

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	32
Attendance AM	72
Attendance PM	25
Wednesday PM	36

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Ruby Cole; Virginia Robbins; Victoria Dudley (foot); Katherine Willis; Jim Thomas; Otis & Glenna Adair; Clifford Holt; Richard & Florine Thomas; Jack Harley; Geraldine Allen (LA); Mozella Tate (Michael Blanks mother); Jeremiah Jones (Buffalo, NY);

Traveling: Vance family; Eslick family

Prayers: Ryan McGahee (work); Carolyn Johnson

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy: Naree Poole

Birthdays: July — 2 –Richard Melson, Jr.; 6 Penny Cook; 8 Rachel Blanks; 9 Ruby Nickell; 12 Alfred Willis, Jr.; 15 Glenna Adair; 17 C.D. Arnett, Destiny Soto; 20 Mike Mamula; 22 Otis Adair; 25 Clifford Holt;

Anniversaries: July — 30 Norris and Diane Cole

Ladies Reading Group: July 21 @6:00 PM via Zoom Lesson 7

Potter Children’s Home: Change cans are available in the office

July 10	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Norris Cole, Sr.	Norris Cole, Sr.
Song Leader	Patrick Cook	Patrick Cook
Lead Lord’s Supper	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Server 1	Chad Arnett	Anthony Grigsby
Server 2	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Scripture Reader	Denzil Turner, III	Lyle Cole
Sermon	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Prayer for Responses	Elders / Preacher	Elders / Preacher
Closing Prayer	C.D. Arnett	Steven Crane
Announcements	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Greeter		
Usher		
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
PO Box 13963
Dayton, Ohio 45414-9998**

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Here

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



THE EDIFIER

Volume 03

July 10, 2022

Issue 28

TAKING THE WORTH OUT OF WORSHIP (1)

Mike Vestal

What we truly prize, we really praise. It’s just that simple. Worship is a matter of expression and of completion. We praise Him in worship because we prize Him above all. “Give unto the Lord the glory due His name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness” (Psalm 29:2). When we truly worship, God means so much to us that there's a bubbling over. In worship, we express our adoration, awareness, awe, and appreciation of God through the avenues authorized in His inspired word. Sadly, it's too easy to depreciate or to take the worth and value out of worship. Let's look at some misunderstandings of worship that quickly depreciate its real purpose and meaning.

“The House of Worship View.” This misunderstanding puts too much emphasis upon a specific location and time (cf. John 4:19-26). Worship to God certainly occurs in our church meetings, but hopefully, it does not exclusively take place there. However, one gets the impression that this is precisely what some brethren think and practice. Those advocating this view apparently think that the church building is the ONLY place where worship can occur. This narrows the biblical meaning of worship because it does not properly consider the privilege of personal worship, family worship, or gatherings of Christians for expression of devotion to God. The limitation of worship to formally stated times and places is one common misunderstanding of worship. This does NOT make the assembly less important (Acts 20:7; Heb. 10:24-25; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2), but DOES allow for the truth that worship can (and should) take place at other times and places other than the “church building” on the first day of the week.

“The Actions Only View.” This view stresses the external and sees worship as the mere fulfillment of religious exercises. The “routine” is everything! As long as the “right things” are done (a cappella singing, the Lord's supper observed each Lord's day, praying, giving, getting into the word of God - and yes, these are right things!), worship is fine and our “heavenly credit rating” gets higher. But isn't it possible to have the right form but the wrong attitude? Doesn't Scripture speak of how God must be worshiped “in spirit and in truth?” (John 4:23-24). Didn't Jesus speak of religious folk who did the right thing, but their hearts were far from God? (Matthew 15:7-10). Respecting biblically authorized avenues of worship is essential, but such avenues are not sufficient of themselves. And just as salvation is not by faith alone, worship is not by the performance of the right actions or avenues alone. True worship involves both action and attitude. Worship should be our response to the awesome character of God - of all that He is, that He has done, and that He will do. But truth (proper actions) without spirit (proper attitude) will not please God any more than would a sincere heart (spirit) without proper emphasis upon truth.

“The Lone Ranger View.” This position sees the personal nature of worship to such an extent that the importance of Christians assembling together is deemphasized. It basically says, “Since a Christian can worship anywhere, I don't have to assemble with yawl there,”

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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.

Shepherds

Richard D. Melson
Alfred Willis, Jr.

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

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

Barbers Don't Exist



**You don't have to understand it
for it to be true**



The Bible says to have an answer for why you believe to those who ask you. This is a good example of an answer to one of the most common reasons sinners give for ignoring God and His goodness.

A man went to a barber shop to have his hair and his beard cut as always. He started to have a good conversation with the barber who attended him. They talked about so many things and various subjects. Suddenly, they touched the subject of God. The barber said: "Look man, I don't believe that God exists as you say."

"Why do you say that?" asked the client.

