



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
Dover, Arkansas 72837-0299
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Worshipping God

By The Clock

Ken Chumbley via Beacon

Several years ago I read an article with the above title. I have adapted many of the thoughts that were in that article as I believe they contain a very important message. The author of the article wrote about receiving an invitation to a social event. The time that was given for the event was “8 PM – who knows when?” What about our worship services, our Bible classes, our Gospel Meetings? Would it not be great if brethren were so hungry for the Word of God, so eager for Christian fellowship, and so desirous of worshipping God that a time of commencement could be announced and then indicate that the conclusion would be “who know when?”

- The author made the following statement: Apparently, this attitude was present at the gathering of the church for worship and study at Troas (Acts 20:6-12). Most of the time when reference is made to Paul prolonging his speech until midnight, the reference is to make a *dig* at someone who has preached a little longer than 30 minutes. However, not only did Paul speak until *midnight*, but even after raising Eutychus from the dead, the people *continued*

in fellowship and stayed *until the break of day*.

However, that is not the situation today. It has virtually been set in stone that a sermon should be preached in such a way that it is no longer than twenty to thirty minutes and that the worship service should take no longer than an hour. Why? Have we come to the point where we worship God by the clock? An article, written a number of years ago, in which one individual was quoted as being pleased that they had completed the Lord’s Supper in a large congregation in eleven minutes, thus showing how efficient the congregation was!

Sadly, too many do not have time for God or Christ. Too often we leave little room in our lives for God and Christ in our thoughts and in our time. We are so busily engaged with our materialistic lives, imbibing all of the pleasure that we can and thus Christianity is removed to a remote place in our lives except for when emergencies arise. The basic problem is that we are not seeking “. . . *the kingdom of God, and His righteousness*.” (Matthew 6:33) We joke about being able to beat others to the restaurant, but in reality, many times, such things as eating, recreation, business, and so many other things have a higher priority than worshipping God. We are not *hungering and thirsting after righteousness* as we ought; if we were, we could not spend enough time

studying God’s Word and hearing it preached.

It is said that in the early years of the Restoration Movement, John Smith rode on horseback for many miles to hear Alexander Campbell preach. As he was returning with a companion, Smith complained, “That was a long ride to hear a man preach only 30 minutes.” His friend replied, “You have misread your watch. Brother Campbell preached *three hours*.” Earlier in my life I had the opportunity to hear, on different occasions, two of the greatest preachers of the twentieth century, Foy E. Wallace and Gus Nichols and both preached for over two and a half hours, but it did not seem like it! How many of us today would listen to a three-hour sermon today, even from the world’s greatest orator? We can go to football games that can last up to three hours, but we are unhappy when services take longer than an hour.

Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” (Romans 10:17) If we reduce our hearing of God’s Word, we reduce our faith. As we reduce our faith, we reduce our service to God. All of these work together to weaken the church and to cause the problems of lack of church growth. *“Let us hunger and thirst after righteousness”* (Matthew 5:6) and *“seek ye first the kingdom of God.”* (Matthew 6:33) and be willing to devote the necessary time to worship.

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

"In the beginning God . . ." The Bible begins with God, with His creation of earth and man. He gave man-kind something He gave nothing else, free-will. He gave humans a choice that allowed them to choose, good or evil.

He gave us something else. He gave us His Word. He made sure that this Word has been preserved through out the years. In this Word we can learn more about God and His will for us.

What do we know about God from the Word? He told us that He created us in His image. We know that His thoughts and ways are above our thoughts and ways. (Isaiah 55:8) We learn that we cannot find His limits for their measure is longer than the earth and broader than the sea. (Job 11:7, 9)

We know that God is love, and it is not a conditional love. Even as sinners, He loved us enough to send His Son as a sacrifice, the indescribable gift to man. He loves us even when we don't seem to love Him.

