

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	45
Attendance AM	79
Attendance PM	33
Wednesday PM	28

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Dollie Jones (home); Phil & Kim Tydings; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Nina Netherton; Mary Rutland (home); Richard Melson; Janet Fortner (Penny's aunt) will have hip surgery in March

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

Prayers: Richard & Debra Barr; Lyle Cole family

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Member Birthdays: March — 6 Melody Angus; 9 Rita McGahee; 10 Samuel Jones, Jr. 11 Mary Vance; 17 Pat Norris; 18 Layne Vance; 27 Lyle Cole; 28 Cynthia Lease; 30 Timothy Angus, William Bogan

Anniversaries: March — None

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class March 6 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 3 in "Bible A's for Ladies"

March 02	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Song Leader	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Patrick Cook
Lead Lord's Supper	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Server 1	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Server 2	Jerry Thomas	Jerry Thomas
Scripture Reader	James Grigsby	James Grigsby
Sermon	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Prayer for Responses	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Closing Prayer	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Announcements	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
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

March 02, 2025

Issue 09

THINGS OLD AND THINGS NEW

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

That transformation which occurs when one becomes a Christian is so remarkable. The apostle Paul emphasized this to those new Christians in Corinth. In his second letter to that church he spoke of all he was in Judaism before becoming a follower of Jesus. No one excelled his credentials, yet he gave it all up. He reminded them of this truth and then applied this transformation to all Christians. "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new" (2 Cor. 5:17).

What Was Old and Passed Away?

In Judaism, there were those who boasted in their appearance and lived for themselves (2 Cor. 5:12, 14). All that mattered to them was the fleshly honors they had attained (v. 16), but Paul said that having become a Christian none of these mattered at all.

The old guilt of sin had passed away. Under that Old Testament law, every year there was that Day of Atonement (modern Jews call it Yom Kippur) when God remembered the nation's sins, and His displeasure was "satisfied" by the offering of animal sacrifices. It was a religion which easily created guilt for there was no real forgiveness. When one becomes a Christian God "remembers their sins no more" (Jer. 31:34).

The old system of being God's chosen people had passed away. God have given the Old Testament, but it was only to the Jews (Rom. 3:1-2), and the rest of mankind were thereby separated from the promises and blessings of that system. Paul turned his back on all that when he learned of God's new religion where there is no distinction between Jews and Greeks (Gal. 3:28). Under that old covenant one was born into a relationship with God (whether one wanted it or not), but in God's new plan one makes his own choice to be born again into God's family (John 3:3-5).

What Has Become New?

Under the New Testament all of this had changed. There is now freedom of choice. The old law was a yoke of bondage (Acts 15:10), but Jesus' new law is easy and light (Matt. 11:30). There is now eternal forgiveness—God no longer remembers our sins because Christ has become our eternal, atoning sacrifice. There is now a new relationship with God—Jesus' model prayer begins, "Our Father who is in heaven." John said it this way, "Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us that we should be called children of God" (1 John 3:1).

What has become new? Paul's answer is "all things have become new." Paul gave up everything to embrace Christianity. Consider this question. What have you given up to become a follower of Jesus? *GR*

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

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



“Dummer Students?”

Are there enough “Dummer” students? Apparently there will be no more Dummer students after the 2004-2005 school year. It's not that they are getting smarter, it's just that there will be no more Dummer school. Over the objections of many alumni, the Governor Dummer Academy, in Newbury, MA, which opened in 1763, is planning to change its name. The school, which has always carried the name of Massachusetts governor William Dummer, has decided that the name is not good for public relations, and makes it hard to recruit students. It seems that too many just don't want to be known as Dummer students. Headmaster John Doggett says they are changing the name because “rightly or wrongly, first impressions make a difference.”

Although I don't have any relationship to the school, it seems sad that a school that has been around for almost 350 years feels like it must change its name. That is for them to decide. Names are important, however. “And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone” (John 1:42). That generous Levite from Cyprus, a great encourager, was renamed by the apostles from Josos to Barnabas [The son of consolation, or son of encouragement] (Acts 4:36-37).

Barnabas understood the importance of bringing Saul (later to be known as Paul) to the great missionary congregation at Antioch. “And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch” (Acts 11:26).

