Study of

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

Drive-in Service  
10:00 AM

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Family Bible Study  
7:00 PM  
No Bible Study This  
Week



Please visit our  
website  
[nscocmeridian.com](http://nscocmeridian.com)

- Information about our congregation
- Sermon Audio Archives
- Previous Bulletins
- Member Pages



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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  
4217 Highway 39 N  
Meridian, MS 39301

Place  
Stamp  
Here

# Worldliness Or Godliness

## By Ron Boatwright

Worldliness is being like the world. Godliness is godlike in behavior. As free moral agents we decide whether we are going to be worldly or godly. This is a decision all people make. Worldliness begins by wanting to conform to this world. "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world" (1 John 2:16). And we see that, "the whole world lieth in wickedness" (1 John 5:19). Many people are "lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power" (2 Timothy 3:4-5). They have become so accustomed to sin that, "They were not at all ashamed; nor did they know how to blush" (Jeremiah 6:15).

There were many Christians in the church at Corinth that seemed to have become comfortable with sin in their congregation. Paul in rebuking them says, "It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much named among the Gentiles" (1 Corinthians 5:1). They were not ashamed of what was happening in their congregation for Paul says, "And you are puffed up and have not mourned" (1 Corinthians 5:2).

We cannot be both worldly and godly; they do not mix. "Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God" (James 4:4). To be worldly is to love the sinful things of the world. But we are warned, "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him" (1 John 2:15). We are to "Abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul" (1 Peter 2:11). "For if you live according to the flesh you will die" (Romans 8:13). This is a spiritual death, which is being separated from God in the eternal fires of Hell.

We are not to "enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season" (Hebrews 11:25), but "let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh" (2 Corinthians 7:1). If we want to go to Heaven and avoid Hell we are to, "lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls" (James 1:21). God in His word "has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness" (2 Peter 1:3). To be godly we must study and follow God's "word, which is able to save your souls" (James 1:21). To live a life that is pleasing to God we are "exercise yourself toward godliness" (1 Timothy 4:7) for "godliness with contentment is great gain" (1 Timothy 6:6). We are to "be in behavior as becometh holiness" (Titus 2:3).

In living a worldly life there are no little sins or big sins. For example there are no little lies or big lies. In God's eyes a liar is just as bad as a murderer. God says, "But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death" (Revelation 21:8). Another example is some try to justify "social drinking" by arguing that a little drinking is not wrong. But you cannot do wrong in moderation. One cannot lie or steal in moderation. One cannot commit adultery every now and then and still go to heaven. Drunkenness is wrong and is a matter of degree of intoxication. If 5 drinks will make one "sot drunk"; one drink certainly impairs one to a certain degree. One is simply more incapacitated than the other. Alcohol is a narcotic drug requiring more and more consumption to satisfy the craving it creates. Even a small amount is sufficient to start deadening the control centers in the brain. Galatians 5:19-21 says one of the works of the flesh is "drunkenness" and "those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."

In living a godly life we must "not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:2), so "that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation" (Philippians 2:15). We are to "let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ" (Philippians 1:27), as we "Abstain from every form of evil" (1 Thessalonians 5:22). We must live a godly life so we can go to Heaven when this life is over.

### Prayer Requests This Week

- Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments (Serrie Smith, Millie Williams, Donna Hill)
- All those affected by COVID-19
- Connie Montgomery
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### Communion Preparation

- Sign up sheet for 2020 is in foyer
- April - Rowell
- May - Rowell

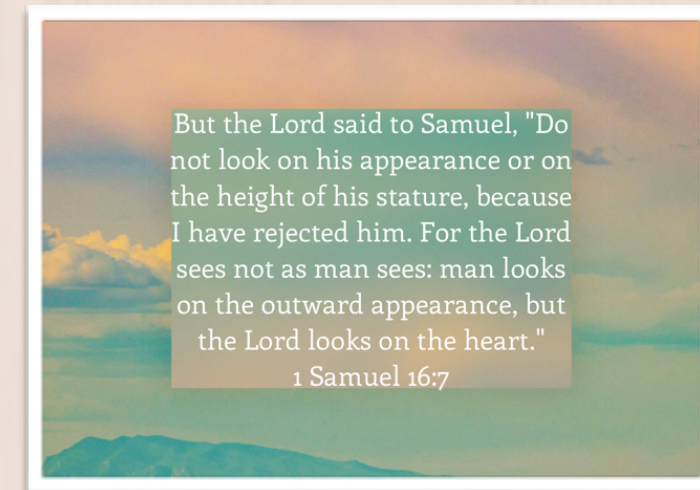
### Announcements

- No Sunday Bible Study or Evening Worship or Wednesday Night Bible Study Next Week
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### April Birthdays & Anniversary's

- None

Every Sunday Morning  
@ 6:00 AM  
on WTOK-TV



### Men to Serve

#### Sunday Morning

- Announcements/Opening Prayer - Tristan Rowell
- Scripture Reading - 1 Samuel 16:7
- Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell
- Head of Lord's Table - Tristan Rowell
- Scripture Reading - Matthew 26:48-56
- Assist on Lord's Table - Chuck Rowell
- Closing Prayer - Chuck Rowell

#### Sunday Afternoon - No service

- Comcast Cable 8
- Comcast Cable 438
- Comcast Cable 1012
- DirecTV 12
- Dish Network 9306
- Dishnet Local 49
- Over-the-air 11.3