

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	47
Attendance AM	93
Attendance PM	34
Wednesday PM	36

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Mary Vance; Phil Tydings; C.D. Arnett; Virginia & Ron Robbins; Ruby Cole; Otis & Glenna Adair; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stones Springs); Richard Melson; Rachel & Reagan Blanks; Jhameir Dudley. Upcoming Surgery: Reagan Blanks (6/12); Mozella Tate (6/14)

Traveling: Norris Cole, II; Richard Melson, Jr.; Norris Cole, Sr.; Mozilla Tate

Prayers:

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy: Valerie Melson and family (death of her father, Leslie Miller)

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; 19 Linda Thomas; 25 Charles Chittick, Richard Thomas; 29 Anthony Grigsby; James Vance

Anniversaries: June — 20 Philip & Kimberly Tydings; 28 Jerry & Linda Thomas

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class June 8 @ 6:00 PM Lesson 6-7

Potter Children's Home:

June 04	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Song Leader	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Patrick Cook
Lead Lord's Supper	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Server 1	James Grigsby	Patrick Thomas
Server 2	Chris Poole	Lyle Cole
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Patrick Thomas
Sermon	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Prayer for Responses	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
Closing Prayer	Patrick Cook	Michael Blanks, Jr.
Announcements	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Greeter	John Bouse	John Bouse
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
PO Box 13963
Dayton, Ohio 45414-9998

Place
Stamp
Here

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



THE EDIFIER

Volume 04

June 04, 2023

Issue 23

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.

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 Is Holiness So Important?

Cody Westbrook

"Be ye holy, for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:16)

Throughout its pages the bible emphasizes with forceful clarity the need for God's people to be holy. But, why is this admonition so important?

What is it about holiness that causes God to look at it so seriously? Second Corinthians 6:14-7:1 is a classic passage that answers this question in four points.

First, there is an admonition. Paul said, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers" (2 Cor. 6:14). "Be ye not" is a present imperative, and to be "unequally yoked together" is to be brought under the control or power of another. So, literally, the idea is "You must not be in the practice of allowing yourself to be brought under the power of unbelievers." This kind of imperative should not be strange to us because God has always required His people to maintain separation between themselves and the world. For example, the children of Israel were to keep their cattle and their seed separate (Lev. 19:19). They were not to marry the Canaanites (Deut. 7:2-3), nor were they permitted to plow with an ox and a donkey together (Deut. 22:10). All of God's commandments to the Israelites served to teach them what holiness was and how important it was to maintain it (c.f. Lev. 11:44-45). The same principle applies to us today. We must not allow ourselves to be brought under the power of the world because in doing so we will sacrifice our holiness (1 Cor. 15:33; Col. 2:8; Jas. 4:4). Instead of allowing ourselves to be brought under the world's power, God wants us to bring the world under His power (Matt. 5:13-16; 2 Cor. 3:18; 10:5).

Second, there is an explanation. There are five rhetorical contrasts presented in 2 Corinthians 6:14-16 that drive home the admonition that was previously given. Righteousness and unrighteousness can have no fellowship because one leads us to God and the other leads us away from Him (Rom. 6:16). Light and darkness can have no communion because the light exposes the darkness for what it is (John 3:19-21). There is no harmony to be found between Christ and Belial (lit. worthlessness) because one gives life and the other takes it away (John 8:44; 10:10). A Christian has nothing in common with a non-Christian because one lives a life governed by the will of Christ, and the other live a life in rebellion to it (Rom. 8:5-11). An idol has no place in the temple of God because God, and God alone is worthy of worship (Ex. 20:3). Why is this significant? "For ye are the temple of the living God." God does not dwell in a physical temple, He dwells in a spiritual temple—the church (Eph. 2:21-22). Fellowship with that which is unholy violates the sanctity of God's dwelling place.

Third, there is motivation. Paul referenced Exodus 29:45 and Leviticus 26:12 when he wrote, "As God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people" (2 Cor. 6:16). God does not require holiness of His people

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

A Bad Dream



I was glad to wake up! Perhaps it was a dream only a preacher would have. I was to conduct a wedding, but when I arrived, I couldn't remember the bride's name, and no one would tell me her name. Not only that, I didn't have my Bible, wedding sermon, or the wedding ceremony—and it was a really big, fancy wedding, with a huge orchestra, professional singers, etc. with several thousand people present. Worst of all, as I was about to go in, I realized that I had no shoes on (I don't remember if I was in sock feet or barefooted). Fortunately, I woke up before my part of the wedding started.

Perhaps a psychologist could explain my anxiety about being unprepared for the big event. It surely would be great if I could summon Joseph or Daniel for some insight into what my dream means, if anything.

