

August 03, 2025

EDIFIER

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RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class69

Attendance AM97

Attendance PM40

Wednesday PM41

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health:

Traveling:

Prayers:

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Member Birthdays:

Anniversaries:

Ladies Reading Group:

Dana Grigsby; Krubo Joploh; Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Naomi Shields

Norris Cole, II, Richard Melson, Jr. Dollie Jones; Mozilla Tate ; Norris Cole

Richard D. Melson

Richard D. Melson

Zoom Class August 7 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 10 in “Bible A’s for Ladies”

7– Dwayne &Tena Eslick; 25– Richard & Valerie Melson; 31— Patrick & Penny Cook; Patrick & Ashley Thomas

10 – Diane Cole (Norris); 11– Ashley Thomas; 20 - Ryan McGahee, Marie Tolley; 21 - Naree Poole

August 03

BRETHREN TO SERVE AM

BRETHREN TO SERVE PM

Opening Prayer

Song Leader

Lead Lord’s Supper

Server 1

Server 2

Scripture Reader

Sermon

Prayer for Responses

Closing Prayer

Announcements

Greeter

Usher

Usher

Norris Cole

Michael Blanks, Jr.

Anthony Grigsby

Tony Moore

Jerry Thomas

James Grigsby

Richard D. Melson

Richard D. Melson

Frank Brock

Patrick Thomas

Samuel Jones

Anthony Grigsby

Norris Cole

Patrick Cook

Anthony Grigsby

Tony Moore

Jerry Thomas

James Grigsby

Richard D. Melson

Richard D. Melson

Frank Brock

Patrick Thomas

Samuel Jones

Anthony Grigsby

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

August 03, 2025

Issue 31

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

Is SINCERITY The STANDARD FOR ACCEPTABILITY?

Winfred Clark

One should hasten to emphasize the necessity of sincerity. Surely one must be sincere in religious matters (Matt. 22:37; Eph. 6:24; 1 Peter 2:2; II Cor. 8:8; Phil. 1:17; 1 Peter 1:22). Proper motivation is of utmost importance.

There are numerous examples where people have shown deep sincerity in religious matters. The woman who feeds her child to crocodiles pays a tremendous price. Would you for a moment doubt her fervent sincerity? I surely would not. You would try to teach her better, wouldn't you? You would have her cease such a practice even though she was sincere. In this case, you would not allow that sincerity is the standard of acceptability. In fact, you would try to show her that more than sincerity is demanded. You wouldn't endorse what she did though she is sincere. You wouldn't endorse it because you know God doesn't. You would not be sectarian because you did that, would you? Could this lady be sincerely wrong on this point and still be saved? If she could, wouldn't you render a disservice to her to try to get her to give up the practice?

I think Sarah was sincere in her proposal that Abraham father a child of Hagar (Gen. 16:2). Surely you wouldn't doubt her sincerity, but would that justify the practice? The intentions of both Sarah and Abraham were good. They wanted to obtain a child. Would their sincerity and good intentions make void Genesis 2:24? Wouldn't you have an addition and substitution in this situation in spite of the sincerity and good intentions of both parties involved? Who among us would endorse this state of affairs in spite of the sincerity?

Take the case of Saul of Tarsus and his violent persecution of the church. You must freely admit his total sincerity. He tells of such. To the council he said, “Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day” (Acts 23:1). I have no reason to doubt that. Such a life would demand sincerity. He later stated that he “verily thought that he ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth” (Acts 26:9). Again, one finds an affirmation of his sincerity. I wouldn't doubt it for a moment. But, is that alone the standard for acceptability? If so, he didn't need to change, did he? You would hasten to say that he must change. You would say this because his practice was wrong in spite of his sincerity. Could he still be sincere in his opposition after he learned the truth about his mistake?

Now, does a person's sincerity in the use of mechanical instruments in New Testament worship mean God will accept such a practice? After all, it is a practice for which there is no authority. It is a practice of presumption. Such adds to and substitutes from that which God ordains in worship (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16). There is no scriptural authority for its use in New Testament worship! Sincerity will not change that fact. Sincerity will not make it

(continued on page 3)

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

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

Are We a Cult?



This article appeared nearly twenty years ago, but the truth of it remains current and valid today (RDM).

In the wake of the tragic murder of Matthew Winkler, many have been trying to make sense of what happened. Nancy Grace, of CNN discussed some of the issues on March 27, 2006. The transcript of the program includes her interview with Tom Rukala, a Baptist preacher from Selmer, TN, the city where Matthew Winkler preached. Mr. Rukala appears to have some personal animosity to the church, which caused him to say several erroneous things, including the charge that the church of Christ is a “borderline cult.”

