

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	49
Attendance AM	80
Attendance PM	29
Wednesday PM	41

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Phil & Kim Tydings; Krubo Joploh; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Mauricio Garrido; Paige Cook (expected to deliver any day)

Traveling: Norris Cole, II; Tydings; Cooks; Richard Melson, Jr.

Prayers: Gerri Allen (LA); Stacey Bomar (Buffalo)

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Birthdays: January — 5 Lisa Owens; 7—Sharnelle Coiwus; 15 Jennifer Arnett 16—Valerie Melson; 25 Denzil Turner, III; 31— Chad Arnett; Krystal Thomas

Anniversaries: January— 12— Tim & Melody Angus

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class February 8 @ 6:00 PM Lesson 3 —"Sisters, I Need You"

January 28	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Song Leader	Micheal Blanks, Jr.	Michael Blanks, Jr.
Lead Lord's Supper	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Server 1	Chris Poole	Chris Poole
Server 2	Denzil Turner, III	Denzil Turner, III
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGhaee	Patrick Thomas
Sermon	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Closing Prayer	Lyle Cole	Norris Cole
Announcements	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
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 05

January 28, 2024

Issue 04

"DO NOT BE DECEIVED..."

Larry Black and Richard D. Melson

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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

God has in the scriptures warned man about deception. The ultimate deceiver is Satan, (Rev. 12:9) but his ministers are going about sowing falsehoods daily.

Consider the various forms of the term: Deceive - to make (a person) believe what is not true; mislead. Deceptive - deceiving or intended to deceive. Then is self-deception; Webster defines "self-deception" as "the act or an instance of deceiving oneself or the state of being deceived by oneself especially concerning one's true nature, feelings, etc."(see 1 Cor. 3:18-23). Thus we learn that "deceived" means "to be led into error."

God does not want His people to be deceived at all. In at least four passages He explicitly states "do not be deceived" (1 Cor. 6:9; 15:33; Gal. 6:7 and Jas. 1:16).

Thus, we see that deception is an ugly word and concept. The apostle Paul wrote three times in two epistles warning brethren to "do not be deceived."

This article will quickly appraise three different ways in which we should not be deceived or led away.

Do Not Be Deceived About Condemning Effects Of Evil

In 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, we read "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God." Paul also gave us other lists of sins (Gal. 5:19-21; Eph. 5:3-6; Col. 3:5-6), but here he warns us about being misled or deceived by sinful activities. Observe that the consequences of the aforementioned deeds is that those who engage in such things "shall not inherit the kingdom of God." Many times people believe that they can rationalize their sin, but unrepentant sin ALWAYS condemns!

Do Not Be Deceived About the Effect And Influence Of Error

Paul penned, "Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits." (1 Cor. 15:33). The context of this statement in 1 Corinthians 15 is false teaching regarding the resurrection and all false teaching "corrupts" us. Paul said that false teachers were really Satan in disguise (2 Corinthians 11:13-15). Paul also said that false teachers teach the "doctrines of devils" (1 Timothy 4:1-3). False teachers reveal "dam-nable heresies" (2 Peter 2:1-2). We CANNOT afford to play around with false teaching and error. Let us not kid ourselves and be deceived regarding such teachings and teachers. To do so will condemn us!

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

What's the Score?



I have a friend whose wife just can't understand why so many people are so interested in sports. She says that she doesn't understand why her husband should feel like he should actually watch the games. After all, she says, all that matters is the score. Why waste time seeing how the score comes about?

While I can't exactly agree with her point of view, and I know that other things really do matter, it is true that the winner is judged by the score. Chuck Noll, who coached the Pittsburgh Steelers of the NFL, once commented on why he likes football. "The nice thing about football," he said, "is that you have a scoreboard to show how you've done. In other things in life, you don't. At least not one that you can see."

Since life's scoreboard is one that you can't see, man has been diligent in trying to make up his own substitute scoreboard. He may think that the quantity of riches amassed is a good scoreboard, or how new his car is, or something like that. But the number of things we have is not necessarily the indicator of life's score. Neither is how high we rise in our company, or who we know and associate with.

