

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	37
Attendance AM	74
Attendance PM	42
Wednesday PM	30

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Rhonda Fox; Carlene Harley; Richard & Florine Thomas; Pat Norris (home); Otis Adair; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Janis Bland; Naree Poole; Reagan Blanks (back); Dana Grigsby

**Traveling:** Richard Melson, Jr.

**Prayers:**

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:**

**Sympathy:**

**Member Birthdays: May** — 2—April Gilbert; 4—

Patrick Thomas; 19— James Grigsby

**Anniversaries: May** — None

**Ladies Reading Group:** Zoom Class June 11 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 7 in "The Begging Place"

May 31	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Song Leader	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Lyle Cole
Lead Lord's Supper	Patrick Cook	Patrick Cook
Server 1	Chris Poole	Chris Poole
Server 2	James Grigsby	Patrick Thomas
Scripture Reader	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Sermon	Andy Baker	Andy Baker
Prayer for Responses	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Closing Prayer	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Announcements	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Greeter	Samuel Jones	Samuel Jones
Usher	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Usher		

**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**  
2211 Needmore Road  
Dayton, Ohio 45414-9998

Place  
Stamp  
Here

Visit our website at <https://www.needmoreroadcoc.com>



# THE EDIFIER

Volume 07

May 31, 2026

Issue 22

## GOD ON A DONKEY

J. Winfred Clark

One could recoil from this thought if he did not stop to think about it. If he stopped to read the eleventh chapter of the book of Mark, he would not be surprised. Here in this chapter, we are told of the Lord's instruction to two of His disciples. They are to go into the village and there acquire a colt. That colt is to be one that had not been ridden by man. This becomes the means of transportation for our Lord as He will descend into Jerusalem.

As one surveys that scene, He will learn some very valuable lessons if he will stop to think. As he sees divinity on a donkey, some things are bound to come into focus.

### I. THERE IS THE HUMILITY OF OUR LORD

Jesus did not demand a horse or stallion but a colt. His saddle will be the garments of those who followed Him. They will cast other garments in His path with the branches from the trees. They will go before Him crying, "Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord" (Mark 11:9). Just think of it, our Lord coming into the city riding a lowly beast. Just think of it. He has indeed given up so much to try to reach the hearts of men and now this. He does not come demanding a pompous parade but takes a lowly position. Just think of those disciples who were thinking about who was to be considered greatest in the kingdom of God. They thought greatness was related only to position, but they could have learned so much if they had only paid more attention to the Lord. So can we.

### II. THERE IS THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS

Did you notice when you read this chapter that this was a colt "whereon never man sat." Anybody knows such an animal may be difficult to ride. If we were going to select one for such an occasion, we would surely want to be sure he had been trained and was known to be gentle. But the Lord of heaven and earth is in control. Here is one who controls even the winds and the waves.

Wouldn't it have been a wonderful thing if those scribes and Pharisees had responded to His authority in like manner? Suppose they had allowed themselves to be controlled by the same Lord?

### II. THERE IS ALSO THE PITY OF JESUS

If you take the time to read Luke's account of this event you will see that he says, "And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it" (Luke 19:41). Here is one who could see that which others could not see. He could feel what others would not feel. He saw a city that had turned its back on God and His ways. They were about to put the Son of God to death. What a mistake and Jesus knew it. Yes, He would suffer, but He would also pray for these foolish people who would not know what they were doing. Those things brought forth the pity of Jesus.

Yes, I believe there are some lessons a man can learn from the record that shows our Lord on a donkey. *W*

[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.  
5:00 P.M.

1st Sunday No 5:00 PM

**Wednesday**  
Bible Study  
7:00 P.M.

**Preacher**  
Richard D. Melson  
937-321-3973  
[dr.rdmelson@yahoo.com](mailto:dr.rdmelson@yahoo.com)

**Ministers**  
All Members

- Supporting**
- Christian Courier
  - Southwest School of Bible Studies: Austin, TX
  - Memphis School of Preaching
  - Greater Midwest Lectureship
  - Potter Children's Home
  - Midwestern School of Preaching
  - Central Carolina School of Preaching

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

## The Road

## Go to church anywhere?

A young African man pointed at the road leading to his village. "This road is the mother of all our troubles" he said.

"Road" was too dignified a word for what he was describing. It was a dusty track, full of ruts and potholes. In the rainy season it would take a tractor to get down it, and this was the cause of many troubles for the villagers. They couldn't get their farm produce to market before a lot of it went bad, so they stayed poor. If they were ill, it was very difficult to get to a doctor. And it was hard for the children to get out of the village to go to secondary school. This scene, described by Mrs. S. C. Birchmore, caused me to reflect on the importance of a good road. I see many of our troubles today being caused by bad roads.

Take the road of logical positivism, for example, with its insistence on a necessary divorce between facts and values.

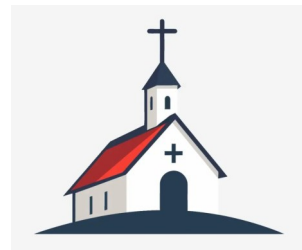
Or the road of relativism which says that right and wrong, and even truth and falsity, vary with the opinions of particular groups (Shoplifting is considered wrong by the middle class, but among the lower classes of society it may be considered acceptable or even commendable).