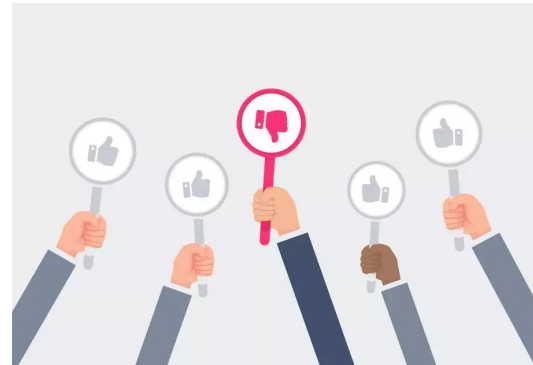
They wore that name of Christian with the understanding that it meant something. Peter said, “Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf” (1 Peter 4:16).

A young soldier that had been a coward was brought before Alexander the Great. When he learned the soldier's name was “Alexander,” he said, “Either change your name, or change your actions!”

If we wear the name Christian, we must live a life unashamed before the world. To do anything else would simply be dumber .

— Bob Prichard

Complaint department— not where you think it is

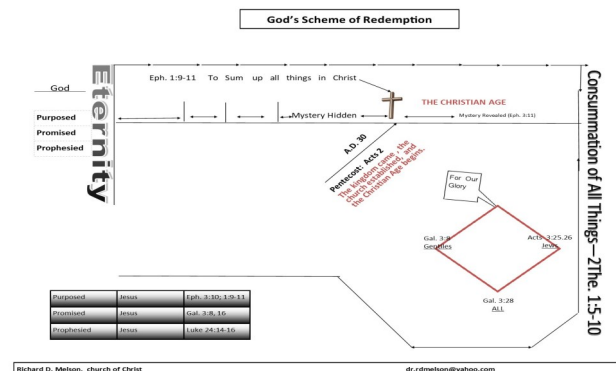


I had someone call me at the church office one time and ask for the HR Office, as they wanted to file a complaint. That was a fun conversation. Have you ever wondered where the “Complaint Department” is for Christians? It's a two-part answer.

Part 1: “Do all things without complaining and disputing” (Phil. 2:14). Well, looks like the “Complaint Department” got closed before it could ever open. Circle the word “all.” No complaining! (Ancient Israel apparently missed this memo.)

Part 2: “I pour out my complaint before Him” (Psa. 142:2). When you've got a complaint, consider Luke 6:31 and then Colossians 3:13, then grab 1 Peter 5:7. After that (or better yet, before that), “cry out to the Lord” (Psa. 142:1). Take your “trouble” (142:2) to Him: “My spirit was overwhelmed...No one acknowledges me...No one cares for my soul...I am brought very low...they are stronger than I” (142:3, 4, 6). After you unload your complaint, remember: “You knew my path...You are my refuge...You shall deal bountifully with me” (142:3, 5, 7). Leave it with Him! He will take care of it...and you!

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



The Importance of Thinking About Heaven

Every wonderful deed that was ever done was first conceived in the mind. There is a clear and obvious connection between the way we think and the way we act. In Proverbs 23:7 the wise man wrote, “For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he,” so we might ask, what should we be thinking about?

Colossians 3:1-2 admonishes, If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

When Paul says “seek” he is using a term that focuses on the heart. We must have a desire for heaven. The word “affection” has more to do with the mind. We should set our minds on—spend time thinking about—heaven.

If you are a New Testament Christian you should spend time thinking about heaven because you have died with Christ. Paul writes, For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory (Colossians 3:3-4).

When Christ died and His body was buried in a tomb His life was hidden. Whoever witnessed his corpse on the cross could not see life in Him. When Joseph of Arimathea and the women who followed carried Jesus to the tomb they could not see life in Him. But that life was revived! When we die with Christ in baptism we kill the old man of sin and our life is continually hidden with Christ (Romans 6:6). Because of this we have a hope of eternal life in heaven (1 Corinthians 15:42-44, 49).

Thinking about heaven also affects your behavior. Paul commands, “Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth...” (Colossians 3:5). This means we must end those parts of ourselves which are earthly, fleshly, and sinful. He provides examples in verses 5-8. Sexual sins and social sins are listed. Thinking about heaven helps me to end my relationship with these transgressions of God's will.

I am benefitted when I think about heaven because it helps me keep the proper perspective in life. I will be more likely to keep my relationships with fellow Christians honest (Colossians 3:9). When I do stumble I'll be willing to confess my faults (James 5:16). I'll want to know more and more about my God, and the wonderful home that has been prepared (Colossians 3:10). My life won't become unbalanced, full of entertainment and earthly activities while starving for the bread of life. Prejudice will be far from me because these earthly distinctions do not matter in God's kingdom. The only distinction that will occupy my mind will be those who have put on Christ, and those who still need to do so.

Spend more time thinking about heaven. It will be time well spent and comes with numerous spiritual benefits. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things (Philippians 4:8).

- Ross Haffner



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