

ROBERTSVILLE BIBLE CHURCH

January 8, 2023

Thank you for being a part of our service today. We trust that you will receive a blessing from being with us and hearing a message from the Word of God. May the Lord bless you as you serve Him.

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE (Please use this time to quietly prepare your heart for worship)

WELCOME

HYMN #210 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 99

OPENING PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN #97 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

HYMN #128 I Sing the Mighty Power of God

HYMN #129 Great and Mighty

BIBLE MESSAGE Pastor Ernie Brodie, Jr.

HYMN #656 Take Time to Be Holy

CLOSING PRAYER

The following programs are available during the Morning Worship Service:

Nursery - Newborns to Age 2
Children's Church - Ages 3 to 8

This Week at Robertsville

Sunday..... 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service
Wednesday..... 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting

Announcements

Annual Reports are needed for our Annual Business Meeting on Wednesday, January 25. All reports are due by **next Sunday, January 15**. Please email your report to secretary@robertsvillebiblechurch.com.

Pastor, Deacons, and Trustees' Meeting - Saturday, January 21

Annual Business Meeting - Wednesday, January 25, 7:00 p.m.

Religious vs. Righteous - Matthew 12:1-13 **Rev. Dr. Ernest Brodie Jr.**

Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath. What does that mean? What is the sabbath? The sabbath was instituted at the end of Creation. God chose the seventh day and set it apart as a day of rest and as a memorial (Genesis 2:2-3). This was not a day of rest for God's benefit but for man's. Under the Law, the seventh day (Saturday) was the sabbath day. Christians do not have a Sunday sabbath but recognize that every day belongs to the Lord. Because the resurrection of Jesus Christ was on first day of the week (Matthew 28:1-6), the apostles and disciples began to set aside the first day of the week (Sunday) as a special day for worship and for a memorial of Christ's resurrection (Acts 20:7, 1 Corinthians 16:2).

In Matthew 12, Jesus and his disciples were walking through the fields on the sabbath day and plucking corn to eat (verses 1-2). The Pharisees felt this was unlawful. This was religious pharisaism in contrast to a relationship with God. Religion and a relationship with God can both change a person's behavior. Religion does it through fear while a relationship with God accomplishes it through love.

Matthew 12:3-4 tell of David entering the tabernacle and receiving shewbread to eat (1 Samuel 21:1-6). Even though the shewbread was only for the priests to eat, the Law does not forbid acts of mercy or kindness. Acts of mercy and kindness were not to be forbidden even on the sabbath. Jesus extols having mercy over sacrifice and declares Himself: "Lord even of the sabbath" (Matthew 12:7-8).

The Pharisees still sought to accuse Jesus by asking: "Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath?" (Matthew 12:9-13). Yes, if it is life-threatening. Jesus used the illustration of a sheep falling into a pit. Left there it would die, so it was a necessity to rescue the sheep. This was not considered extra work. If they could rescue a sheep, certainly a man could be healed! Jesus performed a miracle by healing a man's withered hand.

Pharisaism can find ways to infiltrate our hearts. We must be careful not to set standards of spirituality that the Bible does not clarify. Biblical discernment is needed, so we do not make rules that will cause us to fall into a pattern of pharisaism or legalism. Instead, we must seek to have a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and love Him with all our hearts. We must determine to guard our hearts and live for Him. God wants us to be righteous not religious.