"Well, it's so easy, you just have to go out in the street to realize that God does not exist. Oh, tell me, if God existed, would there be so many sick people? Would there be abandoned children? If God existed, there would be no suffering nor pain. I can't think of loving a God who permits all of these things."

The client stopped for a moment thinking, but he didn't want to respond so as to cause an argument. The barber finished his job and the client went out of the shop. Just after he left the barber shop, he saw a man in the street with long hair and a beard (it seems that it had been a long time since he had his hair cut and he looked so untidy).

Then the client again entered the barber shop and he said to the barber: "You know what? Barbers do not exist." "How can you say they don't exist?" asked the barber. "Well, I am here and I am a barber."

"No!" the client exclaimed. "They don't exist because if they did there would be no people with long hair and beards like that man who walks in the street."

"Ah, barbers do exist, what happens is that people do not come to me."

"Exactly!" affirmed the client. "That's the point. God does exist. What happens is people don't go to Him and do not look for Him. That's why there's so much pain and suffering in the world." *✍*

Sometimes people approach the Bible with great skepticism. That's ok. They should question things. But after researching the Bible and coming to know its true Divine origin (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:20-21; 1 Cor. 2:10-13), one must conclude that since the Bible proves itself to be from God, then everything in the Bible is from God, and therefore, absolutely true.

Now, whether I fully understand something the Bible says does not affect its truthfulness one bit. For example, read Colossians 2:9. The Bible says about Christ, "For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." Some folks want to argue with that and say that there is no way that Jesus could possess the fullness of God in His human form, and so they try to explain it away. Ok, well, what does the verse say? What does Colossians 1:19 say? Or what does John 1:1-14 say? He truly was "God with us" (Matt. 1:23)!

Even if your finite mind cannot grasp it, if the Bible says it, that settles it! Truth is not determined by our understanding! .

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



(continued from page one)

or "I can worship as well at the lake as in the assembly." But there ARE some things that can only be done in assembling with God's people. The church is a group of called out people, and to be a "group," you must meet together as a group! The assembly must assemble. And the "Lord's day" is when this is to occur (Acts 20:7; Revelation 1:10). There is a "one another" characteristic that takes place in the assembling of ourselves together (e.g. Hebrews 10:24-25; Colossians 3:16). Surely the "Lone Ranger" view fails to appreciate the Lord's supper (1 Corinthians I 0:16-17; 11:17-20, 33). The Lord's supper is to be compared not to eating alone in a restaurant full of people but to a family meal where being together is an important part of what God desires. Let's not take the worth out of worship! (More next week. I am indebted to Everett Ferguson's book, The Church of Christ, for some of these thoughts). *✍*

All too often Christians are quick to retort to a brother in the Lord when that person has commented or offered an opinion or suggestion which you do not like, with the following euphemism, "stay in your lane!" What are you really saying to your brother when you make this statement? According to a leading dictionary on American Slang, the phrase, "Stay in your lane is a metaphorical phrase, instructing someone to stick to their own concerns or areas of expertise; to mind their own business and not to meddle in the matters unrelated to them" (www.slanglang.net).

But should the Christian use this type of language? Where is the concern for others? Where is the humility in this expression? Where is care for one another in this? Brethren, let us be careful what we borrow from the world (1 John 2:15-17). *✍*

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

- ☞ Summer Lecture Series: *God's Help with Life's Struggles* - Every Wednesday at 7 p.m. The July 6th session by Glenn Hitchcock was a masterpiece. We hope that we'll have improved attendance.
- ☞ If you have a question from any of the Summer Series lessons and would like for the speaker to address it, please submit it to the office and it will get forwarded to the speaker.
- ☞ Roof work has been completed on the flat-roof sections of the building. The new gutters and downspouts are also installed.
- ☞ Join the Elders every third Sunday of each month for a Fellowship Continental Breakfast **starting at 8:30 am until 9:15 am** in the Fellowship Hall, consisting of pastry, fruit cups, coffee, and orange or apple juice. (*We ask do not take the drinks or food into the auditorium*).
- ☞ COVID-19: We encourage everyone to continue to practice good hygiene. Do not let your guard down. Wash your hands regularly. If you need wear a mask, wear a mask. If you are sick stay home.
- ☞ For security reasons doors will be locked about 15 minutes after the start of service. There will be someone at the door to let in those who might arrive late.
- ☞ There is an audio-visual (AV) control booth being built in the rear of the auditorium. It should be finished in about a week.

Listen every Sunday morning to the weekly radio program: **Landmarks for Living**. It broadcasts on **98.7 FM** or at **www.soulofdayton.com** each Sunday morning at 8:00—8:30 AM. Plan to listen in if possible.

— The Elders

NEWS AND NOTES

- Visit these online resources: www.wvbs.org ; www.apologeticspress.org ; www.searchtv.org; <http://gbntv.org/>; <http://kibbystreetcoc.org/index.php/let> (Let The Bible Speak); <https://fun1071.fm>; [soulofdayton.com](http://www.soulofdayton.com) (8:00 AM)
- View: In Search of the Lord's Way— Dish- 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