

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	54
Attendance AM	87
Attendance PM	35
Wednesday PM	24

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Phil Tydings; Kim Tydings; Krubo Joploh; Michael Gorsky; Otis & Glenna Adair; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stones Springs); Jerry Thomas; Ron Robbins; Janis Bland; Richard Melson, Jr.  
**Traveling:** Richard Melson, Jr. (work); Valerie Melson; Ashley and Alexandria Thomas; The Blanks family  
**Prayers:**  
**Repentance:**  
**Baptism:**  
**Sympathy:** family of Jeanette Ivory  
**Birthdays: October**— 2 Virginia Robbins; 5 Rhea Wallace; 6 Kevin Gilbert; 9 Victoria Dudley; 12 Philip Tydings; 13 John Bouse, Norris Cole, II; 14 Patrick Cook; 16 Judy Arnett; 17 Dollie Jones, Mozella Tate, Nancy Weimer; 26 Cadence Vance  
**Anniversaries: October**— 1 Mary and Tom Vance  
**Ladies Reading Group:** Zoom Class TBD @ 6:00 PM  
**Potter Children’s Home:** Coming Soon—Christmas Gift Shop

October 29	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Song Leader	Patrick Cook	Lyle Cole
Lead Lord’s Supper	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Server 1	James Grisgby	Patrick Thomas
Server 2	Lyle Cole	Denzil Turner, III
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Norris Cole
Sermon	Richard D Melson	Richard D Melson
Prayer for Responses	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Closing Prayer	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Michael Blanks, Jr.
Announcements	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
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 29, 2023

Issue 44

## CONTENTMENT

Johnny Ramsey

[www.needmoreroadcoc.com](http://www.needmoreroadcoc.com)  
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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](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

How could the peerless apostle Paul be content in a cruel Roman prison? What could possibly have been his reason for rejoicing? Where did the “peace passing understanding” come from (Philippians 4:4-7)? The challenge of Hebrews 13 never ceases to amaze me....

*“Let your life be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have.”*

Our modern society is so frenetic and violent. How can Christians ever find peace and contentment in the midst of such debauchery? Can the secret of such joy be found in Psalm 144:15?

*“Happy are the people whose God is Jehovah.”*

There are those who believe that one good way to promote happiness is to let every disappointment and burden come as a distinct surprise! Another maxim reminds us to take the very best life affords and be content in spite of the things we do not have. In the beauty of Philippians, the inspired penman declares:

*“I have learned in whatsoever state I am in therewith to be content.”*

Whether abounding in plenty or abased in much, the servant of Christ presses on to finer moments in the presence of the Almighty.

*“Change and decay in all around I see, O Thou who changes not, abide with me.”*

Perhaps the following can assist us in the pursuit of peace, regardless of external circumstance (1 Peter 3:11).

**Remember Precious Promises Christ Gave**

Not only are Christians promised a way of escape when temptation comes (1 Corinthians 10:13), but we also have the privilege of casting all our cares upon the Lord (1 Peter 5:7). We have access to all spiritual blessings and the tremendous advantage and power of prayer (Hebrews 4:16). We are bolstered by the loyal bond of comrades in the Lord (Psalm 133:1), as well as the beauty and comfort of the Scriptures (Romans 15:4). The tie that binds us to the Savior and to those of “like precious faith” surround us with those tremendous attributes that provide joy and peace in believing. This will grant unto faithful servants of God a tranquil life in the midst of chaotic conditions (1 Timothy 2:1,2).

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

## Taking Holy Things for Granted

In my recent Bible reading, the following passage was significant. "And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the LORD, which he commanded them not. And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the LORD" (Leviticus 10:1-2).

This tragic situation came about because these two sons of Aaron were careless in their service to God. What struck me in my reading of the passage this time is what I read in the two verses before this. "And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of the congregation, and came out, and blessed the people: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto all the people. And there came a fire out from before the LORD, and consumed upon the altar the burnt offering and the fat: which when all the people saw, they shouted, and fell on their faces" (Leviticus 9:23-24). Did you notice what happened? The "glory of the Lord" appeared to the people, and the Lord sent a fire out that consumed the sacrifice, and "all the people saw, they shouted, and fell on their faces." And then in the very next verse, Nadab and Abihu brought down more fire from the Lord by their disobedience. It makes me wonder, how could they have done this? Weren't they paying attention? Didn't they realize the power of God? Didn't they know what they were doing?

