

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	29
Attendance AM	62
Attendance PM	39
Wednesday PM	24

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Tisha Ford; Ruby and Clifford Holt; C.D. Arnett; Catherine Anderson; Florine Thomas; Walter Tolley; Diane Cole (Norris); Katherine Willis; Richard Melson, Dollie Jones, Carlene Harley; Otis Adair

**Prayer:**

**Traveling:** Norris Cole, II;

**Prayers:**

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:**

**Sympathy:** Bogan family; Holt family; Calvin Grigsby family

**Birthdays: May**— 2 April Gilbert; 4 Patrick Thomas; 30 – Ron Robbins;

**Anniversaries** —

**Ladies Reading Group:**

**Men's Meeting:** Saturday June 5, 2021 @ 9:00 AM in the auditorium

**Potters Children Home:**

May 09	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
<b>Announcements</b>	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Norris Cole, Sr.	Walter Tolley
<b>Song Leader</b>	Michael Blanks, Jr	Michael Blanks, Jr.
<b>Lead Lord's Supper</b>	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
<b>Server 1</b>	Mike Mamula	Mike Mamula
<b>Server 2</b>	Denzel Turner, III	Anthony Grigsby
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
<b>Sermon</b>	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
<b>Prayer for Responses</b>	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Patrick Cook	Patrick Cook
<b>Greeter</b>	Richard Melson, Jr.	Richard Melson, Jr.
<b>Greeter</b>		

**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**

Place  
Stamp  
Here

**Visit our website at [www.thelordsway.com/needmoreroad](http://www.thelordsway.com/needmoreroad)**



# THE EDIFIER

Volume 02

May 09, 2021

Issue 19

## ZEPHANIAH

Phil Grear

[www.needmoreroadcoc.com](http://www.needmoreroadcoc.com)  
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**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](mailto:dr.rdmelson@yahoo.com)

Walter Tolley  
937-238-7752  
[walt944@aol.com](mailto: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
- Potter Children's Home

*Zephaniah ("Jehovah Hides") dates his book "in the days of Josiah ... king of Judah." (1:1) (c. 626 B.C.) He personally witnessed Josiah's zealous, but short-lived religious reform. He was a cousin of King Josiah who could trace his ancestry back to King Hezekiah about a century before. His was a time of political upheaval when Babylon was replacing Assyria as master of the world. Zephaniah was concerned about the suffering his people would endure under the coming Babylonian domination.*

It is always exciting when people make a decision to return to the Lord. It is a time of great rejoicing, but, sadly, such returns to God are often short-lived. The initial excitement wanes, and things return to business as usual.

Zephaniah personally witnessed this phenomenon, and it broke his heart. Prophesying in the days of King Josiah, this great man of God personally witnessed the great reforms the young king attempted among the people (2 Chronicles 34-35). But the reforms were temporary, and he also witnessed Judah's return to idolatry. Now he had the horrible responsibility of warning Judah of the coming "day of the Lord" that would bring her destruction.

"I will utterly consume all things from off the land, saith the Lord" (1:2). Judah's idolatry could not go unpunished, so God warned, "I will cut off ... them that worship the host of heaven" (1:5). He would reject those who refused to seek him (1:6). Judah's "day of the Lord" was at hand (1:7), and it would not be pleasant. Her violence and deceit would be punished (1:9). "That great day of the Lord is near, it is near and hasteth greatly ... that day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess ..." (1:14-15). No amount of wealth would spare them the "fire of his jealousy" (1:18). Judah's only hope would be to "seek the Lord ... righteousness ... and meekness." Perhaps then they would be "hid in the day of the Lord's anger" (2:3).

Judah would not be alone in experiencing the "day of the Lord." The Philistines, Moabites, Ammonites, Ethiopians, and Assyrians were all to feel the wrath of God for their wickedness. They would have to learn who the true God really was (2:11).

Judah could take no comfort, however, in the punishment of her enemies. She was the main focus of Zephaniah's frightening prophecies. "She obeyed not the voice; she received not correction; she trusted not in the Lord; she drew not near to God" (3:2). Her princes, judges, prophets, and priests were all corrupt, and would face judgment (3:3-4). The people were no better than their leaders. "They rose early and corrupted all their doings" (3:7). Therefore, God warned them that he would "pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger" (3:8).

*(continued on page 3)*

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

## The Benefits of Struggle

Overcoming obstacles is what develops in us the qualities we need to fulfill God's will for our lives. The truth is it can't happen any other way. In Second Corinthians, chapter one, Paul spells out the benefits of going through hard times. Yes, there are actually benefits! Let us take a moment and look at some of them:

- (1) "That we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble" (2 Cor 1:4b). When people know you're qualified to speak, they listen. Otherwise, they politely tune you out. Built into every problem that forces you to grow, are the answers those around you need. When you can say, "I have been there," people respect you and pay attention. Experience is one of your greatest assets and God will use it.
- (2) "That we should not trust in ourselves" (2 Cor. 1:9). Anything that causes us to turn to God and lean harder on Him is an asset, not a liability. It's when we lose a job, a marriage, a loved one, our health, or our peace of mind that we turn to God and discover what He can do.
- (3) "That thanks may be given" (2 Cor. 1: 11). Do you remember what your life was like before conversion to the Lord? The Psalmist wrote: "He...brought me up out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock" (Psa. 40:2). Come on, lift your voice, and begin to praise and thank God for what He has done for you!

