

First Lord's Day 2018

When the apostle John was on the isle of Patmos, he said, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day" (Revelation 1:10). And here we are, another Lord's day morning! Have you appropriately prepared your spirit for the day?

Sunday morning, the "first day of the week" (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2), is the day when the first century saints assembled, and is observed today. However, it is often a day of conflict for many. It's often the only day off after five days of labor and one day of recreation of some sort that a person has. Therefore, some individuals wrestle with the question, "Do I go to church, or do I go to the 'mountains'?" You see, there's always a mountain to climb. There is so often the physical desire to gratify the flesh with a little more sleep, or some grand event that takes precedence over one's commitment to God, and "Rightly so," we say, "after all, I've spent a whole week working and I deserve the rest." Yet, we forget Moses' admonition to Israel, when he said, "remember Jehovah thy God, for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth" (Deuteronomy 8:18).

How many times have you said, "I can study my Bible at home, or, I can worship the God of heaven at home"? I can watch "church" on the TV. But, when you boil it down to reality, you don't study your Bible, nor worship the God of heaven. When/if you "watch church on TV," you have no opportunity to exhort others, as Hebrews 10:24-25 encourages you to do. That's not to say you don't worship "your god," because the god you chose to worship was the creature rather than the Creator: it is yourself.

Often-times we need to take a moment to consider our priorities. The Psalmist once said, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go unto the house of Jehovah" (122:1). The apostle Paul revealed, "how men ought to behave themselves in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth" (1 Timothy 3:15). So, the question we need to answer, is, "How can a man behave himself in something he's not 'in'?"

We leave you with the words of the apostle Paul to the Corinthians, when he said, "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."
ret