

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	30
Attendance AM	80
Attendance PM	32
Wednesday	24

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** C.D. Arnett; Ron Robbins; Janis Bland (broken toe); Ruby Cole; Jim Thomas; Otis & Glenna Adair; Clifford Holt (eye surgery); Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely; Frank Cook;

**Traveling:** Richard Melson, Jr.; (work); Norris Cole, II; Mozilla Tate; Richard Melson (campaign).

**Prayers:**

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:**

**Sympathy:** Family of James Lacking

**Birthdays: January** — 5 Lisa Owens; 15 Jennifer

Arnett; 16 Valerie Melson; 31 Chad Arnett, Krystal Thomas

**Anniversaries: January** — 1 Steve and Deborah

Crane; 2—Timothy and Melody Angus

**Ladies Reading Group:** Jan. 12 @6:00 PM via Zoom  
Lesson 1

**Potter Children's Home:**

January 08	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Song Leader	Patrick Cook	Patrick Cook
Lead Lord's Supper	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Server 1	James Grigsby	Denzil Turner, III
Server 2	Ryan McGahee	Anthony Grigsby
Scripture Reader	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Sermon	Raymond Sweet	Raymond Sweet
Prayer for Responses	Elders / Preacher	Elders / Preacher
Closing Prayer	C.D. Arnett	C.D. Arnett
Announcements	Alfred Willis, Jr.	Alfred Willis, Jr.
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 04

January 08, 2023

Issue 02

[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

**SAFELY TREADING THE UNKNOWN OF THE NEW YEAR-2**

Charles Pugh, III

The uncertainty of material prosperity should humble one as he faces a new year. One may rightfully desire material prosperity (cf. 3 John 2), yet there is no certain guarantee that such prosperity will come his way. The man Job was very prosperous, but in a relatively brief period of time he lost all of his material wealth (cf. Job 1:2-3, 13-17). Those to whom James initially wrote thought they had a year all planned. Their plans included engaging in business in a certain city from which they would make a profit and, perhaps, even a great profit (cf. James 4:13). However, James challenged their thinking with the charge that they were pretentious, arrogant, and boastful. He said, "But now you boast in your arrogance" (James 4:16). It "refers to empty boasting that seeks to impress. It is extravagant claims that one cannot fulfill" (Rogers 563).

One is reminded of Paul's words to the preacher Timothy concerning material wealth, and those who possess it in great abundance. He wrote, "Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life" (1 Tim. 6:17-19,). Even if one presently possesses great abundance of material wealth and prosperity he needs to realize that the continuing possession of such is uncertain. Job learned this. The rich man of whom the Lord spoke in his parable (Luke 12:16-21) also learned this, but, too late. Just when he thought he had "all his ducks in order," and ready to really enjoy his wealth, God said, "You fool! This night your soul will be required of you; whose will those things be which you have provided?" (Luke 12:20).

Human experience, as well as biblical testimony, verifies the uncertainty of material prosperity. In 1923, nine of the world's most successful financiers met at Chicago's Edgewater Beach Hotel. Financially they controlled the world. Included were Charles Schwab, president of the largest steel company, Howard Hopson, president of the largest gas company, and Jesse Livermore the greatest "bear" on Wall Street. Many, no doubt, would like to have been in the position of these individuals. Their power, position, and possessions were great. However, twenty-five years later Schwab was bankrupt and lived the last five years of his life on borrowed money. Hopson was insane and Livermore had committed suicide. The other six experienced similar fates. It spells in capital letters the uncertainty of material security. Jesus said it best: "Take heed . . . one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses" (Luke 12:15).

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

## Where Are We Going ?

## Yet I will rejoice in the Lord



When Christopher Columbus first sailed west, his crew was very uneasy about sailing into the unknown. To disguise the true length of the journey, Columbus kept two sets of logs one with the true distance for himself, and one with shorter distances for the crew, so that they would think that they were not as far from home. Ironically, the false logs turned out to be more accurate than the one that he considered the true log.

