

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	48
Attendance AM	81
Attendance PM	38
Wednesday PM	35

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Mary Rutland; Dana Grigsby; Kay Feldman; Mary Sanders; Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Phil Tydings; Anthony Givens (LA) suffered a stroke; Geri Allen (LA)

Traveling:

Prayers:

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy: Florine Thomas & Dollie Jones (death of cousin in Detroit. MI)

Member Birthdays: December— 5— Herman Farmer; 11—Nina Netherton; 15—Dana Grigsby, Dwayne Eslick, Sr., Richard Melson; 23— Tony Moore; 24— Mia Gilbert; 26 – Theresa Wallace;

Anniversaries: December— 27—Tony & Princess Moore

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class Jan. 08 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 1 in “The Begging Place”

December 14	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Song Leader	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Partrick Cook
Lead Lord’s Supper	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Server 1	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Server 2	Ryan McGahee	Ryan McGahee
Scripture Reader	Jaren Sutherlin	Jaren Sutherlin
Sermon	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Closing Prayer	Jerry Thomas	Jerry Thomas
Announcements	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
Greeter	Samuel Jones	Samuel Jones
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 06December 14, 2025Issue 50

AS THE END APPROACHES


Dan Jenkins

When Paul wrote his epistle to the church at Rome, he reminded them of the urgency of being prepared for whatever was in their future. The Romans knew the times that lay before them (13:11), and Paul told them how to prepare. Their approaching trial may be different from one each of us faces—the end of our lives—but Paul’s words seem so applicable to what each of us must do as we see the end approaching.

As the end approaches, we must awake out of our sleep (13:11). Paul said, “It is high time to awake out of sleep for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.” There is a grave danger of complacency overtaking us spiritually. We may be like the apostles in Gethsemane who failed to listen to the Lord’s admonition, “Watch and pray.” Yet, they slept! As the end comes closer to each of us, let us watch and be sober.

As the end approaches, we must lay aside six fleshly sins (13:14). Paul said, “Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness . . . let us walk properly . . . not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.” Our God created us as eternal souls residing in fleshly bodies, but it is so easy to forget this and live fleshly lives. One of life’s greatest sorrows is to see those who were once steadfast in their devotion now allow the flesh to gain supremacy over their souls. Look at the six sins Paul lists and guard against them. Our salvation is nearer than when we first believed, but so is our condemnation if worldliness destroys our spiritually. Christianity is a life of continual growth which began at our spiritual birth and ends with our physical death. The end is coming!

As the end approaches, we must clothe ourselves in an armor of light (13:12). Paul said, “Let us put on the armor of light.” The words “put on” are set in contrast to that which we must “cast off.” The six sins he lists are called the “works of darkness,” and our guarantee of victory is found in the armor of light. Paul amplified these two verses later when he said, “Put on the Lord Jesus Christ.” Becoming like Christ begins when we put on Christ in baptism (Gal. 3:27), but it does not end there. We walk in the light as He is in the light (1 John 1:7), and we are transformed every day to be more like Him. As the end approaches, let us put on Christ.

As the end approaches, we cannot make any provision to compromise with sin (13:14). Paul said, “Make no provision for the flesh.” There is no room to compromise when it comes to truth. Truth is absolute, and it is always right to do right. That determination we had to stand for truth when we first believed must never leave us. The end is approaching: watch, pray and be sober! 

www.needmoreroadcoc.com
Phone: (937) 274-6801
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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

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

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

Forgetting



True forgetting really means finer memory; it is displacing one memory by another, by a stronger one, an antidotal one. It means concentrating on the second phase so that the first is weakened and neutralized, and fades out like a well-treated ink stain. It is removing a weed from the garden of thought and then planting a live, sturdy flower in its stead. It is cultivating new interests, new relations, new activities. Time helps wonderfully, but especially when we go into partnership with time.

-Author Unknown

I may be reminded that to talk about forgetting what we cannot help remembering is a contradiction in terms. So it is, but, thank God, it is not a contradiction in experience. Others besides the Apostle Paul have come to realize that literal remembrance and moral forgetfulness can exist side by side in the same memory and heart. I have done things in the past that I remember with sorrow and contrition. But I have repented of them, and prayed for grace to bring forth fruits meet for repentance. And God has enabled me to realize his forgiveness so effectually that today the sins, while remembered, are morally forgotten.

