

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	52
Attendance AM	73
Attendance PM	48
Wednesday PM	47

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Carlene Harley; Richard & Florine Thomas; Pat Norris (home); Otis Adair; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Janis Bland; Naree Poole; Dana Grigsby; Richard D. Melson; Glen Green

**Traveling:** Richard Melson, Jr.; Dewayne & Tena Eslick

**Prayers:** Tena Eslick & family

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:** Thomas Vance, Isaiah Flowers;

**Sympathy:**

**Member Birthdays: June** — 1— Stephanie Hoover; 2—Alyse Poole; 4— Janis Bland; 5—James Vance, III; 6— Carlene Harley; 8—Randy Farmer; 13—Chris Poole; 17— Deonna Cole; 25—Richard Thomas; 29—Anthony Grigsby, Jamie Vance

**Anniversaries: June** — 28—Jerry and Linda Thomas

**Ladies Reading Group:** Zoom Class June 25 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 8 in "The Begging Place"

June 14	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Song Leader	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Lyle Cole
Lead Lord's Supper	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Server 1	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Server 2	Ryan McGahee	Frank Brock
Scripture Reader	James Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Sermon	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Closing Prayer	Jerry Thomas	Jerry Thomas
Announcements	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
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

June 14, 2026

Issue 24

www.needmoreroadcoc.com  
Phone: (937) 274-6801  
Fax: (937) 999-4949

**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

**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

## WHY DO RELATIONAL SINS SEEM SO EASY TO JUSTIFY?

David Sproule

It seems that there are some sins which are quickly and universally condemned, such as murder, stealing, rape, child molestation, etc. The very thought of these (and others) can be so repulsive to some that they immediately condemn any practice of it.

Yet, there are some other sins that even Christians seem to have a hard time standing against. These often involve a relationship of some kind, and when it involves someone that a Christian loves, it pulls at the heartstrings to the point that even a Christian sometimes will soften and "not see it as a big deal." Let me see if I can give some illustrations.

Some Christian parents, who are strong in their faith, have been faced with one of their own children becoming a homosexual. Not wanting to "lose" connection with their kid, some parents have weakened and grown to accept (at some level) the choice of their child. Other Christian parents have struggled to know how to handle a child who moves in with a lover, has children, builds a life, and lives with all the privileges (and appearances) of a married couple with children, without actually being married. Some parents have just gone along to "keep the peace."

Many Christians have been challenged by God's teaching on marriage, divorce and remarriage. They have friends who are in a marriage that is adulterous in the eyes of God. And when there are children involved, it is so common for a Christian to say, "How can God expect them to separate! There's no way He would! What will that do to the children?"

Often Christians put themselves into relationships that are adulterous in the eyes of God, but they are so "in love" and believe so much they "have a right to be happy" that they say, "God will understand" or "God can't expect me to live alone the rest of my life."

Many other examples could be given, but hopefully these suffice to illustrate how painful, personal and heart-rending these kinds of situations can be. Some sins can be immediately condemned, but then others challenge us to the point of acceptance.

Consider ten things: (1) God's law is always right (Psa. 19:7-9; Hos. 14:9). (2) God's law is unchanging (Psa. 119:89; 1 Pet. 1:25). (3) God shows no partiality (Rom. 2:11; 1 Pet. 1:17). (4) Sin is always wrong (Rom. 6:23; Gal. 5:19-21). (5) No sin can ever be right or acceptable to God (Prov. 6:16-19; Gal. 1:4). (6) Right in one's own eyes is foolishness to God (Prov. 12:15; Isa. 5:21). (7) Showing approval of sin is a sin itself (Rom. 1:32; 2 John 9-11). (8) One can resist sin with God's help (1 Cor. 6:11, 18-20; Jas. 4:7-8). (9) One can live single for life for God's sake and with His help (Matt. 19:11-12; 1 Cor. 7:10-11, 32). (10) We must not conform and must help others to not conform (Rom. 12:1-2; Matt. 5:13-16).

**STRONGER THAN EVER IN 2026 - EPH. 6:10**

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

## Be Not Deceived

It is not so difficult to recognize sins of the flesh such as drunkenness, killing, stealing, fornication, etc. Neither is it difficult to be against these things.

It is more difficult to recognize pride, arrogance, selfishness, covetousness, envy, etc. Some refer to these as sins of the disposition. These are especially hard to detect in oneself. And it is not as easy to work up a feeling of indignation toward these.

Sins of disposition are easily disguised by calling them something else. We fly off the handle easily and we say we are just a bit high-strung and have always been that way. We are covetous and stingy and we call it conservatism, preparing for a rainy day, supporting our family. It is easy to make excuses and fail to see ourselves as God sees us.

