

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

|               |    |
|---------------|----|
| Bible Class   | 30 |
| Attendance AM | 75 |
| Attendance PM | 38 |
| Wednesday PM  | 30 |

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Nancy Weimer @home; Tally Poole; Ruby Cole; Katherine Willis; Jim Thomas; Otis & Glenna Adair; Clifford Holt; Richard & Florine Thomas; Geraldine Allen (LA); Eion Lusi (Children’s Medical); Patrick Cook (knee); Levi Cook  
**Traveling:** Cook family; Mozilla Tate  
**Prayers:**  
**Repentance:**  
**Baptism:**  
**Sympathy:** family of Dan Stevens  
**Birthdays: September** — 3— Ruby Holt; 5 Michael Blanks, Jr. ; 27 Christina Barnes; 29 Florine Thomas;  
**Anniversaries: September** — 1 Chris and Tally Poole; 27— Samuel and Dollie Jones  
**Ladies Reading Group:** Sept. 29 @6:00 PM via Zoom Lesson 10  
**Potter Children’s Home:**

| September 18         | BRETHREN TO SERVE AM | BRETHREN TO SERVE PM |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Opening Prayer       | Norris Cole          | Norris Cole          |
| Song Leader          | Michael Blanks, Jr.  | Jerry Thomas         |
| Lead Lord’s Supper   | Anthony Grigsby      | Anthony Grigsby      |
| Server 1             | Denzil Turner, III   | Patrick Thomas       |
| Server 2             | James Grigsby        | Steven Crane         |
| Scripture Reader     | Frank Brock          | Frank Brock          |
| Sermon               | Richard Melson       | Richard Melson       |
| Prayer for Responses | Elders / Preacher    | Elders / Preacher    |
| Closing Prayer       | William Bogan        | Lyle Cole            |
| Announcements        | Patrick Thomas       | Patrick Thomas       |
| Greeter              | Anthony Grigsby      | Anthony Grigsby      |
| 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**

Place Stamp Here

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



# THE EDIFIER

Volume 03

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Issue 37

## REJECTING THE COUNSEL OF GOD

Dan Jenkins

[www.needmoreroadcoc.com](http://www.needmoreroadcoc.com)  
 Phone: (937) 274-6801  
 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.  
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](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

The first psalm describes the character of those who are blessed by God. “He does not walk in the counsel of the ungodly.” The implication of these words is that if one does walk in the counsel of the ungodly, he is cursed. The psalmist has in mind walking in the counsel of ungodly men and the blessedness of those who walk in the counsel of the godly men. Think of how this is magnified when we think of the importance of walking in the counsel of the godly One. The New Testament speaks often about this.

The counsel of God is revealed in the Bible. Paul described the breath of this counsel when he said, “I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God” (Acts 20:27). Messengers of God must speak the truth (1 Pet. 4:11); they must speak the truth in love (Eph. 4:15); and they must speak the entirety of God’s will. Even if men reject what is taught, the messenger is still innocent. Paul said, “I am innocent from the blood of all men, for I have not shunned. . .” (Acts 20:26).

The counsel of God cannot be changed by any person on earth. David said, “Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven” (Psa. 119:89). The English Standard Version emphasizes the word settled. “Forever, O Lord, Your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.” God has revealed His counsel in His words and decrees the blessing of those who follow it. It is remarkable that men so often choose to reject His counsel.

The New Testament affirms this truth even more emphatically. It speaks of the unchangeable character, the immutability, of His counsel (Heb. 6:17). Those who seek to change His counsel are condemned by God. Paul reveals how the curse of God awaits every man, every angel and even Paul himself if they perverted the gospel he had preached (Gal. 1:8-9).

This counsel of God is spoken of by the Holy Spirit in His discussion of the greatness of John the Baptist and the message he brought. He said that all the people who heard John, even the tax collectors, . . . justified God, having been baptized with the baptism of John.” What about those who were not baptized by John? “But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will (the Greek word is counsel) of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him” (Luke 7:29-30).

Let me urge you to devote time in your life to read about His will, His counsel in your life. When every Bible is burned up with the fires of heaven consuming the earth, there will be one copy that remains to be used by the Judge of all mankind to measure our lives (Rev. 20:12). That counsel is firmly fixed in heaven, it is immutable. To reject its teaching on any topic, even the baptism revealed by Jesus, is to reject the counsel of God. Think about this! 📖

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

## How Many Are Worthy?



Sitting around the table discussing various issues after worship, the topic of benevolence arose. Anyone who has ever worked in the area of benevolence always has some wild stories—like the van full of people on their way to Florida from Atlanta, who asked for gas money. But the driver rejected a voucher for a local gas station, saying “No, my tank is full. I want cash to buy gas down the road.” Of course, he was very angry when denied the cash.

