

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	43
Attendance AM	77
Attendance PM	39
Wednesday PM	30

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Phil & Kim Tydings; Mary Rutland; C.D. Arnett; Alyse Poole; Otis & Glenna Adair; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stones Springs); Jennifer Arnette; Savannah Cook; Ron and Virginia Robbins

**Traveling:** Richard Melson, Jr. (work); Norris Cole, II; Eslick family; Richard & Valerie Melson; Ashley & Alexandria Thomas

**Prayers:**

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:**

**Sympathy:** Vance family, Jones and Thomas family

**Birthdays: September**— 3 Ruby Holt; 5 Michael Blanks, Jr. 27 Christina Barnes; 29 Florine Thomas

**Anniversaries: September** — 1— Chris and Tally Poole; 27—Dollie and Samuel Jones

**Ladies Reading Group:** Zoom Class Sept 28 @ 6:00 PM Lesson 10-11

**Potter Children's Home:**

September 17	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Song Leader	Patrick Cook	Patrick Cook
Lead Lord's Supper	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Server 1	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Server 2	James Grigsby	James Grigsby
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Anthony Grigsby
Sermon	Sabin Johnson	Sabin Johnson
Prayer for Responses	Norris Cole, Sr.	Norris Cole, Sr.
Closing Prayer	Michael Blanks	Michael Blanks
Announcements	Lyle Cole, Sr.	Lyle Cole, Sr.
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**  
2211 Needmore Road  
Dayton, Ohio 45414-9998

Place  
Stamp  
Here

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



# THE EDIFIER

Volume 04

September 17, 2023

Issue 38

[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.

**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 LIGHT OF THE WORLD –PART 1

Roy J. Hearn

Jesus said to His disciples in Matthew 5:14-16: "Ye are the light of the world ... Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." He did not say, "shine your light," but let it shine. There is a difference. (See Matt. 6:1.) This was a great declaration made by the Lord himself.

The statement was addressed to lowly people, by the world's standards. It should make all Christians feel highly complimented and challenged. The statement implies that the world is in spiritual darkness (1 John 5:19). The darkness is not dispelled by philosophy and science. The world was in darkness and depths of despair when Christ came into it. True light came into the world when Christ came (John 1:4). Christians are the only means of spreading the light to the world now. Please consider the following.

**Some qualities of physical light.**

1. The sunlight is powerful, but gentle. It is not noisy. Religion should be the same. The sunlight is pervasive, for the benefit of the high and the lowly, for the rich and the poor. Just so, the gospel is for the whole world and should be preached to every creature (Mark 16:15-16). One cannot box in the sunlight and keep it all to himself.
2. Sunlight is pure. It invades the darkness, dispels gloom, kills germs and is untainted. Christians can also contact sinners, and yet keep themselves pure. The Lord ate with publicans and sinners. He came to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10).
3. Light makes itself known: no need to advertise it. Nobody ever saw a sign on a lighthouse, saying "I am a lighthouse." A Christian does not need to go about wearing a sandwich sign advertising the fact. Beware of those who advertise themselves (Matt. 6:1-6; 23:5-7). Light is positive and can readily be seen. The Christian's light will not go undetected, but their good works will testify of them.
4. Light awakens. It awakens nature. The birds begin to sing and the rooster crows, and many flowers unfold. Light reveals and enables one to see the beauties of the world. Ugliness and beauty are obscured by darkness. The proper life of a Christian reveals the beauty of the blessings of Christ.

**Just as the sunlight, Christians are to shine.** The sunlight is natural and does not need to advertise itself, and is beneficial to all. The Christian should LET his light shine, not put on a show. When Stephen was martyred, his face shined (Acts 6:15). Even in face of beatings and threats Peter and other apostles felt compelled to preach and "Let their lights shine" (Acts 5:19-20).

1. Christians should spread their light willingly, sacrificially and purposefully. Candles and light bulbs use their energy until they burn out. Christians are also called upon to expend time and energy as they are able.
2. Christians are to shine openly, not hide their lights under a tub. The general run of the human race loves darkness rather than light. Did you ever see a brightly lighted beer tavern or saloon? Christians should not be ashamed to let their lights shine openly but should be glad to shine so as to influence others.
3. A Christian should be a light wherever he is. The sun illuminates the pig pen as well as the flower garden. In olden days each worshipper took a candle to worship. One candle did not give much light, but together they gave plenty of light for the worship service. Just so, the united efforts of the whole congregation can make a great difference in a community.

