

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	44
Attendance AM	94
Attendance PM	40
Wednesday PM	38

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Phil Tydings; Kim Tydinngs (MVH); Brenda Mamula (home); Otis & Glenna Adair; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stones Springs); Penny and Patrick Cook; Ron and Virginia Robbins

Traveling: Richard Melson, Jr. (work); Rita and Ryan McGahee; Norris Cole, II;

Prayers:

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Birthdays: October— 2 Virginia Robbins; 5 Rhea Wallace; 6 Kevin Gilbert; 9 Victoria Dudley; 12 Philip Tydings; 13 Norris Cole, II; 14 Patrick Cook; 16 Judy Arnett; 17 Dollie Jones, Mozella Tate, Nancy Weimer; 26 Cadence Vance

Anniversaries: October

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class Sept 12 @ 6:00 PM Lesson 11

Potter Children's Home: Coin cans will be collected week of October 15

October 01	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Song Leader	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Patrick Cook
Lead Lord's Supper	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Server 1	Denzil Turner, III	Denzil Turner, III
Server 2	Chris Poole	Chris Poole
Scripture Reader	James Grigsby	Patrick Thomas
Sermon	Richard D Melson	Richard D Melson
Prayer for Responses	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
Closing Prayer	Patrick Cook	Norris Cole
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
2211 Needmore Road
Dayton, Ohio 45414-9998**

Place
Stamp
Here

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



THE EDIFIER

Volume 04

October 01, 2023

Issue 40

"THAT'S NOT IN MY BIBLE"

Dan Jenkins

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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.

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

I once heard of a Christian having a Bible study with a friend about what one must do to be saved. He opened his Bible and urged the friend to read several passages which clearly revealed God's plan of salvation. The friend's reply was, "There are none of these verses in my Bible." She went and got her Bible, and she was exactly right. She had literally cut out every one of the verses from her own Bible and thrown away those which she did not like.

As strange as it might seem, this was not the first time this ever happened. Less than 20 years before Jerusalem was destroyed and taken into Babylon, Jeremiah was pleading for all men, even the king, to change and return to God. A copy of the book of Jeremiah was brought to King Jehoiakim and read in his presence. "And it happened when Jehudi had read three or four columns, that the king cut it with the scribe's knife and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the scroll was consumed in the fire" (Jer. 36:23). His view was that if you do not like what God says just cut it out of the Bible.

Human nature does not change that much. While no one is actually cutting verses out of the Bible, their actions show that their hearts are so much like Jehoiakim. There are several ways to "cut verses out of the Bible."

There are some who, knowing that God would not approve of what they are doing, simply just never read the Bible. When encouraged by others to come to worship, they are adamant in the way they respond. They just cut God out of their lives.

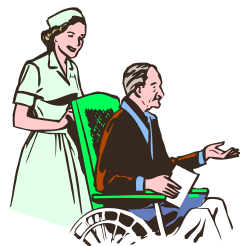
There are also those who read the Bible trying to find verses which justify what they have decided is right. The Bible talks of those who read the Bible and then twist it to suit their own ideas (2 Pet. 3:16). While they do not literally have the scribe's knife in their hands, they have one in their hearts.

Do you want to know His will for your life? Come to His word and "...hunger and thirst after righteousness" (Matt. 5:6). Remember His promise, "You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart" (Jer. 29:13). Jesus said it this way, "If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine" (John 7:17).

Our hearts must be so different than the heart of Jehoiakim. Paul speaks of that person who, with an open heart, comes to the Bible and reads about Jesus. As he looks at the image of Jesus, he is changed into that very same image by the Holy Spirit of God (2 Cor. 3:18). Do you want God to change you? Then open your Bible and honestly seek Him, but make sure you do not have a scribe's pen in your hand! ✍️

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

Where will we be in 2040?



Peter Singer is a professor of ethics at Princeton University. He is well known for supporting euthanasia and infanticide and many other controversial practices. He made a prediction about the future of public opinion in the September-October issue of Foreign Policy. He forecast that by 2040, "only a rump of hard-core, know-nothing religious fundamentalists will defend the view that every human life, from conception to death, is sacrosanct."

Marvin Olasky, editor in chief of World magazine challenged Dr. Singer, as to whether his support for killing the very young (not just abortion, but killing unwanted young children) or the terminally ill, was not like the Nazi programs. Singer, who had three grandparents killed by the Nazis, said in Writings on an Ethical Life that the Nazi program was racially biased and designed to eliminate "social ballast" and "useless mouths," while the euthanasia he advocates is a free choice of ill adults who want to die, or by parents who believe that their disabled children are better off dead.

Olasky points out that "The two positions are different, but they have a common denominator: It's OK to kill socially inconvenient people. Hitler said the government should decide who's convenient (sic) and Mr. Singer wants individuals to decide, but the slope is slippery. Already we're seeing government hospitals ceasing to treat the elderly or ill unless someone objects loudly. When health care is government-paid, demands for 'cost containment' by euthanasia will grow" (World, October 29, 2005).