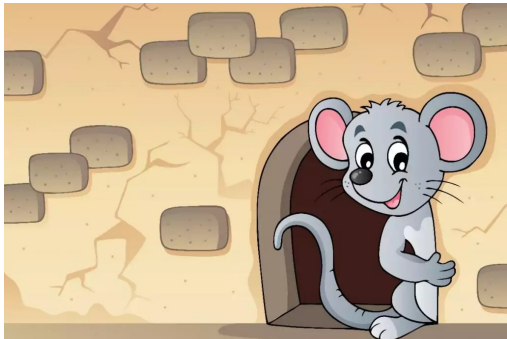
Many wonder why Ms. Grace, who indicated she knows little about the church, would ask a Baptist preacher about the church of Christ. It seems illogical to us, but most people in the media know nothing about the religious world, so such a mistake is not to be unexpected.

What is a cult? The usual definition of a cult in modern religious circles is that of a group that denies the deity of Christ, and accepts inspiration beyond the Bible (either written or verbal). As the Evangelical Dictionary of Theology (p. 289) points out, the word “cult” is very often used today for its propaganda value, as in this recent use on CNN.

By the usual definition, we certainly would not be considered a cult by most people. We must realize, however, that as long as there is some propaganda value in saying we are a cult, some will resort to this kind of name calling. We should not be surprised that this is happening. As a prisoner in his own hired house in Rome, Paul called the chief of the Jews together to learn about the church, of which they said, “we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that every where it is spoken against” (Acts 28:22). Let us pray that others will desire to hear even today about this sect that is everywhere spoken against. Peter and other apostles rejoiced “that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name. And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ” (Acts 5:41-42). We should do the same!

- Bob Prichard

When the cat’s away

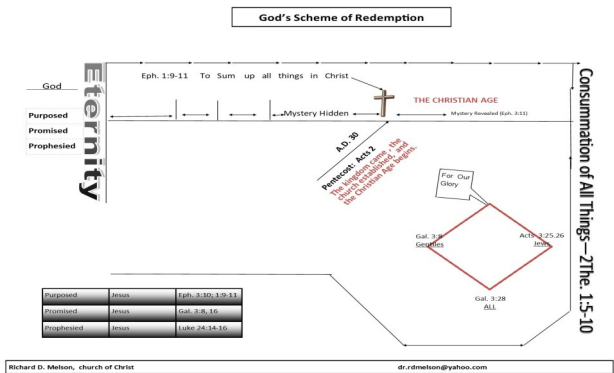


You’ve heard it before. “When the cat’s away, the mice will play.” The saying has often been used to describe the behavior of certain individuals when they know that they are not being watched and no one else is around to see them.

This is a dangerous philosophy for Christians to live by, and the Bible warns about such. Slaves, for example, might have been tempted to behave differently when their master was not around, but God instructed not to act “with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ” (Col. 3:22-24).

To what situation could this apply in your life? When the boss isn’t around? When your parents aren’t around? When your spouse isn’t around? When your church friends or elders aren’t around? Remember, the Lord is always around! Behave like Christ all the time... for His sake!

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson’s Musings ...



(continued from page one)

acceptable anymore than such would make ice cream and cake a part of the Lord's Supper acceptable. In fact, you wouldn't attempt to justify the latter on that basis.

May I hasten to add you are not sectarian to point out these matters of grave importance. For we all know sincerity is not the justifiable standard for the mother who feeds her child to a crocodile, nor for Sarah and Abraham's substitution of Hagar, nor for Saul of Tarsus and his persecution of the church, nor for the addition of a mechanical instrument into New Testament worship. These stand or fall together. *✍*

We Adore Thee !

O Jehovah, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! When we consider thy heavens, the works of thy fingers, the moon and the stars innumerable, what is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? Man is but a grain of sand on a desert, a drop in the ocean, a mote in the sun. How marvelous the thought that are we the objects of thy tenderest love and care!

We behold thy glory in the universe. Day by day we meet thee in nature. The mildness of the morning, the radiance of the noon-day, and the beauty of the setting-sun-all remind us of thee. When we walk alone in the silence of the night, we are aware of thy presence. The bright monarch of the day reminds us of thy power, the starry heavens speak of thy beauty, the gentle rain whispers of thy mercy, and the thunder speaks of thy majesty.

O Jehovah, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! May we ever adore thy great name and serve thee with reverence and awe.

In the name of thy Son and our Savior. Amen.

- L.D. Harless, December 1957

Date	Subject	Speaker
6/4	Romans 1	Bob Vincent
6/11	Romans 2	Richard Melson
6/18	Romans 3	Tim Hatfield
6/25	Romans 4	Richard Melson
7/2	Romans 5	Mark Phillips
7/9	Romans 6	Phil Gear
7/16	Romans 7	Sabin Johnson
7/23	Romans 8	Kevin Berry
7/30	Romans 9	Sabin Johnson
8/6	Romans 10	Richard Melson
8/13	Romans 11	Richard Melson
8/20	Romans 12-13	Patrick Powers
8/27	Romans 14-15	Richard Melson
9/3	Romans 16	Richard Melson

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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