God is mighty, merciful, faithful, great and awesome. He is our everlasting God. He is a just God, a righteous judge. No one has seen God, yet His arms are long enough to reach out to us with a mighty hand. God cannot lie, and He cannot be tempted by evil. He appeared in a burning bush and a whisper in the wind.

If we come near to Him, He will come to us. (James 4:8) He does not look at the outward appearance, but at the heart and soul of man. He shows no favoritism, He is compassionate and gracious. He will wipe away our tears. (Revelations 7:17)

However, we also learn that God is a jealous God. We are to serve Him and Him only. **"For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God."** (Deuteronomy 4:24) **"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."** (Hebrews 10:13) **"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil."** (Eccl. 12:13-14)

Remember Our Sick

Amie Barkley – latest test inconclusive, more tests to follow.

Iris Bates – home, receiving therapy, improving.

Mary Ann Churchill – home from hospital, medication evaluation over due.

Hoyt Ensey – home, showing improvement.

Helen Moore – still receiving chemo treatments for cancer.

Kristen Nordin – (age 25) severe pain, running test.

Marge Ratchford – still battling cancer.

Cara Waldo – grand-niece, age 4, of Rachel Curtis, appointment February 26 with doctors to check for an enlarging heart.

Roger Waldo – Rachel Curtis's nephew, hospitalized.

Shut-ins – need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: **Evelyn Burton**
Robert Lee

Russellville Nursing & Rehab Center:
Joyce Austin
Evelyn Driver
Lorene McNutt

Stella Manor:
Louise Killer

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Yvonne Adkisson, Bob/Carolyn Bennett, Bill Boley, Lloyd Boley, Lois Boley, Susie Boley, Tommy Causey, Troy & Rachel Curtis, Jeff Davis, Melvin Davis, Pauline Dale, Barbara Dawson, Charles Ensey, Sarah Ensey, Carol Graham, Sue Griffin, Pat Holloway, Dorothy King, Rose Lee, Linda Melton, Julie Moss, Eugene Qualls, BJ/Don Sheeran, Reedie Smith, Tanya Smith, Juanita Townsend, and Judy Will.

Special Children: Zeke Church, Garrett Hogan, Tiffany Knight, Elysia Lee, Keith Martin and Noah Williams.

Our Military: D. J. Bandy, Travis Coe, Byron Lee and April Morgan.

**H 4 H (Hunger for Healing),
Dover Church of Christ every
Tuesday, 6PM thru March 31st.**

I Still Know Who She Is

It was a busy morning, about 8:30, when an elderly gentleman in his 80s arrived to have stitches removed from his thumb. He said he was in a hurry as he had an appointment at 9:00.

I took his vital signs and had him take a seat, knowing it would be over an hour before someone would be able to see him. I saw him looking at his watch and decided since I was not busy with another patient, I would evaluate his wound. On examining it I saw it was well healed, so I talked to one of the doctors and got the needed supplies to remove his sutures and redress his wound.

While taking care of his wound, I asked him if he had another doctor's appointment this morning, as he was in such a hurry. The gentlemen told me no, that he needed to go to the nursing home to eat breakfast with his wife.

I inquired as to her health. He told me she had been there for quite a while! She is a victim of Alzheimer's disease.

As we talked, I asked if she would be upset if he was a bit late. He replied that she no longer knew who he was, that she had not recognized him in five years.

I was surprised and asked him, "And you still go every morning, even though she doesn't know who you are?"

He smiled as he patted my hand and said, "She doesn't know me but I still know who she is."

I had to hold back tears as he left, I had goose bumps on my arms and thought, "That is the kind of love I want in my life. True love is neither physical nor romantic. True love is acceptance of all that is, has been, will be, and will not be."

Peace is seeing a sunset and knowing who to thank. The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the best of everything they have.

Life isn't about how to survive the storm but how to dance in the rain.

