

# THE EDIFIER

Volume 06

May 11, 2025

Issue 19

[www.needmoreroadcoc.com](http://www.needmoreroadcoc.com)

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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](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

## CONQUERORS OF DEATH

Dan Jenkins

Satan deceived Eve about death and since that time he tried to use death to lead men away from God. What happens to a person when he dies was not readily apparent in the Old Testament. When Job asked, "If a man dies, shall he live again?" (Job 14:14), he expressed how little was known about death before Christ came. In fact, Job in that same chapter said, "Man dies...he breathes his last and where is he?" (v. 10). References to the resurrection are vaguely found in the Old Testament, but it is in the New Testament that Christ "...abolished death and brought life an immortality to light through the gospel" (2 Tim. 1:10).

The writer of Hebrews described this truth and how drastically Jesus changed mankind's view of death. Jesus became flesh in order that, by His death, "...He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage" (2:14-15). Without His resurrection, we too would look at death so differently. This lack of knowledge about death could so easily overwhelm us when our loved ones die. Without His resurrection, we would have a fear of death, and that fear would be used by Satan to bring us under the bondage of fear. Jesus was born; Jesus died; Jesus was raised. We are born; we die; we will be raised!

Put yourself in the place of Cain, Adam and Eve. Abel had been alive, and something so strange had happened. Where was Abel? They knew where his body was, but was that lifeless body all there was to man's existence? There are ten generations from Adam to Noah, and nine times the Bible uses the expression, "and he died," to describe man's existence on the earth.

The one exception to describe the end of Adam's descendants is in the seventh generation. "So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him" (Gen. 5:23-24). At that time, men lived over nine hundred years, and some might have said about Enoch, "He died so young."

Look at this realistically. What a hopeless view of living nine hundred years where every day of your life you dealt with a cursed ground, its thorns and thistle and spent every day dealing with the sweat of your face until your body returned to that cursed ground (Gen. 3:17-19).

Before Enoch left, he said, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all...who are ungodly" (Jude 15). This is one glimpse of the resurrection in the Old Testament. How blessed we are to know about His empty tomb and face death without any fear! We are more than conquerors over death (Rom. 8:36-37)! ✍

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

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

## It doesn't count

On August 8, 1988, the Chicago Cubs played the first ever night game at Wrigley Field. For nearly 60 years, other teams were playing at night and were seeing a huge increase in attendance and revenue. So on August 8, 1988, the Chicago Cubs finally hosted their first night game under the lights.

However, if you look at the record books, you will see that the first night game at Wrigley Field was not played on August 8, 1988, but on August 9, 1988. Why the discrepancy? Because the first game didn't count. It was rained out in the fourth inning. So while the players played and fans cheered at Wrigley field on August 8, what they were doing that night didn't count.

I can't help but think of how many spiritual applications this historical tidbit packs.

- Consider how many people eat the Lord's Supper each week, but fail to remember Jesus while doing so. No one can deny they attempted to memorialize Jesus, but their attempt "didn't count" (1 Corinthians 11:27).
- Consider how many people sit on a pew and respectfully bow their heads in prayer, but their lives are full of hidden sins. While an attempt was made to pray, it "didn't count" (James 5:16).
- Consider how many hymns are sung by people who give no thought to the words they are singing because they're more concerned about the musical notation and aesthetics. While an attempt at praise was made, it "didn't count" (Ephesians 5:19).
- Consider how many people are "baptized," but through a mode or for reasons that are not authorized. While an attempt was made in such cases, "it didn't count" (Romans 6:17).
- Consider how many good works are done to be "seen of men." While no one would deny the works helped the recipients, it "didn't count" for the one doing the works (1 Corinthians 13:3).

On August 8, 1988 the players played just as hard as they did on August 9, 1988. On August 8, 1988, the fans cheered just as enthusiastically as they did on August 9, 1988. Yet, in spite of their efforts and feelings, the game on August 8, 1988 didn't count because of the rules.

Likewise, friends, the religion of Jesus has rules. If we want to be pleasing to God, more is required of us than just "doing" and "feeling;" we must "do" and "feel" according to the rules (2 Timothy 2:5).

