### Here dmetz Place

#### MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI

# **Northside Church of Christ**

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



### "That Nothing Time" By Mike Riley

In a large metropolis, a newspaper ad showed three people waiting for a city bus. Two of them were bored and listless, while the third was happily playing a game on a small portable electronic device. The ad said, "Do something with your nothing — that nothing time. The time in between everything else you have to do." The idea was to sell the portable device so people could use all those segments of wasted waiting time.

Many folks constructively use the small increments of waiting time in various places (such as a doctor's office) to read the Bible, memorize a verse of Scripture, or pray for a friend. It's our longer waiting periods filled with uncertainty and indecision that may leave us anxious and frustrated (like being stranded in freeway traffic).

Paul challenged the Christians in Ephesus to:

"Walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15-16 – NKJV).

A Greek scholar suggests that this refers to time in its "strategic and opportune seasons" and means "making a wise and sacred use of every opportunity for doing good." That's the wise way for us as Christians to do something profitable with "that nothing time."

### SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

### SUNDAY WORSHIP Worship Service

10:00 AM

Meridian, MS 39301 4217 Highway 39 N Northside Church of Christ JULY 19, 2020

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Family Bible Study 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

## **Acceptable And Unacceptable Worship**

### By Ron Boatwright

God has shown, in the Bible, His approval with those who follow His will and His displeasure and wrath with those who refuse to worship Him the way He has directed. God has always been clear about how he is to be worshipped, but man has not listened.

An example of acceptable and unacceptable worship in the Old Testament is that of Cain and Abel. Cain and Abel both worshipped God. Abel did as God directed, but Cain tried to worship God the way he saw fit. We read in Genesis 4:3-5, "And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of fruit of the ground to the Lord. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering."

Why did the Lord have respect for Abel's offering and why did He reject Cain's offering? Hebrews 11:4 tells us, "By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain." Notice Abel offered his sacrifice "by faith" but Cain did not. Romans 10:17 says, "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." So faith comes by the word of God. Abel offered his sacrifice by faith or according to the word of God. If we worship God by faith, we worship as the word of God directs.

Abel offered the firstborn of his flock "by faith" and it was accepted because his worship was according to the instructions of God. But Cain chose to ignore God's instructions and sacrificed an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord. Cain chose to sacrifice to God the way he saw fit. Cain did not offer his sacrifice according to God's instructions, so God rejected his sacrifice and worship, since it was not "by faith".

From this example we see our worship must be "by faith", that is "by the word of God." We read in Romans 14:23, "For whatever is not from faith is sin." If our worship is not "by faith", that is it is not "by the word of God", then it "is sin". It will also be rejected just like Cain's. It is a very serious matter if God rejects our worship. If He does we are going to be lost. Many people accept from the Bible what they like and reject what they don't like. They also add other things that they like. This is not Christianity but religious anarchy. We do not have the right to "believe as we please." We must humbly to submit to all that Jesus says. Anything taught or practiced by man in the field of religion which does not come from the Bible is false doctrine.

One cannot obey God without doing what God says to do, when God says to do it, how God says to do it and for the reason God says to do it. If what we do in worship is not according to the word of God, then it is vain and useless and will cause us to be eternally lost.

### **Prayer Requests This Week**

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

### **Communion Preparation**

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

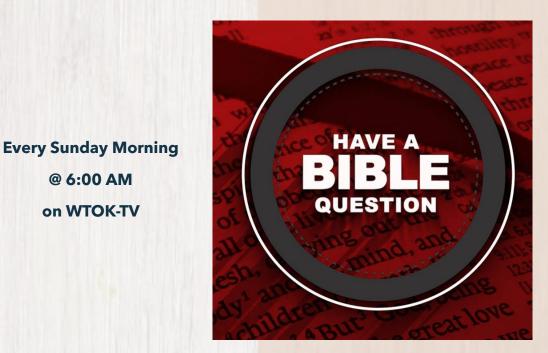
#### Announcements

### July Birthdays & Anniversary's

• Tristan Rowell - 6th Chuck Rowell - 11th

@ 6:00 AM

on WTOK-TV



JULY 12, 2020

For whoseever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels. Luke 9:26

### **Men to Serve**

### **Sunday Morning**

Announcements/Opening Prayer - Shay Cooper Scripture Reading - Luke 9:18-26 Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell Head of Lord's Table - Larry Montgomery Scripture Reading - 1 Corinthians 11:23-29 Assist on Lord's Table - Donald Montgomery **Closing Prayer - James Johnson** 

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