

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	35
Attendance AM	35
Attendance PM	32
Wednesday PM	40

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: The Bogan family—cousin of sister Naree Poole and William Bogan (brother Willie Lee Bogan, of Erie, PA).

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 21	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Song Leader	Patrick Cook	Lyle Cole
Lead Lord’s Supper	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Server 1	Chris Poole	Chris Poole
Server 2	James Grigsby	James Grigsby
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Ryan McGahee
Sermon	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Closing Prayer	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Announcements	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
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 06

December 21, 2025

Issue 51

CHRISTMAS

R.C. Oliver

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

I shall be forever grateful to men recognized for their faithfulness, maturity and wisdom, who have gone before, especially men of the 1930's and 1940's who wrote articles for such journals as the Gospel Advocate and the Firm Foundation on the subject of “Christmas.” I could know, in those days,, that some time during the holiday season there would be several good articles written on the subject of Christmas, but it is not that way any more, for we have drifted! I may never have studied the subject as I have, had it not been for those good articles written on the subject of Christmas. I am therefore indebted to those men for creating within me a desire to study the subject for myself. I wish therefore, in this article, to give several reasons why Christmas should not be celebrated in memory of Christ's birth as a religious holy day. Observe therefore the following reasons.

CHRISTMAS IS NOT A BIBLE SUBJECT. The first thought I wish to give is the fact that Christmas is not mentioned in the Bible, so in order to study the subject, one should consult some Of' the good encyclopedias that are available and study them. Of course, the Bible mentions the birth of Christ, but this is not to say that it mentions Christmas, as we shall learn in further study of the subject.

CHRISTMAS IS A MISNOMER. Christmas is a misnaming of the day. The word is a combination of two words: One Greek (Christ's) meaning the “anointed,” and the other Latin (misaim) meaning “to send,” but there is no way to prove that Jesus was sent to the earth on December 25th.

GOD HAS NOT COMMANDED IT. There is no evidence anywhere that God ever commanded anyone to observe the birthday of Jesus on this day or any other. It is the Christ of Calvary, not the babe of Bethlehem that is to be emphasized (I Cor. 11:26).

EARLY CHRISTIANS DID NOT CELEBRATE THE DAY. The New Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge, Volume 3, Page 47 says: “There is no historical evidence that our Lord's birthday was celebrated during the apostolic or early post-apostolic times.”

SPECIAL DAYS FORBIDDEN. In Galatians 4:10 Paul writes: “Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years, I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labor in vain.”

IT IS OF PAGAN ORIGIN. Christmas did not originate with God; it originated in paganism. So the more pagan, heathenish, a church is, the more one may expect it to say and do about Christmas!

(Continued on page three)

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

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

I Am Not A Victim !



Under the title, “We’re All Victims,” John Leo wrote about the top 10 victim stories of the year, in the November 21, 2005 U.S. News. Leo pointed out that in our politically correct culture, anyone who gets offended is a victim. Leo cited the British Muslims who were “victimized” by tissue boxes picturing Winnie the Pooh and Piglet; and atheists who were “victimized” by actors who thanked God for winning Oscars, as well as students at the University of Wisconsin who were “victimized” by local bars that discontinued discount drinks on weekends in response to a federal campaign to limit binge drinking.

The dictionary defines a victim as “one who is harmed or killed by another; one who is harmed by or made to suffer from an act, circumstance, agency, or condition; a person who is tricked, swindled, or taken advantage of.”

Yes, everywhere we look, we see victims. But I want you to know that I am not a victim. In fact, I am guilty. I know the truth of Paul’s words in Romans 3:23: “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.” I know that I am a sinner, deserving of God’s punishment. But I know that I will not receive justice for my sins, but instead God’s grace.

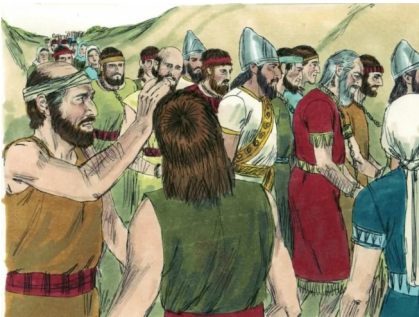
“Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus” (Romans 3:24), reminds me that I have been forgiven through the grace of God when I obeyed the gospel of Christ.