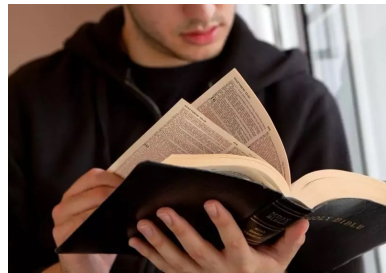
So much is behind us now, especially a pandemic and its imprisoning emotions. Now, ask yourself, where would I be without Him? It doesn't bear thinking about - does it?

*Adapted From Words for Today*

James 1:4 – But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

Thought For Today To Brighten Your Day  
Glenn Hitchcock

## Could my worship be unacceptable to God?

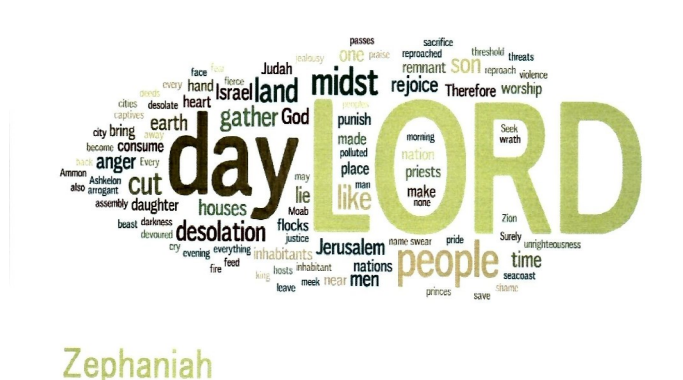


"As long as I'm worshiping God, do I need to be all that concerned about the exact mechanics or details of how I do it? He is pleased, as long as my heart and intent are set on Him, right?"

God sent the prophet Amos to the northern kingdom of Israel about 30 years before they fell to Assyria. He warned about the impending judgment and told of the captivity awaiting them. One of the issues raised by the Lord was their worship. Contemplate God saying this to His people who were (supposedly) worshiping Him: "I hate, I despise your feast days, And I do not savor your sacred assemblies. Though you offer Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept them, Nor will I regard your fattened peace offerings. Take away from Me the noise of your feast days, assemblies, offerings and singing, but what they were now doing (with those things) was detestable to Him!

The manner in which we worship must align faithfully with the "truth" of God's word in order to be acceptable to Him!

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



Zephaniah

## Melson's Musings ...



*(continued from Page One)*

However, not all was doom and gloom. Zephaniah also looked forward to time beyond the punishment when God would again bless his people. In a beautiful prophecy of the Christian age, Zephaniah spoke of a time when people would "call upon the name of the Lord, to serve him with one consent" (3:9). It would be a time when they would "trust in the name of the Lord" (3:12). They would know great joy (3:14). God himself would rejoice. "The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing" (3:17).

Zephaniah exhorts us to constant diligence in maintaining a right relationship with God. But should we fail in that, he assures us there is hope when we return to God. doing little or nothing for the church. 📖

### Mother's Day Thoughts

#### A MOTHERS PRAYER

Oh give me patience, when the little hands  
Tug at me with ceaseless, small demands.  
Oh, give me gentle words and smiling eyes,  
And keep my lips from hasty, sharp replies.  
Let not weariness, confusion and noise  
Obscure my vision of life's fleeting joys.  
And when in years to come my house is still  
No bitter memories its rooms may fill.

## CHRISTIAN MOTHERS

Blessed are they who have for memory, A mother whose white spirit was aflame for righteousness--who gave them eyes to see.

### Remember Mom

If I could concentrate all the fragrance of the world into one flower,

I would call it a rose.

If I could concentrate all the melody of the universe into one composition,

I would call it the Messiah.

If I could concentrate all the tenderness and sympathy of the world into one endearing term, I would call it "Mother."

*--Anonymous*

A new study on the Eldership will be coming soon. - RDM

### STUDIES FROM THE QUESTION BOX

I am starting a monthly session called, *Studies from The Question Box*. There are 4x6 cards for you to write Bible questions which I will endeavor to answer these during the evening service each 4th Sunday beginning in April. The questions should be yours, not intended to get back at someone, but designed for the purpose of growing spiritually. ✍️

## NEWS AND NOTES

- Visit these online resources: [www.wvbs.org](http://www.wvbs.org) ; [www.apologeticspress.org](http://www.apologeticspress.org) ; [www.searchtv.org](http://www.searchtv.org); <http://gbntv.org/>; <http://kibbystreetcoc.org/index.php/let> (Let The Bible Speak); [www.thegospelradionetwork.org](http://www.thegospelradionetwork.org)
- 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