

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	N/A
Attendance AM	67
Attendance PM	N/A
Wednesday PM	N/A

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Patrick Cook (COVID) at home; Walter Tolley at home (colon cancer & CHF); Richard Melson, Jr. (tests); Jerry Thomas; Otis & Glenda Adair, Richard Melson, Dollie Jones, Jack and Carlene Harley; Johnny and Lenora Vance family; Priscilla Bogan; Tally Poole (knee);

Prayer: Richard Melson, Jr.;

Traveling: Norris Cole, II;

Prayers: Norris Cole, II;

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

January 24	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Announcements	Richard Melson	
Opening Prayer	Frank Brock	
Song Leader	Michael Blanks, Jr.	
Lead Lord's Supper	Anthony Grigsby	
Server 1	Frank Brock	
Server 2	Norris Cole	
Scripture Reader	Denzil Turner, III	
Sermon	Richard Melson	
Prayer for Responses	Richard Melson	
Closing Prayer	Patrick Thomas	

A.S.A.P. = Always Say A Prayer

**"Pray without ceasing"
1 Thessalonians 5:17**

TO OUR VISITORS

Our goal in the church of Christ is to be the New Testament church, which you can read about in the Bible. We invite you to observe our worship assemblies, the doctrine that is taught and the structure of the church organization. Make a close comparison with your "church" and the church of the Bible -- **The Church of Christ**. We also invite you to join us as we strive to be the church of the Bible and restore New Testament Christianity.

**Needmore Road church of Christ
PO Box 13963
Dayton, Ohio 45414-9998**

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THE EDIFIER

Volume 02

January 24, 2021

Issue 04

JOEL

Richard D. Melson

Joel the man we really know very little about; except what is said about him in the book that bears his name. He is the son of Pethuel, and in the Hebrew his name means "Jehovah is God". We know that he was a prophet of God by 1:1 and maybe lived close to the city of Jerusalem.

Joel is vivid like Nahum

Tender like Jeremiah

Sublime like Isaiah

Strong like Micah

Men, crops, fields mourn together.

The Book:

There are seventy-three verses and three chapters in the English version of Joel. He emphasizes divine judgment upon sin and sinners. He also emphasizes spiritual religion, not just mere external forms or observance. Joel declares the coming Day of Pentecost, thus he is often called the prophet of Pentecost. It is Joel who sounds forth the message of the great and notable day of the Lord (not to say that other Old Testament writers did not, but this is a key part of the message of Joel.)

With this in mind one should note that the probable date for Joel is around 835BC which would place him second to Obadiah in dating and this is interesting when you consider the use of the concept "the day of the Lord" with the prophets which follow Joel.

"From a literary view point his book is a masterpiece"

The writing style is simple and vivid. The book begins in gloom but it's close is bright and full of glorious hope. The theme and message of the book relates direct to the overall theme of the Bible which is the REDEMPTION OF MANKIND or as brother McGee puts it, "He is coming-He has come-He is coming again." The basic message and theme of Joel relate directly to that which was just mentioned: The doom of the wicked nations and the ultimate glory of the Lord's cause. This is set forth in two mediums, (a) Day of the LORD in retrospect or present history. (b) The Day of the LORD in prospect or future history.

The locust plague was real. To those who live in regions where such scourges still occur, "locusts" conveys all that is woeful and frightening. Only those who have witnessed a locust plague can fully appreciate why it is so dreaded.

"For the space of ten miles on each side of the sea-Cow river and eighty or ninety miles in length ... the whole surface might literally be said to be covered with them (South Africa)."

www.needmoreroadcoc.com

Fax: (937) 401-0286

Meeting Location:

2211 Needmore Rd
Dayton, OH 45414

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30
Worship 10:30 A.M.
4:30 P.M.

1st Sunday
No 4:30 PM service

Wednesday

Bible Study
7:00 P.M.