Sometimes in a football game, one team gets more first downs, and gains more yards, and maybe even has a better band, but those things are not what counts in the end. All that really matters in the end is the score. In the game of life, a man may have those earthly things we count so precious, and he may be a good neighbor, and may even be kind to animals, but these are not really what count in the end.

John saw a great vision of the scoreboard of life. "And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. ... And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Revelation 20:11-12, 15). How do you stand according to what is written in the books?

- Bob Prichard

Do not hide from helping

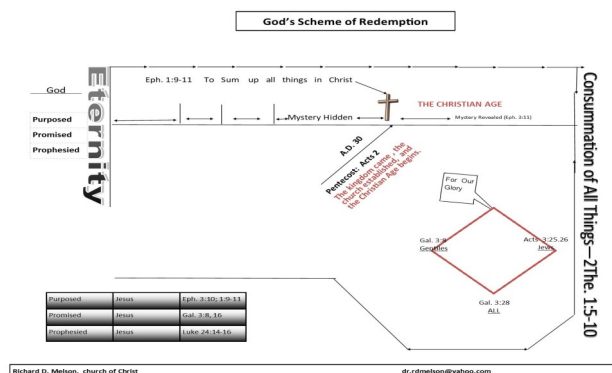


Have you ever seen a fellow Christian have a particular need and deflected your eyes away and thought, "Not my problem! Someone else can deal with this. I've got other things to do"? Is that a big deal?

Consider first these instructions to the Jews long ago. "You shall not see your brother's ox or his sheep going astray, and hide yourself from them...You shall not see your brother's donkey or his ox fall down along the road, and hide yourself from them" (Deut. 22:4). God's people were required to take action! Then, look at God's instructions to Christians in the New Testament. "But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?" (1 John 3:17).

The priest and Levite in the parable of the Good Samaritan illustrate the Lord's condemnation of those who see a brother in need and "pass by" (Luke 10:30-32). The Lord's command is simple, "You must not hide yourself" (Deut. 22:3). Brethren, do not hide yourself from helping!

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



(continued from page one)

Do Not Be Deceived About The Results Of Your Actions On Eternity

Galatians 6:7-9 says, "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart." Proverbs 24:11-12 tells us that God will render to man "according to his works." Paul made the same point in Romans 2:1-11 and 2 Corinthians 5:10. Not only can sin make your life miserable now, but it CERTAINLY will cause you to miss heaven and thus be punished for eternity!

There is no reason to be led astray. Don't be deceived, the principle of reaping what you sow is just as applicable today as it was when Paul penned these words. Be diligent, be courageous and have a great love of the Lord and you will not turn away from the faith.

There are many times adults wonder if children are paying attention in Bible class and better yet, what about in worship services? Some people think that we need to move the children out and play with them or have a so-called "children's church" (whatever that is). Maybe we have story-time; show "Vegetales" or even Mayberry videos; but whatever they call it the question is where is the authority for it. Well this is not my point here; it is this, in worship children can and are paying attention and learning. I have received several questions from children

who are paying attention in worship. Another such question is, "When can you be a preacher and a song leader?"

It is wonderful that children are thinking about spiritual things (Matthew 6:33), oh that the adults would ask such a question! First one must become a Christian. This is done by being converted to Christ according to the New Testament (John 3:3-5). The leading of public worship activities, such as singing, teaching and preaching is to be done by men / males (1 Timothy 2:8). Furthermore it is to be done by those who are faithful servants in the kingdom (1 Corinthians 4:2).

Continue to desire to preach God's word and lead the singing of God's songs in worship. Sing songs of praise at home as you are taught and start thinking about teaching God's word. Do not let that desire fail. Look for future training opportunities.

I thank all the children who are paying attention and asking questions. I will keep working to answering your questions. Keep them coming.

- ☞ **Pantry Items:** Tuna Fish; Corn Flakes; Saltine Crackers; Apple Sauce; Peanut Butter; Jelly
- ☞ **Senior Lunch**— Will resume in April, 2024
- ☞ **2024 Theme:** Seeking The Lost
- ☞ Learning to Live with Loss—with Dean Miller April 5-7



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