

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	46
Attendance AM	65
Attendance PM	35
Wednesday PM	33

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Kevin Gilbert (home); Otis Adair (Miami Valley Hospital); Carlene Harley; Krubo Joplo; Richard & Florine Thomas; Pat Norris (home); Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Janis Bland; Rhonda Fox

Traveling: Richard Melson, Jr.; Eslick family;

Prayers:

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Member Birthdays: October— 2— Virginia Robbins; 6— Kevin Gilbert; 9— Victoria Dudley; 14— Patrick Cook; 16— Judy Arnett; 17—Dollie Jones; Mozella Tate; Nancy Weimer

Anniversaries: October — 1— Thomas & Mary Vance

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class Oct. 15 @ 6:00 PM
Chapter 13 in “The Begging Place”

October 11	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Song Leader	Chris Poole	Lyle Cole
Lead Lord’s Supper	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Table	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Table	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Scripture Reader	James Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Sermon	R.D. Melson	R.D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Closing Prayer	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Announcements	R. D. Melson	R. D. Melson
Greeter	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
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 07

October 11, 2026

Issue 41

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
R.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

WHEN THE SAINTS SLEEP

Dan Jenkins

I think that many who read these words know the story of Eutychus, the man who went to sleep and fell out the window while Paul was preaching. He actually missed out on hearing the great apostle preach.

What we may have overlooked is other times when individuals went to sleep and almost missed being part of some of the most remarkable times in history. This lack of knowledge makes it difficult to see and learn the lessons from other times when men slept.

Jesus only took three of the apostles to the mountain where He was to be transfigured and engaged in conversations with Moses and Elijah. These men went with Jesus who went to the mountain to pray with Him (Luke 9:28). I cannot imagine what it would have been like to hear the Master pray. Can you believe that these three men could have heard His prayers, but they fell asleep (Luke 9:32)? Had they not been asleep they could have known the full conversation Jesus, Moses and Elijah had.

The apostles slept in Gethsemane and were not there to watch and pray with Jesus as the enemies were approaching. At first, He woke the disciples but later let them sleep. Jesus needed them, and they had fallen asleep. Saints sometimes sleep when others need us.

There are times when saints “sleep,” and those times become a great blessing. Before Jesus’ resurrection, the fear of death brought bondage to mankind (Heb. 2:14-15). He who was the resurrection and life did not see death in this way. His disciples did not understand why Jesus wanted to go the Bethany and wake Lazarus up (John 11:12-13). Yet, we know what He meant when He said He was going to awake Him from sleep.

Seeing death as going to sleep removes the fear we have of the unknown nature of death. We go to sleep every night and rest, and we do it without fear. When saints die, the truth is that they have fallen asleep awaiting the morning of their resurrection.

When Jesus arrived at the house where a twelve-year-old girl had died, the Bible describes what was happening as loud wailing, tumult and commotion. When Jesus said that she was not dead, but simply asleep, they ridiculed Him. He used their definition of death and not His. When properly understood, death is like going to sleep. We do not fear going to sleep and saints should never react as the world does when someone dies.

At the end, there will be the final trumpet that sounds, and there will be a resurrection of all that are in the grave. While the world views death as the end, Christians see it so differently. It is not the end! It is the beginning! Our bodies sleep; our souls are with Jesus. God hasten the day! ~

STRONGER THAN EVER IN 2026 - EPH. 6:10

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

Defiantly Trust in the Lord

Are God’s details optional?

One of the most extraordinary figures in the Bible is Caleb. Caleb was one of the twelve spies sent to report on the land of Canaan. When he and Joshua refused to side with the bad report of the other ten, he became one of the greatest examples of trusting in the Lord.

When Israel arrived at the river Jordan, they were fully equipped to trust in the mighty power of God. They saw how the Lord parted the Red Sea and swallowed up Pharaoh’s army (Ex. 14:28-29), they saw the Lord deliver them from the Amalekites in Rephidim as Moses raised his hands (Ex. 17:8-13), and they heard the voice of the Lord as Moses brought to them the Ten Commandments (Ex. 19:9-25).

But, when the spies returned from the Land of Canaan, they feared the inhabitants over the power of God. In Numbers 13:28, the fearful spies reported to Moses, “Nevertheless the people who dwell in the land are strong; the cities are fortified and very large; moreover we saw the descendants of Anak there.” These ten spies still had not learned to trust in the Lord. Arrogantly, they tried to use their majority to dominate the report and sway Moses to retreat from Canaan.

Caleb, however, refused to let their numbers intimidate him. In verse 30, the Bible says, “Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, ‘Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it.’” Caleb defied the majority and stood up for the Lord who guided them out of Egypt.

Caleb would go on to defend the Lord with Joshua against the congregation of Israel, but they did not listen. Israel wandered in the wilderness for forty years, and none of their generation entered the promised land except Caleb and Joshua. The majority succeeded swaying the crowd, but Caleb succeeded at remaining in God’s favor.

Caleb stands as an example for us to never let the majority be the arbiter of righteousness. It does not matter how many voices are behind something if it defies the will of God. Faithful children of God must be willing to stand up and quiet those who speak against the commands of the Lord.