Preachers

Richard D. Melson
937-321-3973
dr.rdmelson@yahoo.com

Walter Tolley
937-238-7752
walt944@aol.com

Ministers

All Members

Supporting

- Christian Courier on The Web
- Southwest School of Bible Studies: Austin, TX
- Memphis School of Preaching
- Greater Midwest Lectureship Dayton, OH

Words of Wisdom For Youth ... 1 Timothy 4:12

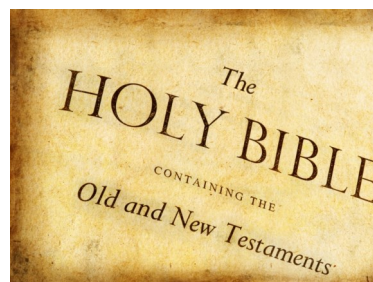
Cutting Off the End of the Ham

While preparing dinner for her new husband, the young wife carefully removed the ham from the package, promptly cut the end off of it, and threw it into the trash. Thinking that to be a little odd, the groom bravely asked, "Why did you do that, honey?" "It's how Mom has always done it," she replied. "Well, why did your mother do it?" asked the husband." "I'm not sure," said his new wife, "I'll ask." The young bride quickly called her mother and asked her why she always cut the end off of the ham before cooking it. "Well, it's the way your Grandmother always did it, you will have to ask her," she replied. Feeling confident that she would finally receive a good answer, the young wife called her Grandmother and asked the same question. "Oh honey," her Grandmother said, "I only cut the end off of the ham because it was too big to fit into the pan!"

In regard to our spiritual convictions, many of us are guilty of cutting off the end of the ham. We may know what we believe but often we do not know why we believe it. Our faith is founded upon teaching that has given to us by preachers, family members, and other good people who we love and appreciate. This is a very dangerous practice because, no matter how much we may respect them, they could be wrong, and if we adopt their convictions without any investigation of our own, we will be wrong too.

Jesus said, "Search the scriptures..." (John 5:39), and Paul encouraged, "Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith, test yourselves..." (2 Corinthians 13:5). Our souls are too valuable to accept religious teaching at face value simply because we deem the source to be reliable. God is the only reliable source when it comes to religion, and our faith must be founded upon the objective standard of His word. Instead of accepting what someone says about God's word, we must investigate it ourselves to see what it actually says!

Are you cutting off the end of the ham?



When those closet to you annoy you

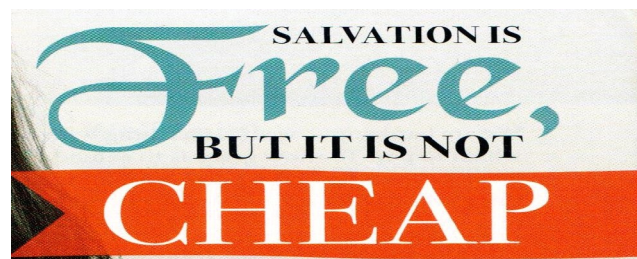


Why is it that those closest to us are often the ones who can hurt us, irritate us and upset us the most? Maybe because we spend more time with them, maybe because they know us best, maybe because we have higher expectations, maybe for no good reason at all. What can we do when those we are closest to annoy us? Perhaps ask a series of questions.

First, is it me? Maybe the problem is not with them. Maybe it's with me. Spend time doing some introspection. Second, why am I being annoyed? Perhaps it's not even that big of a deal, but I am making it a bigger deal. Maybe I need to make a change or lower an expectation. Third, how would I want them to respond to me if the situation was reversed? The Golden Rule needs to be applied in this situation (Luke 6:31). Fourth, what would Jesus do in this situation? Surely Jesus has been annoyed with me. How would He respond right now (1 Cor. 11:1)?

Christian love "is patient and kind...is not irritable...endures all things" (1 Cor. 13:4-7). Is that me?

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



(Continued from page 1)

