

## Light and Life

## Rejoice and Be Glad

“This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it” (Ps. 118:24).

Little moments, like seeing the sunset or listening to the birds sing, remind me who gave this day. On Sundays, I know that it is the Lord’s Day (Rev. 1:10). This is a beautiful thought, but not what the context of Psalm 118 is about!

“The Stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes” (Ps. 118:22-23). The “day the Lord has made” is the day of Messiah’s reign! “The kings of the earth took their stand, and the rulers gathered together against the Lord and against His Christ” (Ac. 5:26). Yet, all of this was “the Lord’s doing”! The early disciples prayed, “Truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, Whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done” (Ac. 5:27-28).

The nations plotted against the plans of God, saying “Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us” (Ps. 2:3). Peter and John told some of those behind this plot that Jesus “is the stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone” (Ac. 5:11). In rejecting the reign of Jesus, they played into God’s plan for our redemption!

Through the sacrifice of Jesus the prophecy was fulfilled, “Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious, and he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame” (I Pe. 2:6). Only God can take the greatest tragedy in history and turn it into cause for rejoicing and gladness!

“This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it” (Ps. 118:24).

- Sam Bunyard

*(continued from page 1)*

a passage of scripture (“He probably didn’t spend enough time on that one,” the man thinks). When the worship period is finally dismissed, he tries to share his frustrations with those around him, but no one seems to care.

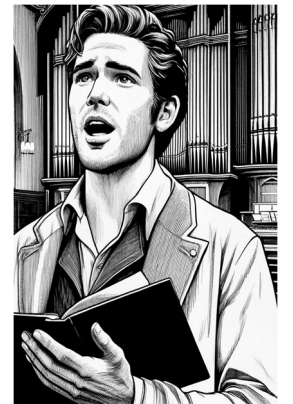
The second man observes many of the mistakes the first man observes. In fact, without fanfare he just doesn’t sing the questionable phrase in the song and he silently thanks God for the bread when he realizes the leader’s failure to do so. Even while observing those mistakes, he focuses attention on the good sentiments of the songs that are used, and on the death of the Savior during the Lord’s supper. He appreciates the good thoughts presented in the lesson. He has come to worship God. He makes allowances for human frailty on the part of the leaders in worship, appreciates their sincere efforts, and refuses to let their mistakes keep him from his purpose.

The first man is to be pitied. His ability to worship is dependent on the ability of the leaders in the worship period. He comes to worship but spends the hour criticizing. He blames others for that which is really his own problem. Consequently, his problem with worship becomes a problem also with his brethren; but one cannot have a problem with his worship and his brethren without also having a problem in his relationship with God.

The second man, by maintaining a positive attitude toward his brethren, even when they make mistakes, is able to worship acceptably and is drawn closer to God by his worship.

We are not condoning sloppily conducted worship periods. We each should strive to bring our best before God. Yes, leaders in worship should seek to avoid mistakes and to do their work effectively. But acceptable worship depends far more on the heart and attitude of the worshipper than on the abilities of leaders. Our first man may point the finger at others, but his real need is a total change of attitude within himself.

- Rickie Jenkins



## ASSEMBLY TIMES

### Sunday

Morning Bible Class 9:30  
Morning Assembly 10:30  
Evening Assembly 5:00

### Wednesday

Evening Bible Class 6:30

## RADIO PROGRAM

### The Bible Speaks



Sunday 9:00–9:30a.m.  
Thursday 11:30a.m.–noon  
KURM 790AM

## Downtown Church of Christ

P.O. Box 447  
201 W. Chestnut Street  
Rogers, AR 72757  
479-636-3575  
www.downtowncoc.net



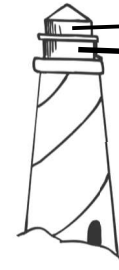
**Worship Him in  
spirit and in truth.  
Jn 4:24**

## ELDERS:

Otis Hardin  
Perry Johnson  
Ken Parker  
Alan Revier  
GW Walsh

## DEACONS:

TJ Burleson  
Scott Hale  
Jason Hill  
Chris Johnson  
Brock McKeel  
Randy Potter  
Tim Roberts  
Randy Shell



# DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

**PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE DOWNTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
ROGERS, ARKANSAS**

April 28, 2024

## GUEST ARTICLE

# Which One Am I?

Worship under the best conditions can sometimes be difficult. Distractions, human errors, and sometimes funny situations can occur to take one's attention away from the Lord. Attitudes, however, can prove to be a major factor in acceptable (or non-acceptable) worship. For instance...

Consider, two men sincerely try to worship. The first man, though, is frustrated throughout. His frustration begins with the opening announcements when the man in

charge takes ten minutes to say what any normal man can say in three. Then the song leader adds to his frustrations by selecting a song that he's sure contains an unscriptural phrase. The man who presides at the table doesn't help when he uses the term "loaf" instead of "bread", and then the man who is called on to give thanks for the bread, gives thanks for everything but the bread. Even the preacher makes a major contribution by totally misapplying

*(continued on page 3)*

## FAMILY NEWS

### PRAYER LIST –

*Preachers we support:* Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Canada, Mexico, Peru, & U.S.

*Sick:* Fletchers, Swims, JMarshall, RStarr, MiBader

*Shut-ins:* Billie Pennington, Shirley Cole, Susan Wiese, Virgil Carter, ADosier

*Military:* Kyler Sullins, Sean Potter

**2024 EVENTS STILL REMAINING** – Jul 21-25 (Vacation Bible School with PJ Anderson), and Aug 2-4 (Youth Lectures with Ben Hall)

**Q & A** – Tonight we are scheduled to have our end-of-month question and answer lesson. Thanks again to all who contribute questions to this effort!