

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	47
Attendance AM	89
Attendance PM	35
Wednesday PM	32

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Mike Mamula; Phil & Kim Tydings; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Nina Netherton; Roy Wallace (surgery); Candace Lawson (Greensboro, NC)- heart failure

Traveling: Norris Cole, II; Deonna Cole;

Prayers: Carolyn Johnson

Repentance:

Baptism: Chantinae' Gray

Sympathy:

Member Birthdays: April — 8 Beulah Farmer 11 Mary Sanders; 12 Diane Cole (Lyle), Jacob Hoover; 18— Mary Rutland; 19—Princess Moore; 23 Norris Cole; 25 Carolyn Johnson

Anniversaries: April — 1—Otis and Glenna Adair

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class May 1 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 5 in "Bible A's for Ladies"

April 20	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Song Leader	Patrick Cook	Lyle Cole
Lead Lord's Supper	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Server 1	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Server 2	Ryan McGahee	Patrick Thomas
Scripture Reader	James Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Sermon	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Closing Prayer	Jerry Thomas	Jerry Thomas
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

April 20, 2025

Issue 16

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

WHAT DOES "EASTER" MEAN TO THE CHRISTIAN

Richard D. Melson

I can imagine that your first reaction to this title is, "Oh this is an article addressing the religious, and condemning the commercial aspect of "Easter". Well, you may be surprised, because what I intend to do here in a very brief way is state what the Bible teaching on the subject is and what New Testament Christians believe and practice.

In the first place the word "Easter" does not even appear in the Greek New Testament. The King James translators "translated" the Greek for passover into the English word easter (Acts 12:4). In many good Bible dictionaries the word easter cannot be found. The reason being it is not a valid Bible subject. Note what is listed in the "Handy Dictionary of the Bible" edited by Merrill C. Tenney- "Easter (passover), rendered Easter in Acts 12:4 KJV, but should be Passover, as in ASV." But where did these men get this from? According to Bede, the name Easter is derived from the pagan spring festival of the Anglo Saxon goddess Eostre, and many folk customs associated with Easter (for example, Easter eggs) are of pagan origin. Easter Day is currently determined as the first Sunday after the full moon on or after March 21.

The religious significance assigned to this day is that of the resurrection of Jesus. As Tenney writes of Easter, "The day on which the church celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ." When Mr. Tenney speaks of the church he speaks of Catholicism specifically and what he and religious world calls Christendom.

What does the Bible say about all this? In Acts 12, the apostle Peter knew nothing about a so-called Easter. If you will note the context of the Acts 12:1-4, king Herod has killed James the brother of John and is seeking to please the Jews (verse 3) "he proceeded further to seize Peter also. Now it was during the Days of Unleavened Bread." (Acts 12:3 NIKV). The Jews knew nothing of an Easter, they knew about the Passover. Luke is stating that Herod intended to arrest Peter and bring him before the Jews after their Passover was finished.

The Bible teaches Christians to commemorate and remember the death of Jesus every first day of the week. This is done when we partake of the Lord's Supper as He has commanded Christians to (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:23-29). The resurrection of Jesus is important to the church, because without the resurrection of Jesus there would be no church (Mt. 16:18, Rom. 1:4; Eph. 2:20). But no where in the New Testament has God authorized the church to set aside one day a year to worship the resurrection of Jesus! Whatever we do in religion must be done by the authority of Christ (Col.3:17), and there is no authority from Jesus to celebrate Easter!

Therefore, true Christians will not get themselves all wrapped up in the doctrines and commandments of men. True Christians will weekly remember the death our Lord accomplished on the cross for our salvation. True Christians are those who have been raised with Christ in water immersion (Rom 6:1-4) for the forgiveness of their past sins and

(continued on page 3)

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

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

On What Day Does The Bible Say The Resurrection of Jesus is to Be Remembered?

There is no scripture which authorizes a commemoration of the resurrection of Christ. Therefore, there is no "special day of the week" or "time of year" that it can be observed with a "thus saith the Lord." In spite of this, most (if not all) denomina-tions celebrate the Lord's resurrection in an annual observance called Easter. National news casts of both radio and television publicize this event as the most important day in the "Christian calendar."

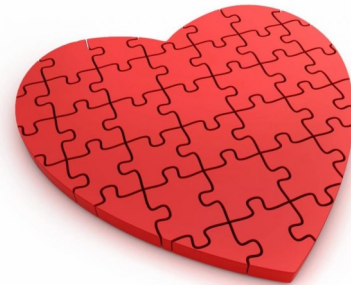
If Easter is the most important event of the year among Christians, you would think we could turn to passages in the Bible and read about it. Therefore, where's the passage that tells of its beginning? Where's the passage that records it's observance? Or, better still, where's the passage that authorizes its observance? Read as long and as much as you can and you will not find it! The observance of Easter finds its origin with man, not with God. I'm sure that is shocking to some, but it is the truth. The observance of Easter, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, is not found in the Bible. It is not authorized from heaven.