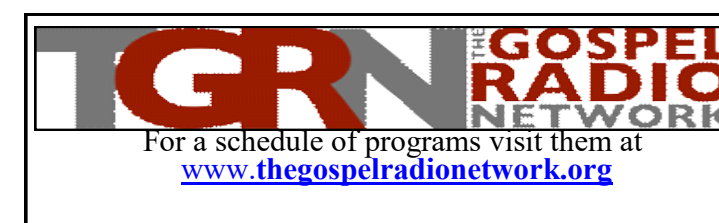
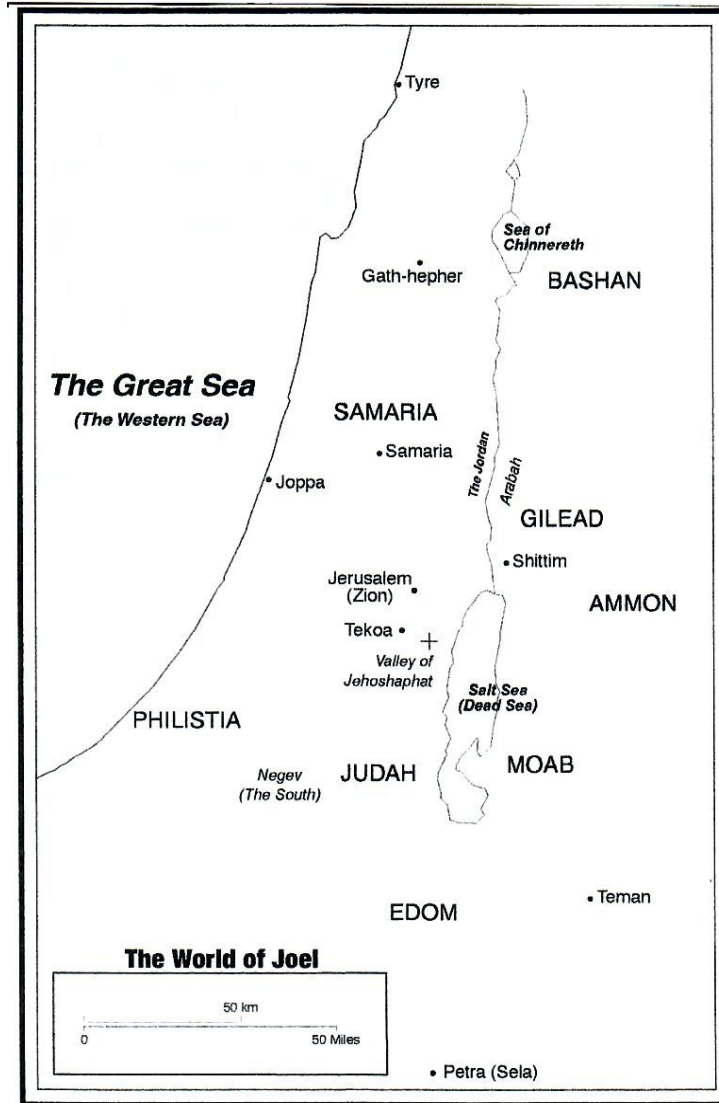
"When they approached our garden all the farm servants were employed to keep them off, but to no avail: though our men broke their ranks for a moment, no sooner had they passed the men, then they closed again, and marched forward through hedges and ditches as before ... They devour first grass and leaves, fruit and foliage, everything that is green and juicy. Then they attack the young branches of trees, and the hard bark of the trunks ...The fields finished, they invade towns and houses, in search of stores. Victuals of all kinds, hay, straw, and even linen and woolen clothes and leather bottles, they consume or tear in pieces (Syria)"

Now do you understand them impact of the message of the prophet to the children of God and to us today!

The final day of judgment upon all humanity at the end of time, wherein the heathen are damned and the righteous enjoy God's eternal bliss.

Concluding thoughts:

Joel was a stern preacher of the message of Jehovah. He stood in a time of despair and delivered a **HARD** message to God's people and the lesson for us is that those who preach God's word today must stand firm on what God has said and preach His word in LOVE yet without compromise. Also the lesson is like that in Obadiah, pride will destroy you, it and humility do not mix. Man must be willing to do things God's way or suffer the consequences of his actions and this GOES THOSE WHO ARE IN CHRIST ALSO! ✨



NEWS AND NOTES

- Visit these online resources: www.wvbs.org ; www.apologeticspress.org ; www.searchtv.org ; <http://gbntv.org/> ; kibbystreetcoc.org ; <http://kibbystreetcoc.org/index.php/let> (Let The Bible Speak)
- View In Search of the Lord's Way— Dish network Sunday 7:00 am Channel 239; DirecTV Channel 307; GBN 7 PM
- Check out Tullstar Archives at <http://media.Tullstar.org> for lessons from faithful brethren.

GOD'S PLAN FOR MAN'S SALVATION

"Sirs, What must I do to be saved?" Acts 16:30

- ♦ The Gospel Must Be Heard - John 6:44-45; Romans 10:17; John 8:32
- ♦ The Gospel Must Be Believed—John 8:24; Mark 16:16
- ♦ Sins Must Be Repented of – Luke 13:3,5; Acts 2:38
- ♦ Christ Must Be Confessed—Romans 10:10; Acts 8:37
- ♦ There Must Be Baptism (Immersion) for Remission (forgiveness) of Sins—Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21
- ♦ Christian Growth and Faithfulness—1 Peter 2:2; Revelation 2:10; 2 Peter 3:18