

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	54
Attendance AM	93
Attendance PM	44
Wednesday PM	N/A

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Dollie Jones (Stone Springs); Ruby Cole (home); Phil & Kim Tydings; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Nina Netherton; Mary Rutland (home);

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

Prayers: Richard & Debra Barr

Repentance: Phil Tydings

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Birthdays: February — 4 Betty Blakley; 13 Tena Eslick; 16 Grover Frank Brock; 21 Catherine Anderson, Jerry Thomas; 22 Brenda Wiley

Anniversaries: February — 25—Ron & Virginia Robbins

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class Feb. 20 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 2 in "Bible A's for Ladies"

February 09	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Song Leader	Chris Poole	Lyle Cole
Lead Lord's Supper	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Server 1	James Grigsby	Norris Cole
Server 2	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Michael Blanks, Jr.
Scripture Reader	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Sermon	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Closing Prayer	Patrick Cook	Patrick Cook
Announcements	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
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 06

February 09, 2025

Issue 06

www.needmoreroadcoc.com
Phone: (937) 274-6801
Fax: (937) 999-4949

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

"BID ME COME UNTO THEE"

Tom Wacaster

Over the course of a few short years the twelve men whom Jesus had chosen began to grow and mature into the material that God could, and would use to proclaim the gospel to a lost humanity. The more time they spent with Jesus, the stronger grew their faith. Their courage often amazes us; their weaknesses puzzle us. Consider the background of the request Peter made as expressed in the five words of the title of this article. The twelve had witnessed one of the most astonishing miracles of our Lord. From a few fish and handful of loaves, the Lord fed thousands; 5,000 men to be exact, not counting the women and children. Any estimation of the total number of people fed would be mere speculation. 10,000? 15,000? The number staggers the imagination. The reaction of the multitude was not unexpected. Living under the thumb of the tyrannical rule of the Roman rulers, Israel longed for freedom. Perhaps the time had come for a King to arise in Israel, cast off the restraints of that oppressive government, and restore the Davidic kingdom of old. Could this be the man of the hour? The miracle of the loaves and fishes triggered that inner desire for an earthly king and they acted on their impulses. So strong were their intentions that Jesus had to compel His disciples to immediately leave and head for the other side of the Sea of Galilee. The short journey across the sea would normally take only a few hours at most. But on this occasion an unexpected storm would arise, slow their progress, and threaten their very lives.

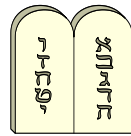
Out of the darkness of the night, and in the midst of the blinding storm, there appears an image, walking toward them. They were in the midst of the sea, and there comes an image walking on the water. What unfolds tickles our imagination, increases our faith, and encourages us in our times of despair when the storms of life crash in upon us. When Peter realizes that the figure walking on the water is the Lord, he cries out, "Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water" (Matt. 14:28). "Bid me to come unto thee!" Five simple words; yet words that express the sentiments of the heart of a man who found himself in the midst of a threatening storm. This is not an invitation from God to man, but the request of a man to his God. I'm not denying the divine invitation that heaven extends to me. Jesus could have easily said, "Peter, come unto me," and the results would likely have been exactly the same. But what we see is Peter beseeching the Lord, "Bid me come unto thee." Three important thoughts beg consideration.

Consider the word "bid"! This is a request for a privilege. Common sense tells us, "Men cannot walk on water!" Some have tried it, but all have failed. A recent news item reported that Jonathan Mthethwa was killed by three crocodiles as he attempted to walk on water as a demonstration of his faith. Witnesses say the clergyman prayed the whole week, but something went terribly wrong when he placed his feet into the water. Peter, in great humility, recognized that should Jesus grant his desire, he would be privileged to join

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BEING THE NEW CREATION IN 2025 - 2 COR. 5:17

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 beginning of GREAT things

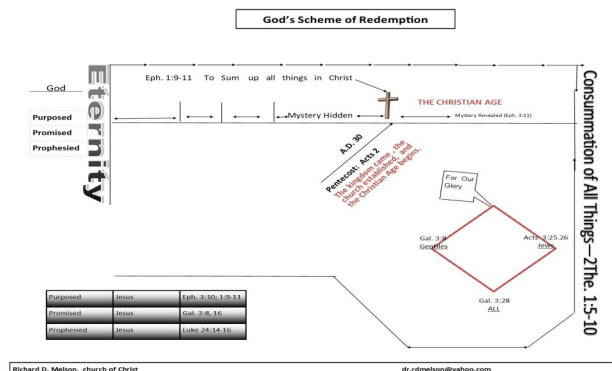


Don't you love new beginnings? Fresh starts? There is none GREATER than when one obeys the gospel and becomes a child of God. We often call the moment when someone is "baptized into Christ" (Gal. 3:27), "The GREATEST decision of his/her life," because it is. When one dies to sin and is buried into His death, there is no event GREATER than being "raised" to "walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:2-4).

So many things could be said to be GREAT about that beginning: one secures "so GREAT a salvation" (Heb. 2:3), becoming a recipient of "exceedingly GREAT and precious promises" (2 Pet. 1:4), being blessed to "have a GREAT High Priest" in Jesus Christ (Heb. 4:14), who has issued to us His GREAT Commission (Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16), and giving us "confidence" of that "GREAT reward" (Heb. 10:35).

Have you experienced that new beginning? That fresh start? If not, why not do it today? Did you experience that beginning some time ago? Do you need to refresh it today? The Christian life is truly the GREATEST life!

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



(continued from page 1)

the Lord on the water. Every child of God has the distinct privilege of praying to the Father for untold blessings. Humility of heart will help us realize that our prayers are a request for great privileges granted by the Father.

Next, Peter also recognized the personage whom he addressed. "Lord, if it be thou!" I do not think Peter questioned the deity of Jesus. To be honest, I do not know the intent of Peter's words. But this I do know: Peter realized that Jesus, and only Jesus, could grant such a request that he was about to make. Men usually recognize the respect owed to those of importance. Peter did not demand. He was not arrogant or haughty. He was humbled in the presence of greatness. What about us? "Humble yourself therefore under the mighty hand of God" (1 Pet. 5:6). Only when men recognize the greatness of the Personage of the One Who can still the storm will they be in a position to receive the blessings available to them.

Finally there must be a realization of the depth of one's problem before he will ever 'walk on the water' of faith's possibilities. A quick search on the internet of everyone who ever walked on water will reveal only two names: Jesus, and Peter. The sacred record was not recorded to instruct us to seek the ability to literally walk on water. It is, rather, a lesson on the possibility of faith in overcoming the obstacles that confront us in life and how to find refuge in the storms of life.

I'll close this little article with the wonderful words of Mozi Lister in a song made famous by Bill Gaither:

In the dark of the midnight have I oft hid my face While the storm howls above me, and there's no hiding place. 'Mid the crash of the thunder, Precious Lord, hear my cry Keep me safe till the storm passes by.

Many times Satan whispered, "There is no need to try For there's no end of sorrow, there's no hope by and by" But I know Thou art with me, and tomorrow I'll rise. Where the storms never darken the skies When the long night has ended and the storms come no more Let me stand in Thy presence on the bright peaceful shore.

In that land where the tempest, never comes, Lord, may I Dwell with Thee when the storm passes by.

Chorus:
Till the storm passes over, till the thunder sounds no more Till the clouds roll forever from the sky Hold me fast, let me stand in the hollow of Thy hand Keep me safe till the storm passes by.



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NEWS AND NOTES

- Visit these online resources: www.wvbs.org ; www.apologeticspress.org ; 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