I don't know all of the reasons that Nadab and Abihu made their fateful choice, but one thing is obvious. They took holy things for granted. They were the right people, with the right implements of worship, doing the right thing, in the right place, but in the wrong way. And they paid for it with their lives.

I wonder how often we are guilty of taking holy things for granted. Have you ever partaken of the Lord's Supper, and then realized that you didn't even think about what Christ did for you. Most all of us are guilty of singing words we don't mean or believe in worship. When we sing "Anywhere with Jesus," do we mean it? When we sing, "all to Thee, I surrender," do we mean it?

The Lord has blessed us with His mercy, in that He has not destroyed us like Nadab and Abihu. But can we continue to take holy things for granted? "Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire" (Hebrews 12:29).

- Bob Prichard

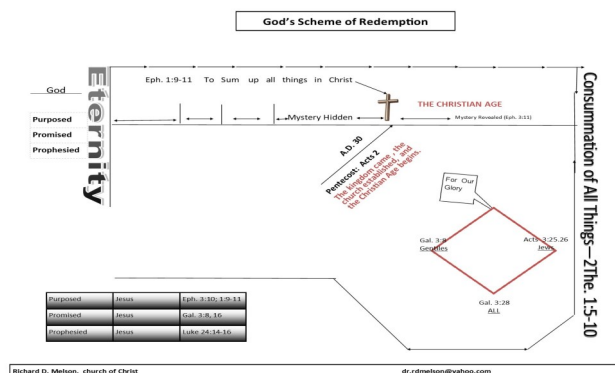
## The king of who?



When "the wise men from the East came to Jerusalem," they asked for the location of the "King of the Jews" (Matt. 2:2). When Pilate had Jesus crucified, he "put up over His head the accusation written against Him: THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS" (Matt. 27:37). Was Jesus "the King of the Jews"? Well, yes. But so much more!

In the grand scheme, Jesus is "the King of kings" (1 Tim. 6:15). In His sovereignty, Jesus is "King of the nations" (Rev. 15:3). The word "king" not only means, "one who rules as possessor of the highest office" (in a political sense), but even better in this context, it means, "one who possesses unusual or transcendent power" (in a practical sense).

So, here's the question—Is Jesus "King of you and your life"? While He is the "great King over all the earth" (Psa. 47:2), He must possess "transcendent power" in your heart and daily life. Can you truly sing, "King of my life, I crown Thee now"?!  
*David Sproule  
Thought for the Day*



## Melson's Musings ...



(continued from page one)

### Maintaining a Clear Conscience

Paul made it exceedingly clear in Acts 24:16 regarding the high value of "a conscience void of offense before God." To live in such a way as to seek the Creator with clean hands and pure hearts is of incomparable worth. A precise comment on this matter challenges our attention....

*"A clear conscience is the greatest asset in our quest for happiness."*

To mar this situation between ourselves and the Lord is a grave mistake. To develop it keenly is a genuine contribution to contentment unsurpassed.

### Do not forget Who Is In Charge of the World

The only way to propel our way through the rugged terrain of ungodly men and unholy circumstances is to keep our gaze permanently fixed upon Christ (Hebrews 12:2). We dare not linger in the dangerous shadows of doubt and uncertainty. We walk by faith -- yes, absolute trust -- in the powerful hand of the Almighty (Hebrews 11:6).

*"Though the way we journey, May be often dreary We shall see the King someday."*

When the kingdoms of this world have become the everlasting empire of our Maker (Revelation 11:15, 16), we shall be forever glad we leaned upon the very One who rules and overrules in the affairs of men (Daniel 4:25). "There is no power but of God" is the marvelous

message of Romans. Those who truly believe that "Jehovah rules by His power forever" are constrained to sin:

*"Lead me gently home, Father,  
Lead me gently home  
Lest I fall upon the wayside  
Lead me gently home."*

Contentment naturally flows from this confident longing.

### Contentment

I feign not friendship where I hate;  
I fawn not on the great (in show);  
I prize, I praise a mean estate —  
Neither too lofty nor too low;  
This, this is all my choice, my cheer —  
A mind content, a conscience clear.

Joshua Sylvester

- ☞ Men's Business Meeting November 4 @ 9:00 AM
- ☞ Pantry Items: Boxed Meal (e.g. Hamburger Helper); Canned Meals (Ravioli etc.); Pop Tarts



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](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