*SR*

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

**Only fools think sin is funny !**



**Why would I want anything to with sin?**

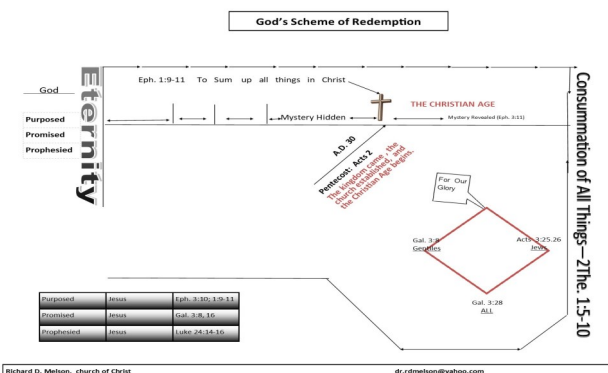


There may be a tendency sometimes to minimize sin. We might think, "Everybody is doing this." Or, "I've been so good—this one time is no big deal." Or, "In the grand scheme of things, this is just one sin." Or, "God knows that I'm not going to be perfect, so this is ok."

I know that sin is tempting—that's its very nature. The devil uses our "own desires" to "entice" us to sin (Jas. 1:14). And, to make us think "it's no big deal," the devil pulls out his secret weapon—deceit. That's why, two verses later, James says, "Do not be deceived" (1:16).

Take a moment and let the words of Romans 8:3 sink into your soul. For the Christian living faithfully "in Christ," there is "now no condemnation" (8:1). Wow! Christ has "made me free from the law of sin and death" (8:2). Wow again! How? "God...sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh" (8:3). Read those words over and over again, then ask, "Why would I want any single, solitary thing to do with sin?"

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



- James Eaves

Many comedic writers today chose to portray sin as something that is funny. And most of the world agrees with them. We tune in to watch our favorite sitcoms and it usually is not long before we see some drunk making a fool of himself, some sexual innuendo made, or filthy speech coming from someone's mouth, and we are expected to laugh. And if we are not careful that is exactly what will happen. Solomon wrote in, "Fools make a mock at sin: but among the righteous there is favour." (KJV -Proverbs 14:9).

If we logically thought this out, I think we would get a clearer picture. Sin is Satan's way of keeping us as slaves, lost, and separated from God. Is there anything funny about souls burning in hell? If the answer were not already obvious, we could easily ask the rich man in Luke 16.

Turning himself into a joke is Satan's way of separating himself from reality. If he is just a joke, then he is not real. Satan was real in Genesis through Revelation, and he is just as real today. The danger here is not just for us, but also for our children. When we "mock at sin" we take the edge off sin. Laughing at sin is laughing at transgression of God's law. When our children and others see us doing this their opinions are going to change whether it be of us or of God's law. Either way we lose. "Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise," (ESV -Eph 5:15)

## Melson's Musings ...



### Answers to Reading Questions

#### John 1

- 1) Who was the Word? (see verse 14) Jesus (1, 14)
- 2) Who made all things? Jesus (3)
- 3) Does receiving Jesus make one a child of God? Yes (12), those who received him, i.e., believed on His name (accepting His full authority) and completing in faithful obedience what He commands
- 4) Has any man seen God? No (18)
- 5) What did John the Baptist confess? "I am not the Christ" (20)
- 6) Whom did John the Baptist call the Lamb of God? Jesus (29)
- 7) Who brought Peter to Jesus? Andrew (40-41)
- 8) What does "Messiah" mean? Christ (41), and "Christ" means "the anointed one"
- 9) Who brought Nathaniel to Jesus? Philip (45)
- 10) What eight things is Jesus called in this chapter? The Word, God (1), Lamb of God (29), Son of God (34), Rabbi (38), Messiah (41), King of Israel (49), Son of Man (51)

#### John 2

- 1) What did Jesus call his mother? Woman (4)
- 2) How much wine (fruit of the vine) did Jesus make? 6 jars full, each holding 20 to 30 gallons (6)
- 3) What miracle did Jesus perform at the marriage feast? He turned water into fruit of the vine (9)
- 4) Is it a sin to drink wine? Yes if it is alcoholic (fermented) (10) cf. Prov. 20:1; 1 Pet. 1:13-15

- 5) What word did John use to refer to the miracles of Jesus? Signs (11) (the KJV just translates it as "miracles")
- 6) What did Jesus do in Jerusalem? Jesus made a whip with which he drove sheep and oxen from the temple, and he scattered the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables (15) Note the ASV
- 7) What did Jesus call his body? "This temple" (19-21)
- 8) How long did it take to build the temple? 46 years (20)
- 9) What caused many in Jerusalem to believe on Jesus? His resurrection (22)
- 10) Why didn't Jesus trust himself to certain ones? Because he knew what was in man (24-25)

☞ **Senior Luncheon**— Sept 19, 11 AM at George's Family Restaurant 5216 North Dixie  
 ☞ **No AM Bible Study**: Sept 13, will resume Sept. 20.



## 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