What about Singer's projection? What will people think in 2040? Will we let the truth ring out? Will we be the only ones left in 2040 who will stand up for the value of all life? "Keep thee far from a false matter; and the innocent and righteous slay thou not: for I will not justify the wicked" (Exodus 23:7). We as Christians need to be vocal in supporting life.

- Bob Prichard

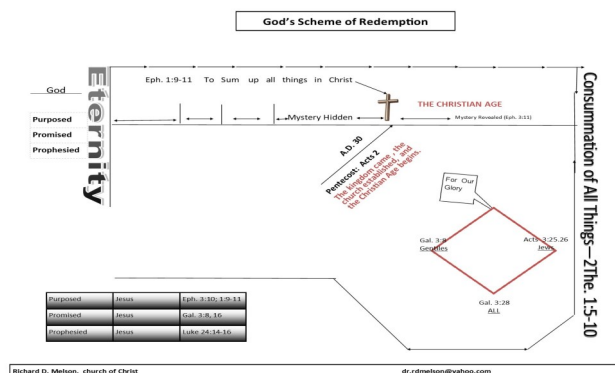
Hebrew midwives were wiser than many today



3,500 years ago, the king of Egypt grew increasingly concerned about the size and might of the Israelite nation. The king instructed the Hebrew midwives to take matters into their hands: "When you do the duties of a midwife for the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstools, if it is a son, then you shall kill him; but if it is a daughter, then she shall live" (Ex. 1:16).

How primitive! How could those inexperienced midwives know if the child born was a son (i.e., a male/boy) or a daughter (i.e., a female/girl)? Did they ask the child what they were? Did they wait so that they could administer hormone blockers or perform gender-altering surgery?

No! What those midwives knew 3,500 years ago has been known since the beginning of time and even to the present! Boys have boy parts, and girls have girl parts. No personal feelings, drugs or surgeries can change a boy into a girl or a girl into a boy. God made two genders (male and female, Gen. 1:27). There are only two, and they are unchangeably set upon conception and distinguishably identifiable at birth! It really is that simple!



Melson's Musings ...



To Sift You As Wheat

How sad it is that so many congregations of the Lord's people are dying. Sadder still, that much of it could be prevented. Major health problems often advertise their presence through minor symptoms. Doctors recommend routine health screenings to look for signs of trouble. In many cases, if symptoms can be identified early then steps can be taken to prevent any major problems. The health of the church operates in the same fashion. By looking closely at symptoms, one can get an idea as to the overall condition of the congregation.

Revelation begins with addresses to 7 congregations scattered throughout Asia Minor. Each one receives commendation and/or condemnation for matters occurring in their midst. These churches stand as a perfect model for congregations today. Over the past several weeks we've noticed the indicators of bad health. The church at Sardis is the last of several examples to consider.

Sardis fell asleep. The church was dying and did not know it. Jesus said, "I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die" (Rev. 3:1-2). Note that they "had a name" but their reputation was not indicative of reality.

A congregation may be well known in the brotherhood because of their works and large numbers, but numbers and names are not necessarily an indicator of good

health. Many are the stories of celebrities who seemed to have it all to the public eye but were privately falling apart. If we allow ourselves to become comfortable with the status quo, always look for the path of least resistance, and be satisfied with simply being satisfied, then we are standing in the shoes of Sardis.

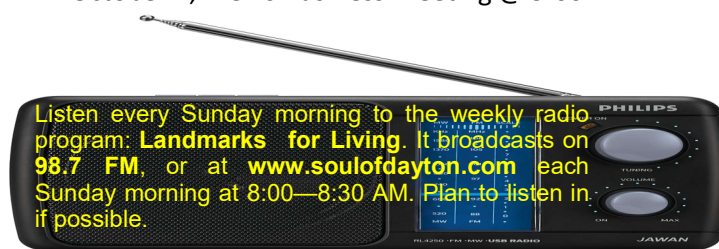
It is tragic to watch a congregation wither away and die needlessly. Thankfully the Great Physician knows the cure. Each of the congregations in Asia Minor were exhorted to repent and assured of their Lord's approval upon doing so. Nothing has changed. Dying congregations need only to honestly examine their symptoms in light of God's Word and change. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches.

- Cody Westbrook

Last week I was blessed to work with the brethren from the Wendover congregation in Greensboro, NC in a seminar on "What is Truth?". Greensboro is city a bit larger than Dayton similar in many ways, it also a number of post-secondary educational institutions, it is rich in history, and going through an economic boom and a great opportunity for the Truth to flourish, just as we have in Dayton. The brethren send their thanks for allowing me to come and lead this study of God's word.

- Richard

- ☞ October 1, First Sunday Fellowship Meal—noon
- ☞ October 7, Men's Business Meeting @ 9:00 AM



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