

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	55
Attendance AM	76
Attendance PM	29
Wednesday PM	23

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Ruby Nickell; Mia Gilbert; Phil & Kim Tydings; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Nina Netheron; Kristina Burns; Otis Adair; Mary Rutland;

**Traveling:** Norris Cole, II; Richard Melson, Jr. Mozella Tate; Tony Moore

**Prayers:** Kevin and April Gilbert

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:**

**Sympathy:** Diane Cole and Wallace family

**Birthdays: December** — 5 Herman Farmer; 6 David Ward; 11 Nina Netheron, Kimberly Tydings; 15 Dwayne Eslick; Dana Grigsby, Richard Melson; 23 Tony Moore, Sr. 24 Mia Gilbert; 26 Theresa Wallace;

**Anniversaries: December**— 27 Tony and Princess Moore

**Ladies Reading Group:** Zoom Class Dec. 05 @ 6:00 PM Lesson 13 in "Sisters, I Need You"

December 01	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Song Leader	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Chris Poole
Lead Lord's Supper	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Server 1	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Server 2	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Ryan McGahee
Sermon	Richard D Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Closing Prayer	Jerry Thomas	Jerry Thomas
Announcements	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
Greeter		
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

December 01, 2024

Issue 48

[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

## A FAITH GREATER THAN THE FAITH OF MARTYRS?

Dan Jenkins

The writer of Hebrews could so easily see the dangers faced by those Jewish Christians. The nation that killed God's Son turned its wrath on the church almost from the day it began. Jesus had warned them about the trials that were coming. Obviously, they persecuted those Gentiles who had become followers of Jesus, but their persecution was even more fierce on the Christians addressed in this epistle.

They had begun their walk with Jesus and faced many trials which came their way. Hebrews chapter ten describes this: "After you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings...you were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations." The author then adds, "You became a companion of those who were so treated" (10:32-33).

How did they emotionally respond to all of this? "You joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods" (10:34). Earthly possessions are meaningless when viewed from the eternal truth about our existence. They could so easily give up that which was temporal. "Knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven."

Living faithfully on this earth for many years is so difficult. We understand the faith of those who are martyrs for the cause of Christ. At that last moment they reached deep within their souls and their faith sustained. What we may have done is overlooked the depth of the faith of those who face not a momentary trial, but serve Him for years and years. We rightly honor the faith of martyrs, but perhaps it takes a deeper faith to serve Him for years and years.

When this letter was written their devotion was weakening. Look again at this chapter and the admonition given to them. "Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God you may receive the promise...if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in Him" (10:35-38).

Now make the application in your life. How long have you been a Christian? Where is your faith in Him compared to what it once was? Remember how joyfully you served Him at first? Remember your routine of daily Bible study and prayer? Remember the joy of partaking of the Lord's Supper and being part of worship, praising His name? Is it possible that we have become "tired" because the journey seems so long? It is not that we have walked away from Him, but have we lifted our anchor and are we slowly drifting away (Heb. 2:1)? God help us to remember to view our life on this earth as being only a moment compared to eternity! ✍️

**SEEKING THE LOST - LUKE 19:10**

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



## Remember Otis?

If you are a follower of the old "Andy Griffith Show," you will well remember Otis, the town drunk, who periodically checks himself into jail to sleep off his hangover. Otis is a lovable character, who never hurts anybody else, although he doesn't know how to handle the bottle.

One show had an interesting development. Otis received a letter from his brother, telling him he was coming to visit. Otis had foolishly told his brother that he was a deputy sheriff, and didn't know what to do. Andy, who always tried to accommodate anyone, offered to let Otis become a temporary deputy, only while his brother was in town. The catch was that Otis had to stay sober. Of course, his wife wouldn't believe it was true until he destroyed his hidden liquor at home.

Everything went according to plan when his brother came, and Otis was even strong enough to refuse to drink on duty when his brother asked him to go get a drink. Otis wanted to make sure that his brother knew that he was a success, not the failure that his brother expected him to be.

But then something completely unexpected happened. Otis kept expecting to get caught in his masquerade, but then his brother did the unimaginable. As Otis looked on in surprise, his brother came into the jail drunk, and checked himself in just like Otis did every weekend. The brother was appropriately sorry as Otis lectured him on how he had let down the whole family by his actions.

Andy's lesson to Otis was that he shouldn't have been so self-conscious about trying to impress others. But I believe there was another lesson. Otis had the chance to see himself as he really was. He had a chance to hear, "Thou art the man."

You see, when King David stole Uriah's wife, and then had him killed to cover up his sin, he thought he really had covered up everything. But then Nathan told him a story about a rich man who took a poor man's one ewe lamb to feed a traveling visitor. David was incensed about this man's wickedness and vowed a fourfold retribution, and that the man should die. Nathan boldly concluded, "Thou art the man" (2 Samuel 12:7). To his credit, David responded in penitence, and accepted his punishment. But Otis never changed. He never reformed. He could see how his brother embarrassed him, but he never saw himself. How about you? Have you had a "Thou art the man" experience? How did you respond?