-Goethe, on Philippians 3:13

Fine forgetfulness is the condition of moral progress. We must be perpetually cutting ourselves free from the past, if we are to push on to a larger and better future. The artist forgets his early failures, the author his first grotesque experiments in literature, and the saint his first stumbling steps, for the same reason—a reason which is imperative—that no progress is possible to a mind clogged by the weight of past errors. And herein lies the final justification of Christ's doctrine: we are allowed to forget only on condition that we aspire.

-Author Unknown

-Selected

With your two best friends

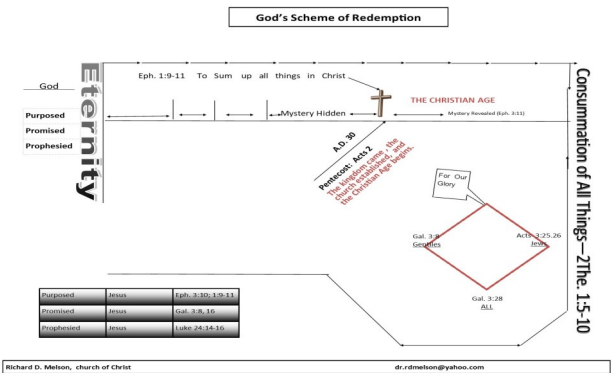


After referencing Jesus' words in Mark 12:25, "For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage," a Christian lady once observed, "I'm not sure that I want to be in heaven if I can't be there with my husband as my husband." Isn't interesting how we think we have a better idea of what will make heaven "heaven" than God does?!

So, if a husband and wife are not considered "married" or "husband and wife" in heaven, does that mean that two faithful Christians won't be happy there together? Is your spouse your "best friend"? (If not, why not?) Then, with whom would you rather be in heaven than your best friend as your best friend?

"But," someone says, "I'm not married." Ok. Who's your best friend (besides Jesus)? Is your best friend a faithful Christian like you are? If not, what are you doing about that? Shouldn't your best friend here be the one that you try the very hardest to be your best friend there? What will truly make heaven "heaven" is to be there with your two best friends—Jesus and your best earthly friend who you take with you.

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



The Art of Forgetting

"Forgetting those things which are behind" (Philippians 3:13)

One reason for Paul's success is that he practiced a wise forgetfulness. Most of us go about with an excess of unnecessary baggage. Fears, questions, and annoying memories take their toll on life and reduce our efficiency. For much of this, there is one remedy - a skill in forgetting.

To be able to dismiss annoyances is a great accomplishment. It is a necessity if one would be happy ' There are many things which bring misery if brooded upon. Let each one do some serious thinking and let us talk to ourselves:

"Is it going to give me peace of mind to harbor this incident?"

"Will it destroy my poise and good humor?"

"Am I keeping it in memory in order to settle it or for the purpose of feeling abused?"

"Am I eager to have a wrong made right or to have my own vanity satisfied?"

"I feel that I was a victim, and that I suffered an injustice," said one, "but when I began to add up the total of life, I found I had more beautiful memories than sad ones. We, I and myself, agreed to drop the matter."

Another said, "I found I was giving more worry to those matters than I could afford in view of the little energy I had to waste on such. So, I decided to think on pleasant things."

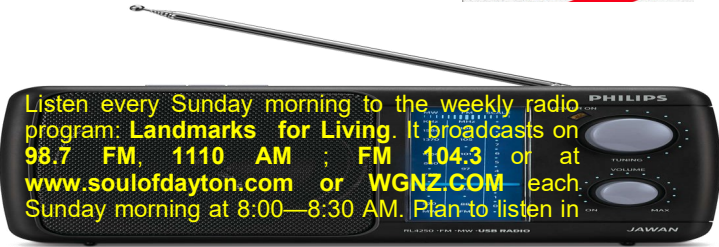
When we have done what we can to correct our mistakes, when we have repented and obeyed God, he forgives and forgets (Hebrews 8:12). Why should we let the past haunt us and kill our usefulness?

- Raymond C. Kelcy

ANTECEDENTS

The antecedent of a building is a builder.
The antecedent of a book is an author.
The antecedent of a nest is a nest-builder.
The antecedent of a mighty oak is an acorn-the seed.
The antecedent of a work of art is an artist.
The antecedent of the creation-the sun, moon and stars innumerable-is the Creator.
The antecedent of life is the Life-Giver. Only from life can life come.

- ☞ Potter Children's Home Coin Can— We have several empty coin cans in the office. Please pickup one to fill.
- ☞ Check out the new tract titles in the rack
- ☞ Take a **"Christian Gift Card"** and give it away to someone you meet.



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