

Northside Church of Christ

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



Seven Guidelines To Profitable Bible Study By Mike Riley

For many, the Old Testament is the “boring” part of the Bible. Their reasoning is that it contains little in the way of instruction for the Christian, certainly not like the more practical epistles in the New Testament. But in one of those epistles, the apostle Paul says, “For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.” (Romans 15:4 KJV).

Thus, the Old Testament is filled with examples by which we might learn, both about how to serve God (and how not to), and about the character of God Himself. To neglect the Old Testament would be to rob ourselves of much of what we can know about the Creator and Sustainer of this world.

For example, one of the most maligned books in all of scripture is the book of Leviticus. Perceived as boring because of its detailing of many of the laws by which the Israelites were governed, most people would be happy if it were simply skipped over in our studies. But doing so would deprive us of great lessons on the importance of serving God.

There is the vital lesson on the authority of God’s “silence” in Leviticus 10 (the story of Nadab and Abihu). There are the details of the rituals involved in the sacrifices for sin, which point to the serious nature of sin in the eyes of God. Leviticus 20 teaches us of God’s displeasure with those who would commit spiritual adultery, particularly those who participated in the barbaric offering of their own children as sacrifices to the idol god Molech (Leviticus 20:1-5).

Continued on next page...

SUNDAY

Triple E
Edify, Exhort,
Evangelize
8:30 AM

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Thru the Bible in 52
Weeks - Genesis
9:30 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship Service
10:30 AM

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

John the Baptist
Matthew 3:1-16
Mark 1:1-11
Luke 3:1-22
John 1:1-34



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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

We Must Give Our Best To God

By Ron Boatwright

As we worship God, we give Him ourselves. Romans 12:1 says, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God which is your reasonable service." Under the Old Testament some of the Jews were not offering their best and were condemned for it. In Malachi 1:8 we read, "And when you offer the blind as a sacrifice, is it not evil? And when you offer the lame and sick, is it not evil?" Is it not just as evil today when we do not give God our best?

Under the New Testament we do not offer animal sacrifices as the Jews did under the Old Testament; but we give Him our lives in service to Him as a living sacrifice. In doing this we must give Him our all. Anything we do for God must be our very best. Jesus tells us in Matthew 22:37, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and all your soul, and all your mind." All our heart, soul, and mind, or in other words, our total being must be in our worship.

How do we show our love to God? Our Lord says in John 14:21, "He who has my commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me." We show our love to God when we keep His commandments. We do not show our love to God if we only keep the commandments we want to keep or if we add some of our own commandments.

In Matthew 28:18, before Christ ascended into heaven, He was giving His apostles some last minute instructions concerning those they would baptize. Jesus said, "Teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you." Everything the Lord has commanded us is to be observed. We are to do all that God says and in the way He says to do it. Jesus says in Luke 6:46, "But why do you call me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"

In worship we must do all God has commanded and we must not do anything He has not authorized. Our worship must be from the heart with all reverence and sincerity. We must give Him our very best. Then and only then will we be worshipping God "in spirit and in truth". The purpose and holiness of true worship to God is a precious privilege available only to those who are obedient to the will of God.

But God is also displeased with other forms of irreligion, such as the practice of witchcraft and the attempts to contact the dead (Leviticus 20:6-8). God expected worship of Him alone (Matthew 4:10; cf. Deuteronomy 6:13; Deuteronomy 10:20). And He made serious provision for the punishment of those who would "play the harlot" with other gods (Hosea 3:1-4). He will not tolerate such from us either.

Those who would commit such spiritual adultery in the Old Testament would find that such worship was vain, because in time of true need, these gods could not help them (see the contest on Matthew Carmel between Elijah and the prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18:20-40). In addition, the worship of other gods proved to be costly, for the punishment was death by stoning.

What is the cost of following other gods today (be they money, fame, lust, etc.)? While it is true that the followers of idolatry will not be stoned, they do not escape. Still, the gods of men cannot help in time of trouble.

In fact, like the character of many men, these false gods are said to laugh at their followers problems. And the punishment for service to these gods is still death, albeit a spiritual one, for it is separation from God for eternity (Isaiah 59:1-2; Romans 6:23).

The Old Testament is filled with such important teachings, and we would be well-served to "take heed" of the examples of old (Hebrews 3:7-12 KJV).

Prayer Requests This Week

- Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments (Ken Williams, Maxine Powell)
- All those affected by COVID-19
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Communion Preparation

- Sign up sheet for 2020 is in foyer
- August - Potts
- September - Thrash
- October - Carlberg

Announcements

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-
-

August Birthdays & Anniversary's

- Donald Montgomery - 4th • Chuck & Sonja Rowell - 11th
- Jill Carlberg - 14th
- Scott Williams - 28th

Every Sunday Morning

@ 6:00 AM

on WTOK-TV



Sermon Notes

Men to Serve

Sunday Morning

- Announcements/Opening Prayer - Don Potts
- Scripture Reading - 1 Timothy 6:3-9
- Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell
- Head of Lord's Table - Rick Carlberg
- Scripture Reading - Luke 22:15-22
- Assist on Lord's Table - David Cradic
- Closing Prayer - Scott Williams



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