Place Stamp Here Morthside Church of Christ 4217 Highway 39 M Meridian, MS 39301 MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI FEBRUARY 16, 2020

Northside Church of Christ

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

John 4:24



"I Ain't Nothin'" By Mike Riley

Years ago in a church bulletin, I read of a southern gospel preacher, who during the course of his sermon, wrote the word "Christian" on a blackboard as an illustration. He then proceeded to cross out the first six letters – C-H-R-I-S-T.

Then he asked his audience what letters were left. They told him, "I-A-N." He responded, "Yes, you're right, and do you know what those letters I-A-N stand for?"

"I Ain't Nothin'"

That southern gospel preacher was exactly right – as a Christian, "I ain't nothin'" without Christ.

John 15:5 - I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Acts 4:10-12 - Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. [11] This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. [12] Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

9:00 AM

Study of Revelation

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00 AM

5:00 PM

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Family Bible Study 7:00 PM

Study Text : Luke 2:1-21

The Birth of Jesus



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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 **FEBRUARY 16. 2020**

The Joy of Hope

By Joe Chesser

Sometimes the best part of taking a vacation is the time spent gathering information and making plans for it. Anticipating what you will do when you go camping or traveling or to Disney makes the vacation that much more enjoyable. Getting brochures or checking out the web sites, studying the maps to learn what is available along the way, and marking the days on a calendar fill you with excitement. In fact, there are times when the anticipation of the vacation far exceeds the actual event.

Anticipating heaven should be even better than anticipating a vacation. It's too bad that many Christians haven't learned to enjoy the preparation for heaven. Instead of finding joy in the present (John 10:10), some Christians (and I hope you are not one of them) view the present Christian experience as one of drudgery and travail. They see their walk with God in this life as one of hardship and suffering, and only view heaven as a rest from their current troubles. But the hope of heaven is not in-tended to be restricted to eternity. There is joy in the hope of heaven right now!

The hope of heaven serves to bring meaning and enjoyment to this present life in several ways.

- (1) Hope in God serves as an anchor for the soul. The world is constantly in a state of flux, yet God gives Christians the ability to live in this world with stability in the present because of hope for the future. Instead of being "blown here and there by every wind of teaching" (Eph. 4:14) Christians are offered "hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure" (Heb. 6:19). Christians have the security now that the world longs for!
- (2) Christians are saved by hope (Rom. 8:24). This hope is a "confident expectation" that removes fear and doubt. Since we are confident of receiving the salvation of Christ that comes by faith and obedience, joy fills our souls. We find joy in doing whatever God expects of us because of the hope of what He has promised those who are faithful.
- (3) Happy is the soldier that is properly equipped to wage war. While we are in the flesh we are in a constant battle with Satan, but God has given us all the equipment we need to successfully defeat him. A part of that equipment is having "the hope of salvation as a helmet" (1 Thess. 5:8). Christians are assured that Satan cannot defeat the army of God. We can celebrate our ultimate victory right now, today! Live joyfully as God's soldier.
- (4) Christians know "how great is the love the Father has lavished on us" (1 John 3:1). We know we are the children of God right now! What we don't know yet is what we will be like when Jesus appears the second time, but we do know this: that when Jesus appears the second time, we shall be like him (1 John 3:2). Having this hope gives us the assurance we need to live pure lives in the present (1 John 3:3). Learning to live like God today gives us a joy that anticipates the day we can live with Him forever!
- (5) Despite the trials of life, Christians can "be joyful in hope" (Rom. 12:12). If we choose, nothing in this life can rob us of the joy and anticipation of life with God.

Prayer Requests This Week

- Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments
- Howard Hall
- Serrie Smith
- Millie Williams
- Donna Hill
- Gary Cradic

Communion Preparation

- Sign up sheet for 2020 is in foyer
- February Powell
- March Montgomery
- April Rowell

Announcements

February Birthdays & Anniversary's

- 2nd BJ Cradic
- 1st Don & Gerri Thrash
- 22nd Decker McKenzie
- 14th Rick & Jill Carlberg
- 28th Shay Cooper



Men to Serve

Sunday Morning

Announcements/Opening Prayer - Greg Powell

Scripture Reading - Mark 6:1-4

Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell

Head of Lord's Table - Larry Montgomery

Scripture Reading - Mark 15:6-13

Assist on Lord's Table - Donald Montgomery

James Johnson

Mark Potts

Closing Prayer - Shay Cooper

Sunday Afternoon

Announcements - Chuck Rowell

Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell

Opening Prayer - Don Potts

Closing Prayer - Rick Carlberg

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



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