—Steve Higgenbotham

## Those who have hope

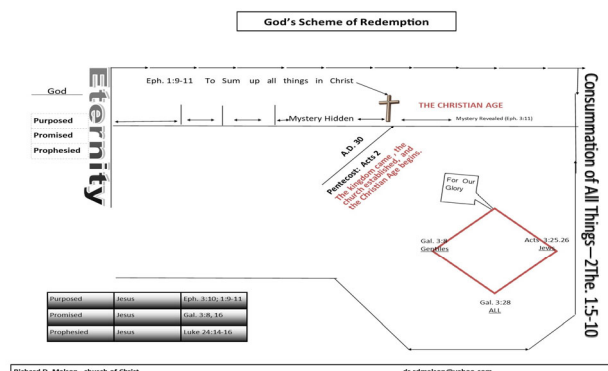


Paul wrote about those who face the sorrow of death and "have no hope" (1 Thess. 4:13). Their loved one was outside of Christ—a place where there is "no hope" (Eph. 2:12). But, he wanted those inside of Christ to know that they may sorrow at the loss of a faithful child of God, but their sorrow is tempered by hope. How?

Those who have hope at the death of a faithful child of God are those who truly "believe that Jesus died and rose again" (1 Thess. 4:14). That gives hope! They truly believe that, when Jesus returns, He "will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus" (4:14). That gives hope! If Jesus is bringing them with Him, that means that they must have gone "from the body...to be present with the Lord" (2 Cor. 5:8). That gives hope! One day, we will "be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air" (1 Thess. 4:17). That gives hope!

Those who suffer the loss of a faithful child of God still have grief. But hopefully God's "words" of "comfort" (1 Thess. 4:18) instill a renewed hope in the midst of that grief.

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



## Melson's Musings ...


## LOSS OF EFFICIENCY





### That I May Finish My Course


*Father, grant 'ere set of sun  
That I may see my task well done;  
Something attempted --- let it be  
A finished work, Dear Lord, for thee.  
At dawn I looked upon my field  
And dreamed of harvest's golden yield;  
I set my hand, Lord, to the plow,  
Nor have I yet turned back, but now,  
I pray Thee strength and wisdom send  
To carry on unto the end.  
Through winter snow, and summer heat,  
I've walked Thy way with willing feet.  
I've cleared Thy land of brush and weed  
And plowed the soil and sowed the seed,  
And felt the joy of those who know  
The seed they sow will live and grow.  
But other fields are waste and bare,  
And I would fain go labor there:  
Give me strength, O Lord, and years,  
To work with joy and even with tears.  
That other workers may be won,  
To take the task when mine is done.  
And grant me 'ere the darkness close  
To earn a share in that repose  
That waits for those who spend their days,  
In faith and prayer and work and praise --  
The joy of harvest, full, complete  
Sheaves to lay, Lord, at Thy feet.*

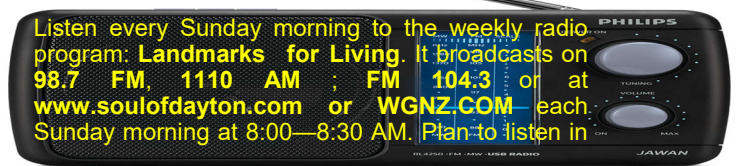
- G. C. Brewer

The raging hotel fire was gaining headway. The fire-fighting equipment was adequate, and the firemen were experienced in fighting flares; the only difficulty was the insufficient water pressure. Upon investigation, it was discovered that little leaks, dripping faucets, and faulty valves caused the loss of thousands of gallons of water. Hence the much-needed pressure was unavailable. Many business organizations have leaks that sap their strength and decrease their efficiency. Efficiency experts are employed to locate and remedy these leaks. The Lord's church, also, must remedy leaks. Members who are indifferent, half-hearted, and selfish represent a tremendous loss of vitality, productivity, and influence for the cause of Christ. Are you one whose lukewarm attitude toward Christ and His church is retarding the effectiveness of the work of Christ? Read 2 Corinthians 13:5-6. 

-  Ladies brunch and knitting/crochet May 17th at 9am
-  Mini VBS—June 15-18, Theme: The Name of Jesus



-  Take a "Christian Gift Card" and give it away to someone you meet.



## 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

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	59
Attendance AM	90
Attendance PM	48
Wednesday PM	32

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Phil & Kim Tydings; Dana Grigsby; Krubo Joploh (The Christ Hospital); Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Nina Netherton; Darlene Pugh; Leon Berry (Cincinnati)

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

**Prayers:** Marie Tolley

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:**

**Sympathy:** Blanks/Jones/ Thomas family

**Member Birthdays:** May — 2—April Gilbert 4 - Patrick Thomas; 19— James Grigsby; 30 – Ron Robbins

**Anniversaries:** May — None

**Ladies Reading Group:** Zoom Class May 15 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 6 in "Bible A's for Ladies"

May 11	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
Song Leader	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Michael Blanks, Jr.
Lead Lord's Supper	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Server 1	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Server 2	Phil Tydings	Anthony Grigsby
Scripture Reader	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Sermon	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Closing Prayer	Patrick Cook	Patrick Cook
Announcements	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. 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>**