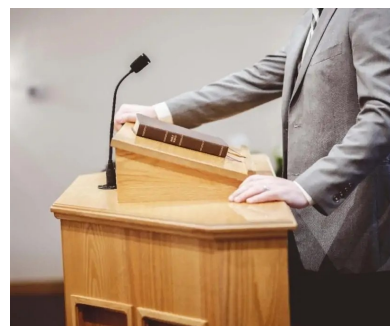
Study the lists of sins in the Bible and you will see that at least half of them are sins of disposition. Here is where the greatest danger lies for the average Christian. He is not so likely to be tempted to go out on a drunken spree as he is to be grouchy, cold, critical, fault-finding.

What we are saying amounts to the fact that one can be a good citizen, even a good church member outwardly, and still be a poor specimen of a Christian. The Lord does not see as man sees; he looks at the heart.

Deception exists on every hand. The most dangerous type is self-deception. We can deceive ourselves into thinking we are pretty good Christians just because we do not indulge in fleshly acts of gratification. There is more to be considered.

- Raymond C. Kelcy

## Upset with the Preacher



Have you ever been upset with what your preacher keeps preaching? Kind of like this guy?

"Well, I just don't know what to do about this preacher! He keeps preaching sermons about sin, repentance, divorce, fornication, adultery, keeping commandments, covetousness, materialism, worldliness, false teachers, the devil, judgment day, hell, eternal punishment, narrow passage to heaven, withdrawing fellowship, giving to the church, personal sacrifices, severing relationships, purity of mind, hypocrisy, selflessly serving others, responsibilities in the church, actively obeying God's will, the singularity of the church, limited worship practices, unity in doctrine, etc., etc. And it's not just one or two sermons here and there. It's a pretty steady stream every single time of some pretty heavy stuff. What kind of preacher is this!?"

Sometimes we judge a preacher based upon whether we like his preaching, his style, his ability, when what matters is his content (2 Tim. 4:2-4). Read the above paragraph again. That complaint is actually about... Jesus' preaching. That's what He preached. What makes a good preacher today? What makes a good hearer? Am I what I need to be?

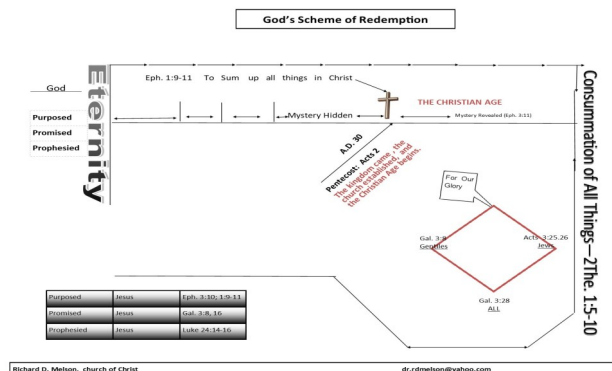
David Sproule  
Thought for the Day

## On The Lighter Side ! ...

### POOR CALF

A Bible school class was being quizzed on the prodigal son. The teacher asked one youngster: "Who was sorry when the prodigal son returned home?" The boy gave it a lot of thought, then said, "The fatted calf."

- Minister's Monthly June 1957



## Melson's Musings ...



### Homosexuality

1. God condemned Sodom and Gomorrah for their homosexuality. It is sin.

*Then the LORD said, "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know" (Genesis 18:20-21).*

2. Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed on account of their unrepentant homosexuality.

*"Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodom—both young and old—surrounded the house. They called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them" (Genesis 19:4-5).*

*"Then the LORD rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the LORD out of the heavens. Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, including all those living in the cities—and also the vegetation in the land" (Genesis 19:24-25).*

3. The example of Sodom and Gomorrah is given as a warning for people of all ages. God holds homosexuals fully accountable for their sin.

*"And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their own home—these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day. In a similar way, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns gave themselves up to sexual immorality and perversion. They serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire" (Jude 6-7).*

4. God's wrath is revealed against all of the godlessness and wickedness of men—including homosexuality (Romans 1:18-32).

5. Paul describes homosexuality as a wicked perversion of God's gift.

*"Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion" (Romans 1:26-27).*

6. The wicked—including homosexuals--will not inherit the kingdom of God.

*"Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God" (1 Corinthians 6:9-10).*

7. There is hope for homosexuals - God forgives and cleanses persons of this sin who repents and obeys.

*"And that is what some of you were (homosexual offenders). But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Corinthians 6:11).*

— Glenn Hitchcock



## 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