“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost” (Acts 2:38). Because I have repented and been baptized, my sins have been remitted.

One more definition of victim: “a living creature slain and offered as a sacrifice during a religious rite.” I am so grateful that Jesus served as that victim for me so that I could have forgiveness.

- Bob Prichard

A people that got carried away

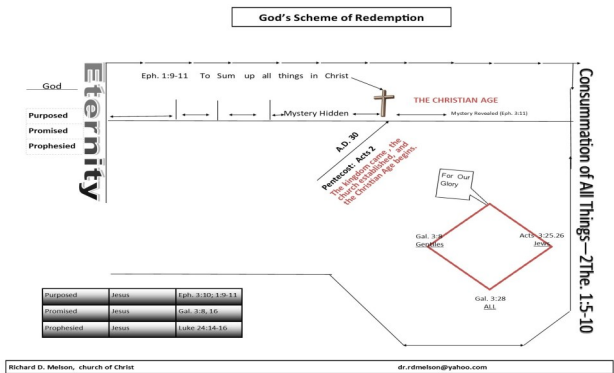


In the genealogy of Jesus recorded in Matthew, there are not a lot of historical markers, but he does insert this one regarding Josiah’s children: “Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon” (Matt. 1:11). This was that transitional generation, who raised their children in the far country of Babylon, rather than at home in Judah.

Can you imagine raising children in an era where God’s name was not as revered as it once was? Can you imagine raising your children in a land where it would take much more effort to train them in the unique ways of the God of heaven than it did in years gone by? Oh wait! You can imagine that, can’t you! You are trying to raise and influence a generation of youth in a land where there is shrinking faith and respect for the God of heaven. What can you do?

Purpose in your heart every day to walk diligently with the Lord (1 Kgs. 8:57-61), teach diligently His ways (Deut. 6:4-9), and not defile yourself or your family (Dan. 1:8).

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson’s Musings ...



The Perfect Preacher

(Christmas from page one)

IN CONCLUSION: Space forbids giving other reasons why Christians should not observe Christmas as a religious holy day, but these are sufficient to challenge the honest heart to study more. This writer knows no reason why one cannot observe the day as he might any other legal holiday, but remember to keep it out of the church! It is no part of Christian doctrine! (1 John 4:1). Compare it with circumcision, which is hygienically permissible, but religiously forbidden. “Search the scriptures daily whether these things are so” (Acts 17:11).

Some churches have begun to mimic the man-made churches with Christmas plays and even charge for such. Some have their Easter Sunrise services. This is not speaking as the oracles of God” (1 Pet. 4:11).

The perfect preacher has been found! He preaches exactly twenty minutes and sits down. He condemns sin, but never hurts anyone’s feelings. He works from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. seven days a week, and is a great family man. He is twenty-six years old and has been preaching for thirty years. He is tall and short, thin and heavy-set, and handsome (but not too handsome). He has one brown eye and one blue eye, and his hair is parted down the middle, one side straight and blonde, the other side brown and curly.

He has a burning desire to work with the teenagers and spends all of his time with the old folks. He smiles all the time with a straight face because his sense of humor keeps him seriously dedicated to his work. He makes fifteen calls a day on church members, spends all his time

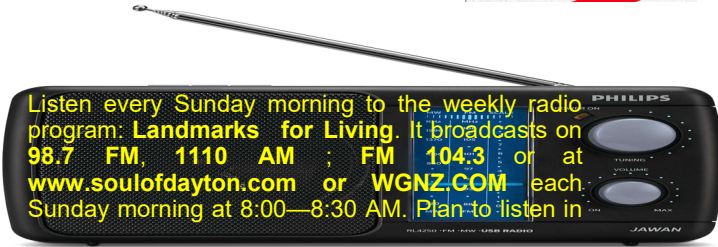
evangelizing the lost, and studies his Bible fifteen hours a day since he is never out of the office.

Unfortunately, I am not that perfect preacher. (That age 26 thing probably gave it away!) Although I am not the perfect preacher, I can stand with the apostle Paul who said, “But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men (1 Corinthians 1:23-25).

Thank you for putting up with my imperfections as a preacher. My prayer is always that I will be a better preacher in the coming year than I have in the one just past. I need your prayers that I may do so.

- G

- ☞ Potter Children’s Home Coin Can— We have several empty coin cans in the office. Please pickup one to fill.
- ☞ 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