In the New Testament, the Lord's resurrection is spoken of in connection with water baptism. Romans 6:3-6 describes baptism as the act in which one becomes a Christian and shows the relation-ship of one's death to sin, burial in water and resurrection from the water with the Lord's death, burial and resurrec-tion from the grave. "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin." Water baptism is a likeness of the Lord's death, burial and resurrection.

Our appeal is to the Bible and the Bible alone. It was written for our in-struc-tion (2 Tim. 3:16-17). It provides us with "all things that pertain unto life and godliness" (2 Peter 1:3). What we do religious-ly must be authorized by God (Col. 3:17). Easter is not.

- Glenn Hitchcock

My whole heart

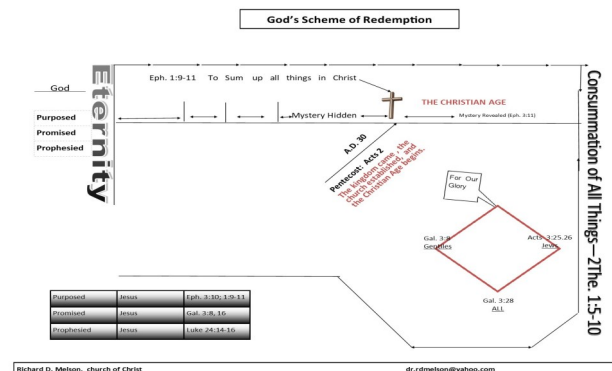


The phrase "my whole heart" is found eight times in the Bible and each of them is in the book of Psalms. Of the eight occurrences in the book of Psalms, five of them are in Psalm 119. All three times the phrase appears outside Psalm 119, the psalmist is saying, "I will praise You, O Lord, with my whole heart" (9:1; 111:1; 138:1), while the five occurrences in Psalm 119 explain how that is done. Think about these. Can you say this?

"I will praise You with my whole heart," for "with my whole heart I have sought You" (119:10). Do you seek the Lord with your whole heart? "I will praise You with my whole heart" when I "observe [Your law]" and "keep Your precepts with my whole heart" (119:34, 69). Do you obey the Lord with your whole heart? "I will praise You with my whole heart," when "I cry out [to You] with my whole heart" and "entreat Your favor with my whole heart" (119:145, 58). Do you cry out to the Lord and entreat His favor with your whole heart?

Do you praise the Lord with your whole heart? We can't hold anything back!

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



(continued from page one)

now live looking forward to His return in the clouds and taking them away to heaven.

Churches of Christ do not involve themselves with the denominational hoopla of what is called "Easter Sunday".

4 Things That Turn People Off of Christianity That We are Trying Not to Do

Have you ever been in a restaurant and lost your appetite because of something that happened? Perhaps you found a hair in your food or the person handling the money didn't wash his/her hands before preparing your food. Sometimes, spiritual appetites are lost in the same way. There are four things that some Christians do that cause people to lose their spiritual appetites.

Hypocrisy. For Christ to live in us, our hearts have to be pure and holy (Matthew 5:8; Philippians 4:8). No one is perfect, but we must strive to live up to the standards we teach others from Scripture.

Hopelessness. A cynical worldview, a depressing outlook, or a complaining attitude do not speak well of one's faith in an all-powerful, all-knowing, all-sufficient God. One reason the first century church multiplied so rapidly was because men could see their hope (Acts 2:42-47). Keep your hope "lively" (1 Peter 1:3-4).

Harshness. The servant of the Lord is to be gentle, not gruff (2 Timothy 2:24). Instruction is to be given in meekness, not meanness. Satan loves harsh teachers, for they drive men in his direction and often harden hearts to the point that loving teachers have trouble getting through the scar tissue left behind. Speak the truth, but

speak it in love (Ephesians 4:15). "A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle" (Proverbs 18:19).

Haughtiness. Answers to others are to be given with respect ("fear," 1 Peter 3:15). A holier-than-thou attitude cools off the interest of those asking. We must not be "highminded, but fear" (Romans 11:20).

If you have lost your appetite at a restaurant, did you decide never to eat again? No. Did you vow to prepare your own meals from now on? Probably not. If someone professing to be a Christian has disappointed you, don't reject Christianity altogether. Find a better place. Feed your soul.

—Wade Webster

I appreciate brother Webster's article; in addition remember this key thing - just because a person attempts to use any one of these excuses as why they have not obeyed the gospel or why they worship at another congregation of the Lord's people, each will have to give an account to God (Rom. 2:16; 2 Cor. 5:10).

- ☞ **Potter Children's Home**—Commodity Pick Up is on Monday April 28th at 2:00 PM
- ☞ We have a few copies remaining of the 2025 MSOP lectureship book— "Teach All Nations" the cost is \$30
- ☞ Take a "Christian Gift Card" and give it away to someone you meet.



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** or **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 ; 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