Jesus frequently used imagery from weddings to make his point. "The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come" (Matthew 22:2-3). They laughed, made excuses, and even mistreated the king's servants, causing the king to destroy them.

"So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests. And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen" (Matthew 22:10-14). Being unprepared for the wedding is more than a bad dream. It is a reality for many! Make sure your wedding garments are in order! — Bob Prichard

A key to dealing with persecutions

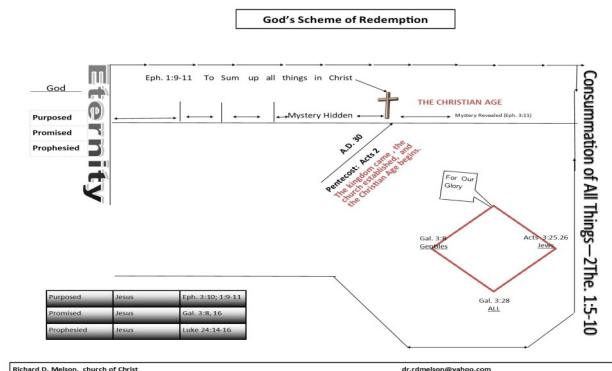


The epistle of First Peter was written to first-century Christians, who were dealing with pressures and persecutions from non-Christians. It was truly a "fiery trial" of their faith (1 Pet. 4:12) that they were facing. How could they deal with these "various trials" (1:6) and overcome them? The book is filled with imperatives, as Peter provides direction to defeat the devil's efforts (5:8), but his emphasis in one area may surprise you.

To be victorious over trials as a Christian, Peter repeatedly focuses on the need to "love" our brethren. Don't misunderstand. The trials were not coming from brethren but from outsiders. But to overcome them, he said, "love one another fervently with a pure heart" (1:22), "having compassion for one another; love as brothers" (3:8), "above all things have fervent love for one another" (4:8), "be hospitable to one another" (4:9), "minister to one another" (4:10).

Today we are facing various persecutions because of our faith. What can we do? One thing for certain—get busy loving (an active, serving verb) our brethren! .

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



Why is Holiness So Important?

Continued from page one

because He wants us to be miserable. Quite the contrary, He requires holiness for our own good (c.f. Deut. 6:24-25). God desires a relationship with His creation. He wants to bless us, provide for us, and ultimately have us with Him in Heaven for eternity (Eph. 1:3; Heb. 13:5; etc.). He desires this so much that He allowed His only Son to shed His blood to make it possible (1 John 2:2). What greater motivation to godly living could there be? If we seriously meditate on all of the blessings that God provides those who are holy, how could we quibble over God's requirements for it?

Finally, there is action. Based on the fact that holiness can have nothing to do with un-holiness, and that God has promised to bless those who are holy, Paul wrote, "wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate..." (2 Cor. 6:17-7:1). The injunction is imperative—you must come out from among them! Peter put it this way,

Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Pet. 1:13)

Because of the great salvation, the blessings promised to the people of God, it is incumbent upon us to "cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God" (2 Cor. 7:1). One writer indicated that Paul is talking about "aggressive and progressive holiness; not a sudden attainment but a continuous process." Becoming more and more holy as each day goes by must be at the forefront of every heart. As Paul wrote, Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the

prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. (Phil. 3:13-14)

May we immerse ourselves with the business of being holy. ☞

- ☞ Today is our noon meal with 1:30 PM worship
- ☞ **Bible Marking for Ladies:** Whoever wishes to join, every 3rd Sunday at 4 PM today.
- ☞ **Summer Series 2023**—Theme "*Called Unto Holiness*", June 7 – August 30, each Wednesday we'll have a different speaker for each subject. The tentative schedule is:

Date	Speaker	Topic
7-Jun	Tim Hatfield	Holiness of God
14-Jun	Raymond Sweet	Holiness of Christ
21-Jun	Kevin Berry	Holiness in Transformation
28-Jun	Bob Vincent	Holiness and Worship
5-Jul	Richard Nepal	Holiness and Respect for the
12-Jul	Patrick Powers	Holiness and Overcoming
19-Jul	Kevin Berry	Holiness and Being a Proper Example
26-Jul	John McGiffin	Holiness in Recreational Activities
2-Aug	Norris Cole	Holiness and Drug Use & Abuse
9-Aug		Holiness and Abstaining from Evil
16-Aug		Holiness and Personal Finance
23-Aug	Keith Allen	Holiness and Purity of Speech
30-Aug	Patrick Cook	Holiness and Personal Maturity



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 ; www.apologeticspress.org ; 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