— Bob Prichard

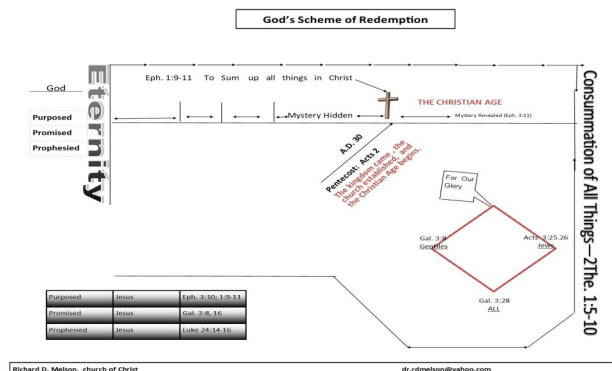
## Accept adversity?



There are some verses in the Bible where the reader might do a double-take and think, "Did it just say that?" Job's statement in Job 2:10 is one such passage. In verse 9, Job's wife told him, "Curse God and die!" How would Job respond to that? "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?"

It is certainly easy to "accept good" and be excited about "good" when it comes into our lives. We would never think about blaming God for "good." But then "adversity" comes. Do we blame God? Do we throw it in His face? Or do we "accept" it and see that God not only can (and does) work in the "good" times, but He also works in our lives during the "bad" times? When we allow Him, our God can bring about greater "perseverance," "character" and "hope," as a result of our adversity (Jas. 1:2-4; Rom. 5:3-4). Read the end of the book of Job and that's exactly what you find. Will you accept adversity and let God strengthen you through it?

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



## Melson's Musings ...



## Thanksgiving Prayer

On this Thanksgiving Day, dear Lord  
My thanks are most sincere  
For all the blessings you bestowed  
Throughout the passing year...

For health, for work, for special joys,  
For family and friends...  
And for our nation under God  
Your goodness never ends!

But help me understand, dear Lord,  
and may I clearly see  
That just one day is not enough  
To thank you properly...

And that my thanks today are small  
For gifts that you outpour,  
Unless I've thanked you other days...  
Three-hundred-sixty-four!

- Decatur, AL

## I Am Thankful For ...

- ☞ The taxes I pay because it means I'm employed
- ☞ The clothes that fit a little to snug because it means I have enough to eat
- ☞ My shadow who watches me work because it means I am out in the sunshine
- ☞ A lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning and gutters that need fixing because it means I have a home
- ☞ The spot I find at the far end of the parking lot because it means I am capable of walking
- ☞ My huge heating bill because it means I am warm

- ☞ All the complaining I hear about our government because it means we have freedom of speech
- ☞ The lady behind me in church who sings off key because it means that I can hear
- ☞ The piles of laundry and ironing because it means my loved ones are nearby
- ☞ The alarm that goes off in the early morning hours because it means that I'm alive
- ☞ Weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day because it means I have been productive
- ☞ I have never really thought about it in this way but I'm thankful for all this and more, hope you are too. ☺

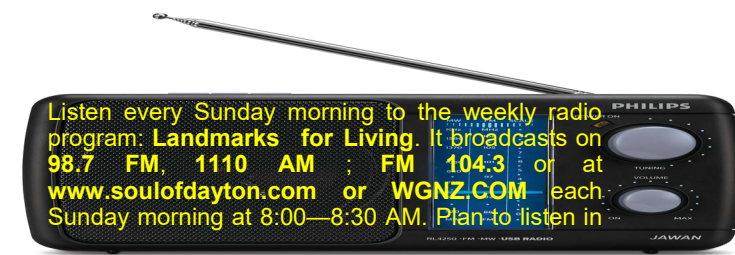
- Hardy, AR

## Seven Looks

- LOOK BACK -- Remember God's goodness (I Kings 8:56)
- LOOK UP -- In praise (Psalm 103:1)
- LOOK DOWN -- In humility; in caution (I Cor. 10:12)
- LOOK FORWARD -- In confidence; in hope (II Tim. 1:12)
- LOOK WITHIN -- Daily, thoroughly (Psalm 19:14)
- LOOK AROUND -- Be vigilant (Heb. 12:15)
- LOOK UNTO THE LORD -- (Isaiah 45:22) .

(Denison, TX)

## 2024 Theme: Seeking The Lost



Listen every Sunday morning to the weekly radio program: Landmarks for Living. It broadcasts on 98.7 FM, 1110 AM, FM 104.3 or at [www.soulofdayton.com](http://www.soulofdayton.com) or [WGNZ.COM](http://WGNZ.COM) each Sunday morning at 8:00—8:30 AM. Plan to listen in

## 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/>;
- 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