

Super Bowl Saturday?

by Wayne Goff

Imagine my personal amazement when I read an article in the past week's newspaper arguing in favor of moving the Super Bowl to Saturday instead of Sunday! Of course, I wasn't really amazed when I learned that the reasons given for such a change were more economical than spiritual. But just the same, I was thrilled to see the suggestion made by anyone!

I've been alive throughout the entirety of the Super Bowl era. I'm pretty sure that some of the younger generation would be amazed to know that in my early years there was no such thing as a Super Bowl. In fact, I remember when the phenomenon known as "Monday Night Football" began with Howard Cosell, Don Meredith, and company! And it wasn't that many years prior to that beginning that TV was still a novelty. I wonder what people did before television?

Yes, I would like to see Super Bowl Sunday moved to a Saturday. I was never happy about the game being played on Sunday evening, and I never missed Sunday evening services to watch one, and I hope I never do! My priorities are always "the Lord first." My faith has never been so shallow as to have an issue with whether or not to stay home to watch the football game or to go to worship. God is first, foremost, and supreme! It has been absolutely shocking to watch denominations cater to their members by creating Super Bowl Sunday events at their churches. It has been unspeakable to know that some churches of Christ have done things similarly. Who are they fooling when they cannot choose Jesus Christ as Lord over football!?

Ironically, one of the phrases I've coined to explain those times in our lives when we have a real opportunity to show the world who is first in our lives -- and then don't execute those opportunities -- as "punting the ball." That's a reference to the football game. When a team cannot move the ball offensively, then they have to punt. In one sense, they are giving up to the other team. When we miss our opportunities, we have also failed to move forward and thus have "punted the ball" so to speak. May God give us more spiritually offensive saints!

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