Many today say that if the church doesn’t modernize her doctrines, she won’t survive the changing culture. They are cowards. We must be like Caleb and defiantly trust in the Lord. We know the power of God and that He has promised that the church will endure any trial (cf. Matt. 16:18). Then, we know what we must do. “Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong” (1 Cor. 16:13).

– Robert Lupo

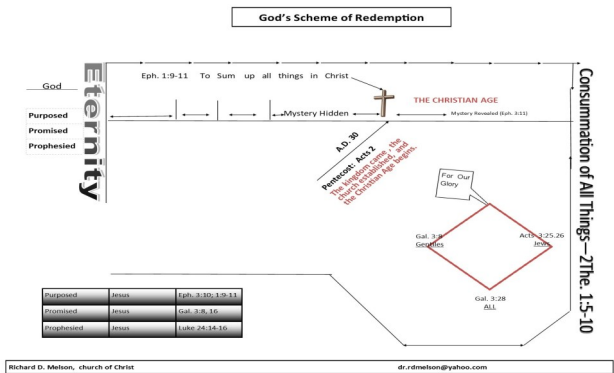


When God gave His instructions to Joshua for the conquering of Jericho, there were numerous details involved. The Israelites were to “march around the city” (Josh. 6:3)? What if they wanted to run instead? No! March! They were to “go all around the city once” for “six days” (6:3). What they did it for five days? What about eight days? What if they got it all out of the way in one day? No! Details matter to God! The seven priests with trumpets were to go “before the ark” (6:4). What about behind the ark? No! Before the ark—just like God said.

We could keep going, but you get the idea. When God specifies, it is not up to man to innovate or substitute! The same is true today! When God specifies for men to take positions of leadership in the church and its worship (1 Tim. 2:8-14), those details are not optional. When God specifies for singing in worship (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16) and weekly communion (Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:17-34; 16:1-2), those details are not optional.

When God specifies, man must obey! There is no room for man’s innovations (Rev. 22:18-19)!?

David Sproule
A Thought from the Word



Melson’s Musings ...



A Tree That Failed

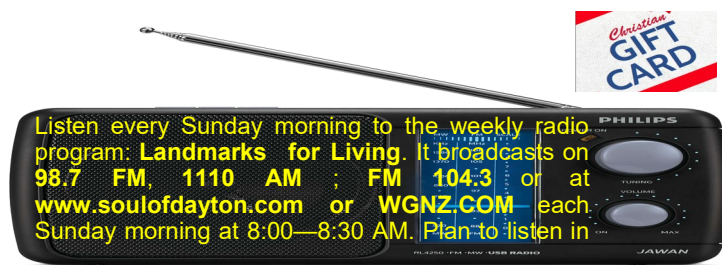
Not long before Jesus went to the cross, He destroyed a fig tree (Mark 11:12-14, 20-26). In the midst of journeying toward Jerusalem where the most significant moment in history would take place, this encounter might seem to hold little significance. Yet, on His way, Jesus did condemn a tree. “Seeing at a distance a fig tree in leaf, He went to see if perhaps He would find anything on it; and when He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. He said to it, ‘May no one ever eat fruit from you again!’ And His disciples were listening” (Mark 11:13-14). Later, Jesus and His followers returned, and the tree was “withered from the roots up” (Mark 11:20).

At this point, Jesus used the dead tree as a lesson about prayers of faith. This was an opportunity for insight concerning the dimensions and the power of prayer. But before that when He first confronted the tree, the issue at hand was something else. The issue at hand was a tree failing as a tree. For Jesus, this was not a simple outburst of frustration. Fueled by anger, Jesus would soon enter the temple and carry out some extreme renovation in order to make a point (Mark 11:15). His displeasure toward the tree also had a purpose. When He first approached the fig tree, He was not pleased when He discovered it was missing a key element, figs. Apparently, leaves alone do not a tree make, but Jesus’ disapproval certainly had a deeper level. This was not an agricultural issue. As always, Jesus’ focus was on souls. So, it is no great leap to suggest that the tree was being compared to a person. God often established this parallel. He used David to describe a righteous man as “a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither” (Psalm 1:3). This also

brings to mind the drastic implications John presented to the unrepentant. “And he answered and said to him, ‘Let it alone, sir, for this year too, until I dig around it and put in fertilizer; and if it bears fruit next year, fine; but if not, cut it down’” (Luke 13:8-9). There were certain expectations concerning this tree.

If expectations were not met, there was a limit to the time allowed for it to do what trees are supposed to do—produce fruit. Anyone who followed Christ would be expected to live a life that produced “fruit.” This is what defines a tree: “you will know them by their fruits” (Matt. 7:16-18). The lesson here is that people are defined in the same way, and the ultimate fate of a person is determined by what is produced by his life. “Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire” (Matt. 7:19). Another lesson is being ready in season and out of season. The tree was out of season (Mark 11:13). We need to be ready even out of season (2 Tim. 4:2; Titus 3:1; Luke 12:40).

- Josh Blackmer, 2022



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 — (we are updating this information—check your provider listing)
- Anchor of the Soul: www.anchorofthesoultv.com
- 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