

Northside Church of Christ

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



A Contrast in Attitudes

By Mike Riley

In Acts 12:20-23, we read of King Herod delivering an oration to an audience eager to win his favor. He reveled in their flattering response:

“The voice of a god and not of a man!” (Acts 12:22 – NKJV).

For his failure to “give glory to God,” he was immediately struck by an angel of the Lord. He suffered an excruciating death because of his irreverent attitude toward God (Acts 12:23 – NKJV).

In contrast, Paul and Barnabas had such a great reverence for God, that the mere thought of being worshipped, was foreign to them (Acts 14:14-15). Upon seeing the apostle Paul miraculously heal a man who had been crippled from birth (Acts 14:8-10), the onlookers shouted:

“The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!” (Acts 14:11 – NKJV).

Then they prepared to offer sacrifices to Paul and Barnabas (Acts 14:12-13). When the apostles heard this, they “tore their clothes and ran in among the multitude, crying out and saying, “Men, why are you doing these things?” (Acts 14:14-15 – NKJV). Their attitude was one of awe, respect, and humble submission before a sovereign God. Continued on next page ...

SUNDAY MORNING

Triple E
Edify, Exhort,
Evangelize
When Shovels Break
8:30 AM

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

9:30 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship Service
10:30 AM

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Bible Study - Acts
7:00 PM



Please visit our website
nscocmeridian.com

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



Like our Facebook Page



“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

The "Mark Of The Beast" And The Number "666?"

By Mike Riley

A querist asks, "I was wondering what you could tell me about the meaning of the number 666 and the mark of the beast. I know Revelation is apocalyptic and symbolic, so the meaning of this is not microchips, bar codes, etc."

Regarding the "mark of the beast" and the "number 666," this writer fully understands that there are several "views" regarding these two subjects, and would be amiss to adamantly state that the following "view," is the only view. As in every interpretation presented, we should always have the "readiness of mind" (as the noble Bereans) to "search the scriptures daily" to "see whether these things are so" (Acts 17:11). With this understanding in mind, let us proceed with this short study.

The phrase, "mark of the beast," refers to the terms "beast" as used in Revelation 13:15, and "mark" in the latter portion of Revelation 13:16. In this verse, the text states, "...to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads." As God had "sealed" His people unto Himself (Revelation 7:3; Revelation 9:4; Revelation 14:1), and promised to write His name in the foreheads of the victors (Revelation 3:12; Revelation 22:4), so the beast imitates this by requiring all to indicate their allegiance to him by a mark upon their right hand or forehead.

It is highly possible that the language employed here is used metaphorically of the loyalty and devotion to the Roman emperor in mind, deed, or service. It is best to think of the "mark" as the stamp of paganism impressed upon the character and conduct of idolaters, and followers of the world's evil influences.

As we look at the number 666 in Revelation 13:18, note that the reader is exhorted to "count the number of the beast," which focuses attention on the "number" and its significance, not on a particular individual. According to E.W. Bullinger in his book entitled, "Number In Scripture" (Kregel Publications, 1967), p. 150, the number "six" is derived by (1) adding 4 plus 2 (man's world and his enmity or opposition to God); or (2) adding 5 plus 1 (the grace of God made of none effect by man's addition to it, or perversion, or corruption of it); or (3) it is 7 minus 1 (man's coming short of spiritual perfection). Therefore, "6" is the number of imperfection; the human number; the number of man that is destitute of God, without Christ.

When John writes, "it is the number of a man," he is simply stating that the number represents that which is human – a human number. As we've already pointed out, the number "six" symbolizes the imperfect – that which is human and destined to fail. To the Jews, the number "six" was an omen or symbol of dread and doom, so when it was tripled (666), it represented the "completeness" of doom and failure. Looking at the above evidence, this writer concludes that the number "666" stands for the complete and total failure of all human systems and efforts antagonistic to God and Christ – all are doomed to ultimate and complete defeat and failure.

In these two accounts, we see two contrasting attitudes toward God. We see a solemn call to give God reverence in our irreverent world. He is the only one who merits our worship "" He only is worthy of glory, praise, and honor (Revelation 5:13-14 – NKJV).

Announcements

-
-
-
-
-

Prayer Requests This Week

- Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments

-
-
-
-

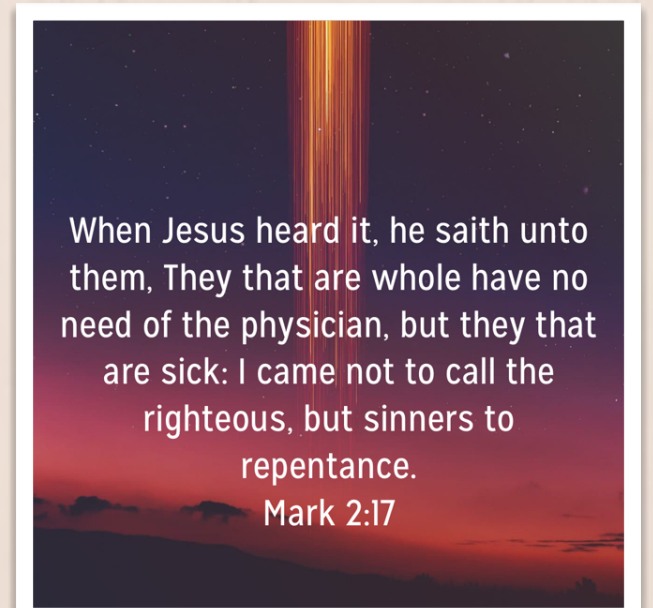
Communion Preparation

- Sign up sheet for 2021 is in foyer
- September - Thrash
- October -
- November - Rowell

September Birthdays & Anniversary's

- Camden Cooper - 1st
- Beverly Isaacs - 14th
- John Isaacs - 18th
- Boston Claire Rowell - 10th
- Aubri Cooper - 15th
- Greg Powell - 23rd

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



Sermon Notes

Men to Serve

Announcements/Opening Prayer - Shay Cooper
Scripture Reading - Mark 2:15 - 17
Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell
Head of Lord's Table - Don Potts
Assist on Lord's Table - Mark Potts
Scripture Reading - 1 Corinthians 11:23 - 29
Closing Prayer - James Johnson



Comcast Cable	6
Comcast Cable	431
Comcast Cable	1011
DirecTV	11
DirecTV	396
Dish Network	11
Over-the-air	11.3