

Tardiness

Is It Fitting for a True Worshiper?

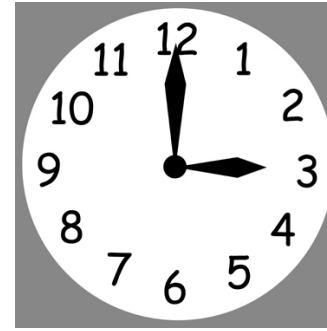
Hebrews 10:16-25

God is never late; He is always on time. It is a momentous occasion when God's people assemble together to do business with the living Lord. Christ Himself is present in a special and unique way: "Where two or three are gathered together in My Name, there am I in the midst of them" (*Matt. 18:20*). We are not to be forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, and so much the more as the day of our Lord's coming approaches (*Heb. 10:25*). It is a precious opportunity to provoke one another unto love and to good works, and to exhort and encourage one another in the most holy faith (*Heb. 10:24-25*).

It is puzzling, then, why some professing believers are consistently late to their places of worship. Do these same people arrive late at their work places? When they have a doctor's appointment, are they careful to arrive on time? In helping their children in the morning, are they consistently late getting them to the bus stop or to the school building? If they attend a sporting event, are they punctual? If we are prompt when it comes to our normal affairs of life, why are we sloppy and behind time when it comes to honoring the Lord, sitting at His feet and learning from Him? Our persecuted brethren in many lands meet together, often secretly, at great potential cost, but that is how much the living God and His Word mean to them.

God is seeking "true worshipers" (*John 4:23-24*). "When Thou saidst, Seek ye My face; my heart said unto Thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek" (*Psalms 27:8*). "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD" (*Psalms 122:1*). "We know that we have passed from death unto life because we love the brethren" (*1 John 3:14*).

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org



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