The road of toleration says that it is right for individuals to follow their conscience (It is wrong to inflict a cruel death on an animal if you are Christian or pantheist, but right if you are a Moslem or Jew. Or, that genocide is right for those who believe in it, and wrong only for those who do not).

This list could go on, but I am reminded of Psalm 107:4-7 "Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them. Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress; he led them by a straight way, till they reached a city to dwell in."

We've taken so many bad roads. We need a good one that will get us to our destination. Jesus had that in mind when He said, "I am the Way" (John 14:6).

- John Gipson

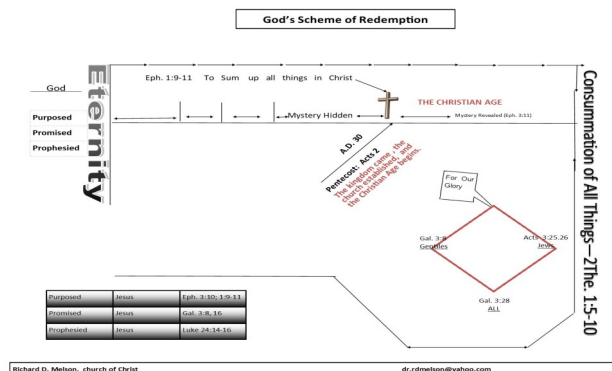


"As long as I'm going to church, does it really matter where?" Sometimes it may be easy to think that one church is as good as another. But is that true?

Does it matter to you if the doctor you see has a degree from a medical school or from a culinary institute? Does it matter to you if your airline pilot was trained at a certified aviation school or just watched videos online? Does it matter if your pharmacist fills your prescription exactly as the doctor wrote it or substitutes something "close enough"? Does it matter if your GPS gives you the correct route or just a route that seems right? Does it matter if your paycheck is deposited into your account, or is one account as good another?

Isn't that interesting! We demand truth and precision in matters that affect our health, safety and future. Why would we not demand truth and precision in matters that affect our soul? Jesus saves in one way (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:36-41), and He places the saved into His one church (Acts 2:41-47; 1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:27). His way, His salvation, His church matter!

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



## Melson's Musings ...



## Book of Hebrews

The book of Hebrews is a wonderful book. Although there are some unknown matters involved in it (e.g., date, authorship, exact destination, etc.) the basic message comes through in a most forceful way. It provides a beautiful statement of the exaltation of Christ together with a forceful argument against forsaking Him and His way. Should it have been lacking from Scripture we would not only lack this presentation of God's word, but a book of great literary beauty and merit as well.

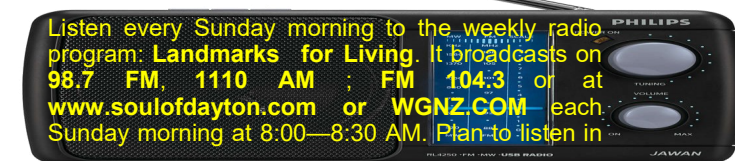
### The Basic Message of Hebrews and How It Lives for Men Today

The Book of Hebrews has been called the longest sustained argument in the New Testament. It clearly seems to be written against a background of apostasy to Judaism. In his argumentation the author establishes the supremacy of Christ (especially as opposed to the Old Testament system) and thus contends that one should (and must) not depart from the supreme way of truth and espouse another religious system. He contends for the true place of Christianity as the way of acceptability before God. Christ's is now the eternally acceptable way. Included within this argumentative material is hortatory material (i.e., material of exhortation). As he argues, the author urges his hearers, in light of the truth of his argument, to maintain their faithfulness and Christian commitment. He makes it clear that this may indeed bring hardship upon them. Indeed in some cases it already has. But in spite of this less than pleasing earthly prospect he exhorts them to remain steadfast.

In his argumentative section the author establishes the pre-eminence of Christianity above Judaism by showing

Christ and His work to be superior to the basic men and elements of the Old Testament. Christ is superior to the prophets (1:1-3), superior to the angels (1:4ff.), superior to Moses (3:1ff), and superior to Joshua (4:1ff). Further than this, the priesthood of Christ is argued (at length) to be superior to that of the Old Covenant (4:14ff.). He is a superior priest, offers a superior offering and offers it in a superior place. The Mosaic system simply cannot compete with Christianity. It was never intended to do so. Indeed the Old Testament itself is adduced to show the anticipation of the coming of a new covenant (8:7ff). In light of this clear superiority the readers must not forsake the superior (Christianity) for the inferior (Judaism). They must maintain their Christian loyalty and continue to trust God even as did the men of old (11:1ff). Only in this course can they avoid a tragic end. — Tom Eddins

Singing School with Andy Baker, continues this evening at 5:00 PM with a service in song.



## 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/>;
- View: In Search of the Lord's Way— Dish- Sunday 7:00 am Channel 239; DirecTV Channel 307; GBN 7 PM; [www.anchorofthesoul.com](http://www.anchorofthesoul.com)
- 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