Getting far from home, and going into the unknown can be exciting, but also very scary. I wonder what it was like for the crew that set forth with Abram when he left Ur of the Chaldees to go out into the unknown? What kind of “sales job” did he have to make to Sarai, Lot, and all of the others who went with him? When Columbus set out for the new world, he thought that he was going somewhere, but he didn’t really know. When Abraham set out, he knew he was going somewhere, but he really had no idea where it would be. Hebrews 11 tells us, “By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went” (verse 8). How could he make that journey, and not know where he was going? How could he risk his family this way? “By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise” (verse 9). The key to how and why he did this is found in the next verse. “For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.”

Abraham is often thought as the great father of the faithful. He earned this reputation by trusting God, and obeying Him, even when it meant going out into the unknown.

Each of us is daily making a journey into the unknown. It is sometimes hard to know what tomorrow will be like. We have our ideas of what we expect, but we don't really know. And the tomorrow of eternity is just a step away for all of us. The key for us, as it was for Abraham, is that we should be looking for that heavenly city “whose builder and maker is God.” Perhaps the best advice for all of us, as we go forward, is to simply “look up.” Remember what the Father has planned for us.

- Bob Prichard

Many circumstances in life are out of our control. Perhaps it is the way people treat us. Perhaps it is trials that press upon us and test our faith. Or perhaps it is just “life,” or what Solomon called “time and chance” (Ecc. 9:11). Whatever it may be, while we may not be able to control the circumstances, we can definitely control our response.

Habakkuk prophesied shortly before the rise of the Babylonians to power. Things did not look good for Judah at all. But after a back-and-forth with the Lord, Habakkuk closed his prophecy with these words. Think about them. Could you say this?

“Though the fig tree may not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines; though the labor of the olive may fail, and the fields yield no food; though the flock may be cut off from the fold, and there be no herd in the stalls—Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The Lord God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer’s feet, and He will make me walk on my high hills” (Hab. 3:17-19). May we have that depth of faith!!

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day


## Melson’s Musings ...



### A Powerful Light

An artist created a painting of a wintry twilight. The trees were barren and laden with snow while a dreary-looking house stood desolate in the midst of the drifted field. It was a bleak and depressing picture. Then the artist took some yellow paint and with a few quick strokes painted a candle glowing in one of the windows of that home. The effect was almost magical. Just one little light and the entire scene was transformed into a vision of comfort and cheer.

The prophet Isaiah looked at his own country and recognized a need for comfort and cheer. He saw the spiritual darkness that enveloped many parts of his nation, especially in the north around the Sea of Galilee. This area had been conquered by the Syrian king Ben-Hadad (1 Kings 15:20) and became a melting pot of Jews and Gentiles. A mixture of Judaism and paganism became the dominant religion. The situation looked hopeless, but even into this stronghold of darkness and spiritual death, Isaiah saw a light break forth, “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined” (Isa. 9:2). Centuries later, when the apostles began to preach concerning the Lord’s church, this area saw many become Christians (Acts 8). Indeed, the light of Christ’s redemption shone brightly.

The light of Christ makes a difference in your life. In the darkness of sin, you can find the light of His forgiveness. In the darkness of ignorance, His wisdom illumines the way. In the darkness of trials and trouble, His presence dispels the blackness. Whatever darkness threatens to overshadow your life let Jesus be the Light who drives it away. Jesus is the Light of the world (John 9:5). 

- Author Unknown

## SHEPHERDS CORNER


- ☞ We hope that each **member** will use the Scripture Notes Bible Study Notebook regularly. We believe that this tool can be a benefit to your spiritual growth. If you did not receive your notebook please see either Dollie Jones or Valerie Melson.
- ☞ **Flu & Covid19:** The flu and COVID-19 remain 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.
- ☞ **Spring Gospel Meeting Dates:** March 12–17, 2023 with Dan Jenkins of West Palm Beach, FL
- ☞ **Text-To-Give:** Those members who desire to use the **Text-To-Give** on Sundays follow the directions below:

— The Elders

Text to Give: (844) 542-1443  
Specific Amount: Text "GIVE (AMOUNT)"

**First-Time Donor Setup**  
Initial donations can be completed in less than 60 seconds.

1. Donors text "GIVE" to 844-542-1443.
2. New donors will receive a link in a text message to a secure online donation form to enter basic contact info, donation details, and credit card and payment info to complete their donation.
3. Donors will receive a confirmation via text message.
4. An email receipt will be sent within 30 minutes.



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.



## 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 (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