



Jeff Sweeten

Thus Saith the Lord

MAKE TIME FOR GOD

By Jeff Sweeten

There is always room for improvement. I suppose that's the reason we keep fiddling with time. We tend to think that our timekeeping parameters are static when, in truth, they are changing all the time.

The calendar we have today is nothing like the timepieces of ancient civilizations. In the history of our calendar, Pope John I, in 525 AD, asked a brilliant mathematician and abbot, Dennis the Little to calculate dates on which all future Easters should be celebrated (which had been determined by the Council of Nice in 325 AD to be the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox). Complicated? It gets worse. Dennis the Little changed the calendar's basis of beginnings from the first year of the reign of Emperor Diocletian to the supposed birth date of Christ. And so began the embryonic stages of our calendar, anno *Domini nostri Jesu Christi DXXXII* (the year of our Lord Jesus Christ 532) or AD 532. Of course, the inaccuracy of this calendar became obvious as modern biblical historians discovered that Jesus was probably born closer to 5 or 6 BC (before Christ). Oh well, so much for the human attempt to quantify time.

Time keeping has continued its metamorphosis to the present day. We add a day every fourth year to compensate for lost time in the preceding three; but we aren't actually getting an "extra" day. We set our clocks forward to compensate for the tilting of the earth on its axis, known by the moniker "Daylight Savings Time." I'm not sure who spawned this misnomer, but it saves us neither daylight nor time. I have always assumed the perpetrator of this clock juggling act was a grouch who didn't like getting up in the morning, and as the days got longer, compensated by pushing the morning forward by one hour. Whatever the reason for its existence, we all change our clocks.

The real issue of living in real time isn't so much the parameter by which we measure time, but how we use our time. The servant of God realizes that time is a gift from God and as stewards, we have a responsibility to use the time we have been given properly, "redeeming the time" (Ephesians 5:16; Colossians 4:5). We don't want to waste time or kill time because, once done, it can never be reclaimed (Rom. 13:12). Further, how we spend today will bear heavily on tomorrow and even on our eternity (Hebrews 3:13). The time we have been given is all the time we have, so if God is to receive our devotions and labors, it will be because we "make" time for Him. An "extra" day won't help; more daylight isn't the answer. Making time for God isn't about calendar magic or the clock's sleight of hand; it's about prioritizing. "*But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness*" (Matthew 6:33).

Thus Saith the Lord
is presented by the

Park Heights Church of Christ

1300 E. Boynton St.
Hamilton
254-386-3953

Schedule of Services

SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. Bible Class
10:25 a.m. Morning Worship
1:30 p.m. Afternoon Worship

WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. Bible Study

Please call or email if you
have a question or comment
254-386-3953

jeffdsweeten@gmail.com or
chelejones24@yahoo.com

Website:
www.parkheightscoc.com