On another occasion, people came saying they wanted a “loan,” apparently mistaking the church building for a bank. I remember vividly a man who came into my office about 11:00 A.M. saying he was due to receive \$5000 wired to him at 3:00 P.M., but needed \$25 to “carry him over” until the \$5000 arrived.

As we told our stories, the question came up, “How many people that we help are really worthy of help?” My estimation is that few are “worthy,” but it is usually better to err on the side of helping the unworthy rather than turn away those who are worthy. Those who ask for help and lie to us will have to answer to the Lord. “Whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward” (Mark 9:41).

But consider that question of worthiness for a moment. Although we are “good people,” how many of us are worthy of what the Lord has done for us? “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them” (Ephesians 2:8-9). Worthy? No! But thankful for the grace of God? Yes! !

- Bob Prichard

## “Oh, no! Not a 1931 ban!”

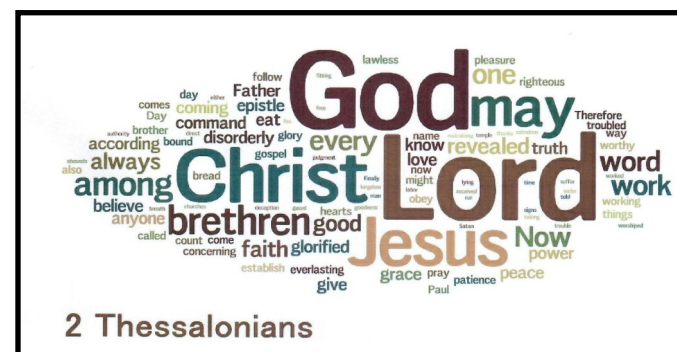


There is a battle going on right now in the courts over one state’s 1931 ban on abortion. Can’t you hear the arguments in your imagination? “Oh, c’mon! That is ancient history! We’ve grown as a nation since then! We are so much more advanced now! We’ve got to move on beyond our foolish, closed-minded past!” Is a 90-year-old ban on abortion all that naïve?

What about a 2,000-year-old ban? Jesus banned abortion in the New Testament (Mark 7:21; 10:19; Rom. 1:29; Gal. 5:21; 1 Pet. 4:15). What about a 3,500-year-old ban? God banned abortion in the Old Testament (Ex. 20:13; Deut. 5:17; Prov. 6:16-17). “If men...hurt a woman with child, so that she gives birth prematurely...if any harm follows, then you shall give life for life” (Ex. 21:22-23). What about a 6,000-plus-year-old ban on abortion? Murder has been prohibited from the beginning, with the “blood” of those who are killed “crying out to God” (Gen. 4:8-10).

Whatever a state or nation or individual decides about abortion, God has already ruled on it! ?

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



## Melson’s Musings ...



### World Communion Day?

The email subject read: “Is Your Church Ready For World Communion Sunday Oct 2nd?” Well I had to read this! The email message states: “The first Sunday in October is recognized by churches of several denominations as World Communion Sunday. The event celebrates our unity in Christ, with all our brothers and sisters around the world through Holy Communion. We’ve put together a collection of resources to help make your communion services more impactful.”

As you might imagine this is an advertisement for communion supplies. But what is alarming is the total lack of Bible understanding regarding the Lord’s Supper.

First, there is no such thing as “world communion day”. God’s people partake Lord’s Supper or communion every first day of the week. We do not wait till October 2nd, 2022 to have communion. Second, man does not have the right to specify the day nor the frequency we are to take the Lord’s Supper. God is the One who set the pattern and we are to follow it. Third, the scriptures do not authorize denominations, rather Jesus is opposed to such (John 17:17-21). Fourth, this statement fails to recognize that there is but one church (Matt. 16:18). There can be no unity among people who are not in Christ (2 Cor. 6:17-7:1).

Every first day of the week the people of God assemble to worship the Father in spirit and truth (John 4:24) and part of that worship is the partaking of the Lord’s supper (1 Cor. 11:23-29). We do not need a “world communion day” because we already have the first day of the week. 📖

## SHEPHERDS CORNER

- ☞ 12th Annual Greater Midwest Lectureship—September 30—October 2. Plan to attend.
- ☞ Join other members every third Sunday of each month for a Fellowship 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** remains a serious issue, therefore we encourage everyone to continue to practice **good hygiene**. **Do not let your guard down**. Wash your hands regularly. If you need to wear a mask, wear a mask. If you are sick stay home. Should you become infected with COVID-19, especially if you were in the assembly, please let us know.
- ☞ The **exterior doors** will be getting repaired and hardware updated. There will a handicap button added to door #2 (inside and out).
- ☞ For safety concerns, handrails are being installed inside the baptistry and the handrails on the stairways are being replaced.
- ☞ 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.
- ☞ The stall doors in the men’s restroom are being fixed.



## 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); <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 Telstar 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