The road to success is not straight. There is a curve called Failure, a loop called Confusion, speed bumps called Friends, red lights called Enemies, caution lights called Family. You will have flats called Jobs. But, if you have a spare call Determination, an engine called Perseverance, insurance called Faith, a driver call the Almighty God, you will make it to a place called Success!

Sent in by: B. J. Sheeran
St. Louis, MO

Events

Dover Church of Christ Children's Church

Every Sunday
11:15 - 12:00 Noon
Ages 4 thru 8
Bible Story and
Activities
Ages 1 thru 3
Nursery Class

2009

Lads to Leaders
Leaderettes

Overall Theme:

*“ . . . All that You
command us we will do,
and wherever You send
us we will go.”*
(Joshua 1:16)

Please Note:
Time Change –
Move clocks forward
1 Hour
Sunday, March 8th.

No Dover Church in
home Youth Devos
for February or
March for 2009.

Mark Your Calendars

The song leading, songs
of praise and scripture
reading will continue
every Sunday, 5 PM, for
Lads to Leaders/Leaderettes.

Men's Regular Monthly
Business Meeting
Monday, March 2, 7 PM
Dover Church of Christ

Dover Men's Devo
Thursday, March 12, 7 PM
Host: Jim Killer

Dover Ladies Night (Devo)
4th Thursday, 7 PM,
March 26th
Hostess: Diane C. Walters

DOVER LADIES' DAY!

April 25, 2009
Dover Church of Christ
Dover, Arkansas
Continental Breakfast and
Registration 9:00 AM
Program 9:30 AM
Lunch: 12:00 Noon
Theme: “Today's Moments
become . . .
Tomorrow's Treasured
Memories . . .

MARCH Birthdays

- 02 Kelly McDonald
- 03 Keaton Creel
Rick Hollis
Aidan Pointer
- 05 Austin Myers
- 07 Sarah Ensey
Harold Turner
Colton Williams
- 12 Carl Lawley
- 13 Matthew Moss
- 17 Jim Killer
- 21 William Boley
- 22 Alan Herron
- 25 Ethan Letson
- 26 Mike Creel
Shelby Statler
- 27 Wilma Johnson
Gary Shinn
- 28 Kaeli Miller
Elizabeth Robbins

OOPS: We missed Bobbi
Robbins' birthday – Feb. 25th.

If we missed your birthday, *please*
let us know so it won't happen
again.

“In Search of the Lord's Way”

Now 24/7
The Search Program
can now be accessed
any time on website:
www.searchtv.org
Mack Lyon's weekly
lesson can be heard
and seen on
KARK, Channel 4
Sunday, 7:30 AM

THOSE TO SERVE

March 01, 2009

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Marion Helton
Lee Henson

Communion

Podium: William Boley
Serve: Sid Womack
Steve Pennington
Alan Boatright
Allen Veasman

Scripture Reading

Rick Hollis

Sunday P.M. Prayers

Larry Mahan
Joe Miller

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.

Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.

“Singing Night”

Prepare Table for Communion

Sandra & Alan Boatright

Communion to Shut-Ins

Earl Whitted

Greeters

Allen & Marilyn Veasman

Wednesday Night Devotional March 04, 2009

Lee Henson

Meeting Times

Sunday Morning Bible Classes

9:45 A.M.

Sunday Morning Worship

10:45 A.M.

Sunday Evening Worship

6:00 P.M.

Ladies Tuesday Bible Class

10:00 A.M.

Wednesday Bible Classes

6:30 P.M.

Minister: Micah Williams

Church Office: 479-331-3428

Or Cell: 479-264-9244

Elders:

William Boley 858-7131
Jim Killer 331-2802
Allen Veasman 331-2156
Sid Womack 967-2367

Deacons:

Chris Besterfeldt
Donny Forehand
Brent Hottinger
Chris Loper
Rex McDaniel
Chris Moss

Nursery Attendants:

Sunday Class: JoAnn Killer
Sunday Church: Pat McAlister
Kaeli Miller

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Dover Church of Christ
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