

ORDER OF WORSHIP

May 18, 2025

Song: **590** – *O Worship the King*

Song: **355** – *Lord, We Come Before Thee Now*

First prayer: **Jeremy Thomas**

Song: **99** – *Night, with Ebon Pinion*

Communion servers: **Mark Brandt** & **Larry Simmons**

Prayer for giving: **Brian Zumalt**

Song: **613** – *At the Cross*

Sermon: “*A Psalm of Conversion*” (Psalm 19) – **David Ray**

Invitation song: **927** – *Nothing but the Blood*

Closing song: **389** – *When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder*

Closing prayer: **Mernie Ray**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- Shane & Alyssa traveling
- Jerry – eye surgery Tuesday
- Kim’s cousin’s son (Isaac Wood)–hole in heart caused by stroke (upcoming surgery)
- Our nation (1 Tim. 2:2)
- Our members with health issues: Kim, David

Please continue to remember: Connie Townsend, Lucinda, Vipin & family, India work, Aruna Kavali, Marinda Breeding, Holley Brewer, Kevin Brewer, Dylan Walker

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Happy anniversary to **Jerry & Sherlene** (May 19th)!
- “Precept Upon Precept” is a YouTube channel with many sermons/articles from faithful brethren (www.youtube.com/@preceptuponprecept8495)

RECORD FOR WEEK OF MAY 11, 2025

ATTENDANCE:

Bible Class – 10 AM Worship – 13 Sun PM – 10 DBR – 7 Wed (5/14) – 8
Contribution – \$1500

Yukon Church of Christ

THE LABORER

702 South Ranchwood Blvd., Yukon, OK 73099 (405) 354-0238

Preacher: David Ray

Web Site: www.yukoncofc.org

Sunday Bible class: 9am **Worship** 10am & 12:30pm **Wednesday Bible class:** 7pm

Matthew 9:37-38 “*The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest.*”

Volume 21

Number 20

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A DEN OF THIEVES

And he went into the temple, and began to cast out them that sold therein, and them that bought; Saying unto them, It is written, My house is the house of prayer: but ye have made it a den of thieves (Luke 19:45-46).

How often have we read this account without thinking about its true meaning? I know I am guilty. Recently, it was brought to my attention by a dear brother who asked, “What were they guilty of stealing?” Jesus accused them of being thieves, so they must have stolen something. I have always heard it said that they were selling the merchandise for a profit, which could be the case, but could it be that there is a deeper meaning here? Jesus quoted from the prophet Isaiah:

Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; For mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people (56:7).

There was nothing wrong with the buying and selling of doves, lambs, goats, etc., because God had established, through the law, that such should be done for those traveling to Jerusalem (Deu. 14:21-26). However, some vital lessons can be learned from the above-cited passage. Isaiah wrote that God’s house was to be a house of prayer, which, it appears, is the real point Jesus was trying to make as He cast the sellers out. The key to Jesus’ lesson was all about attitude, motive, and emphasis concerning the things of God.

How quickly men forget the examples of the past (Rom. 15:4). The Jews of Jeremiah’s day were guilty of the same thing—robbing God of His glory by the mistreatment of their fellowman (Jer. 7:1-11). The same attitude was repeating itself,

abusing the law to make a profit. God's house was built a holy temple (Psa. 5:7), meant to glorify Jehovah (26:8; 29:9). It was to be a house of prayer and supplication before the God of all mankind (1 Kin. 8:29). The Psalmist said of the temple that "holiness becomes thy house" (Psa. 93:5). Righteousness was to dwell therein (112:3). However, the Jews had become uncircumcised in heart (Jer. 9:26), as were their forefathers. They allowed tradition to override God's will, and going through the motions had become the norm. Although they came to offer their Passover sacrifices as the Law expected, their emphasis robbed God of His glory.

The Lord's church is God's temple (1 Cor. 3:16; 2 Cor. 6:19), yet, even today, we fail to learn from the examples of the past. God's temple continues to have its den of thieves who would rob God of His glory. As His living stones (Eph. 2:11-12), we have no authority to prostitute ourselves unto the gods of false teaching, materialism, or tolerance. Yet, congregation after congregation has bowed down to the gods of progressivism, egalitarianism, ecumenism, Pentecostalism, and so on. Becoming a den of thieves can also be apparent where brethren are unwilling to discipline, seek not God's authority in their practices and teaching, and when attitudes are such that we only go through the motions.

Will a man rob God (Mal. 3:8)? The Jews did, repeatedly, and Christians are doing the same today. Shall we make God's house one of prayer, holiness, and righteousness, or will we make it a den of thieves? May our hearts never be divided (Hos. 10:2), but may we always bring glory to the God who created and saved us.

Mike Demory

WHERE IS YOUR HEART?

When the Bible speaks of a person's heart, it is rarely in the context of the anatomical location of this physical human pump. Mostly, it is spoken of as the center of a person's thoughts and emotions. In Matthew 6:21 and Luke 12:34, Jesus tells us, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." It could be found in our treasures if we want to find our heart.

Where is your treasure? That is where you will find your heart. *Treasure* means that "a treasure is something that we value highly. It is something of great value. It is a precious object." Jesus tells us in Matthew 13:44 that the kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field; when a man finds it, he hides it, sells all that he has, and buys the field so he might have the treasure.

In Luke 12, Jesus warns against the hypocrisy and covetousness of the Pharisees. *Hypocrisy* deals with pretending to be something or someone we are not. *Covetousness* is "a great desire to possess something, typically something belonging to someone else." These go hand in hand. We need to be able to discern what is truly valuable. The things of this world should not become our treasures.

In Matthew 19, a young man asked Jesus, "what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?" (19:16). Jesus answered and said unto him, "if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments" (19:17). The young man asked further, "Which?" Jesus said:

Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself (19:18-19).

The young man said to Him, "All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?" (19:20). Jesus said to him, "If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me" (19:21). But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

We must be careful not to let the material things of this life become our treasure. Satan understands material possessions can cause us to give God less than our whole heart. God demands our whole heart. There can be nothing less. All of us who can see have seen the glory of a rainbow in the sky after a thunderstorm or rain shower. To most animals, a rainbow does not exist. They cannot see in color. The retina of humans has rods and cones. The cones only detect color. Most animal retinas only have rods. Therefore, most animals can only see in shades of gray. They cannot see a rainbow. May we have the spiritual eyesight to see that the treasures of this world should not be where we place our heart. May we give our whole heart to God and complete obedience to His Word.

May we do as is written in Matthew 6:19-20:

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal.

Is your treasure in heaven? Then, your heart is in the right place.

Author Unknown