

Melbourne Church of Christ

"A family of believers seeking to grow spiritually while sharing Jesus and serving others."

The Fear of the Lord

by Paul Mowrer

We all remember the story of Uzzah (2 Sam. 6:1-11), struck dead for touching the ark of the covenant while it was being transported to Jerusalem. All Uzzah was trying to do was stabilize the ark to keep it from falling off the cart when the oxen stumbled. No doubt, the crowd that day was shocked at God's punishment of such a "minor" discrepancy. Continue the narrative and we read that "David became angry because of the Lord's outburst against Uzzah...So David was afraid of the Lord that day" (2 Sam. 6:8-9).

I am pretty sure it was the same fear experienced at the dedication of the tabernacle during the days of Moses. Nadab and Abihu were responsible for the incense before the Lord, but "offered strange fire" (Lev. 10:1). The people must have been shocked at the response of God for such a seemingly "insignificant" mistake. And the Lord spoke, "By those who come near Me I will be treated as holy, and before all the people I will be honored" (Lev. 10:3).

But why such a harsh punishment? Why did Nadab and Abihu have to die? Why was Uzzah punished with death, he was just trying to "save" the ark? Perhaps the better question to consider is "Why does God allow us to live?" How often do we ignore God for opinion's sake or for convenience. Nadab and Abihu may well have been just a little "over enthusiastic" as they offered incense to God. Uzzah treated the ark as a common piece of furniture and did not revere it, as it was intended. How often do we treat laws and commands of God as a "common thing"? How often do we select convenience over commandment?

You see, the lesson really is quite simple: God means business! Let's make sure we make Him our priority and never treat Him as something common! "By those who come near Me I will be treated as holy, and before all the people I will be honored" (Lev. 10:3).

Dates to Remember

★ Ladies will meet 4th Monday in April @ 6 p.m. bring a finger food

Sermons and bulletins available @
Melbournechurchofchrist.com

Sunday Bible Class 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.
Wednesday Evening 6:00 p.m.



Melbourne Church of Christ
A Place to Belong

Elders

Danny Brightwell
291-3439

Shelby Qualls
346-5255

Deacons

Bryan Phillips 373-0546
David Brightwell 291-1122

Alan Love 243-4608
Joe Cooper 291-4653

Minister

Ryan Lloyd 368-7886
Melbourne CoC
Box 267
Melbourne, AR 72556

Family News

➤ Memorial contribution for Madeline Sipe and David Clark made by Bonnie Wyatt

* Communion is gluten-free and travel communion is available.

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY
SONG LEADER	TBA	TBA
OPENING PRAYER	TBA	TBA
CLOSING PRAYER	TBA	TBA



Self-Served

Pursue Righteousness
by Bart Warren

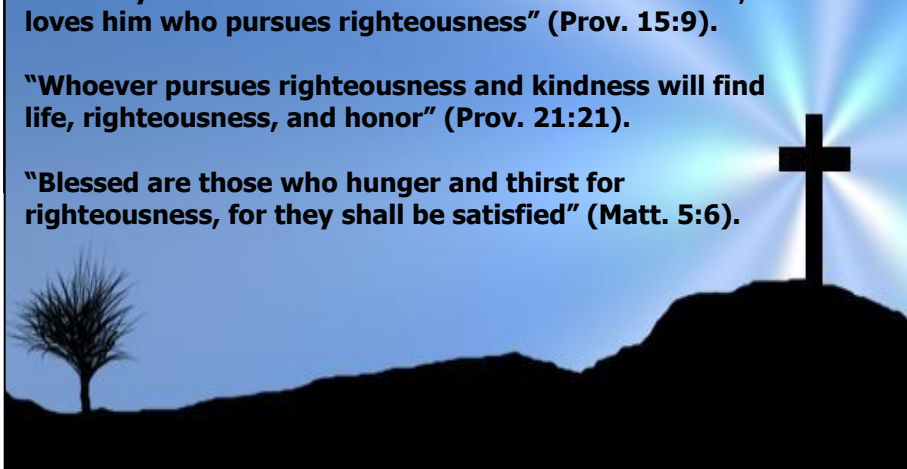
Numerous times in Scripture the Lord encourages us to “pursue righteousness.” The term *righteousness* is variously used, sometimes referring to virtuous or obedient living and other times referring to the condition of being made innocent by God and thus acceptable to Him.

The idea is this: The Lord expects us to live a life of obedience and virtue. Additionally, in His grace and mercy, the Lord offers us the only hope we have to be declared innocent. Thus, in a sense, to pursue righteousness is to pursue a life with God now and to dwell in His presence forever!

“The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, but He loves him who pursues righteousness” (Prov. 15:9).

“Whoever pursues righteousness and kindness will find life, righteousness, and honor” (Prov. 21:21).

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied” (Matt. 5:6).



Prayer List

Military: Derek Love, Tyler Talkington, A.J. Talkington

Officers: Steven & Sherry Davidson, Josh Morehead, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb, Caeden Wolfe, Blake Johnson

Health: Ted Kidd	Joyce Newbrey	Donnie Vest	Joanna Smith
Joe Guiltner	Dan Clark	Wilma Cooper	Wayne Crosby
Tracy Thomas	Brooke Pritchard	Troy Gaston	James Nicholson
Bill Roland	Hayden Phillips	Donny Smith	Joanne Weston
Bill Wiseman	Debbie Nicholson	Helen King	Phil Haagenson
Mary Kosmitis	Tommy Washington	Jim Fowler	Shirley Lewis
Diane Owens	Ivy Jo Slade	Jeff Young	Lynn Hicks
Justin Teague	Charlotte Cooper	Cecilia Broughton	Sue Campbell
Bob & Arlene Davidson	Chip & Regina Master	Richard Gunter	Deborah Halcom
Dorothy Teague	Ted & Sanyia Austin	J.B. & Wanda Dill	

Nursing Home: Debbie Hoskinds, Holly Stroud, Emma Jean Cooper

April Birthdays

Betty Brightwell 2 nd	Tyler Kelly 4 th	Donna Hill 7 th
Derek Love 8 th	Imodean Webb 9 th	Cleve Weaver 12 th
Melissa Morrison 14 th	Nancy Richardson 15 th	Rhett Morrison 17 th
Son Lamb 18 th	Francis Gillihan 22 nd	Doug Sipe 25 th
Michelle Smith 26 th	Kenya Wyatt 29 th	Dana Ingram 30 th

April Anniversaries

Joe & Dana Ingram 17th

Hebrews 5:7-9, “While Jesus was here on earth, he offered prayers and pleadings, with a loud cry and tears, to the one who could rescue him from death. And God heard his prayers because of his deep reverence for God. Even though Jesus was God’s Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. In this way, God qualified him as a perfect High Priest, and he became the source of eternal salvation for all those who obey him.” (NLT)