



# THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

[www.nacoc.org](http://www.nacoc.org)

January 18, 2011

## A Treatise On Paying Allegiance

Mike King



The teacher advised the class to start the day with the pledge of allegiance, and instructed them to put their right hands over their hearts and repeat after him. He looked around the room as he started the recitation, “I pledge allegiance to the flag...” When the teacher’s eyes fell upon Little Johnny, he noticed his hand over his right hip pocket. “Little Johnny, I will not continue until you put your hand over your heart.” Little Johnny replied, “It is over my heart.” After several attempts to get Little Johnny to put his hand over his heart, the teacher asked, “Why do you think that is your heart?” “Because every time my Grandma comes to visit, she picks me up, pats me here, and says, ‘Bless your little heart,’ and my Grandma wouldn’t lie!”

As we live the Christian life, how accurately have we been “programmed” to pay our respects and honor God? Could we have been mistaught, drawn wrong conclusions or simply naively and ignorantly responded? Let me give you an example of what I am saying. Remember when King Saul was ordered by God to go into battle against the Amalekites, utterly destroying them? When he returned Samuel heard the bleating of sheep and lowing of oxen. Saul tried to pass it off by saying, *“They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the Lord thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed”* (I Sam. 15:10-35). It caused the king of the Amalekites, Agag, his life by being hewed in pieces and Samuel shunned Saul until his death. The key thought is found in verse 22 where Samuel asked the question: *“Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.”*

Jesus consistently followed the mindset of God by declaring, *“If ye love me you will keep my commandment”* (Jn. 14:15). Regardless of what men may say, write or teach about how our allegiance to God is paid, if it does not necessitate honoring His will and abiding by His expectations, forget it having any value for showing honor or respect. Hence, we speak where the Bible speaks and remain silent when it is silent.

## BASED ON AN IDEA OF MINE

Townsend, the developer of the laser, was once asked if he didn't have a tremendous sense of achievement in all he had accomplished with his invention, such as methods for precision measurements, laser disc, and weapons technology.

He remarked, "Not really." He said that he could easily identify with the beaver and relayed the following story:

A beaver and a chipmunk happened upon the Hoover Dam while out strolling one day. They were caught off-guard, completely overwhelmed with amazement and awe at the size and magnificence of this structure.

Once the beaver recovered, he remarked, "Well, actually, I didn't build it myself, but it's based upon an idea of mine."

Like much of scientific advancement, I see spiritual growth as a building process. I took the spiritual training my parents gave me and have built upon it, and I expect my children to take the training that I give them and build upon that. I fully expect them to accomplish some great things in their lives, things that I may not have built myself, but which are based on spiritual principles which I have shared with them.

Paul was referring to this process when he said of Timothy, "*I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.*" (I Tim. 1:5). I wonder if Lois and Eunice ever even imagined all that that little boy Timothy would accomplish in his lifetime?

You may not feel like you're accomplishing much, but if you are instilling in your children (or others) a faith in God, who knows what they may accomplish in the years ahead! ~Alan Smith

## AREA EVENTS

- **Ashland Youth Rally...** will be Sat., Jan. 22nd, from 9:00am till 2:30pm at the Ashland Church of Christ. Check the bulletin board for more details.
- **Gospel Meeting @ the Verona Church of Christ** Jan. 21-23 with David Jones as guest speaker.
- **Young Ladies' Day...** for girls and ladies of all ages, Sat., Jan. 29 at the Foote Street Church of Christ in Corinth. Guest speaker will be Sandra Foster. Check the bulletin board for more details.
- **Zion Rest Church of Christ Ladies' Day 2011** will be Feb. 12th from 9:00--11:30. The speaker will be Deana (Brown) Wyers. Brunch Provided

## YOUTH NEWS

- Junior Bible Bowl will meet for competition Sat., Jan 22nd at the Church St. congregation in Pontotoc. The van will leave at 8:50.
- The Senior Bible Bowl will have their first competition of the New Year, Sun., Jan. 23rd, at the Antioch congregation.
- Sarah will meet with those preparing speeches for LTL after the Bible Bowl Sun., Jan. 23rd. For those preparing a speech for the first time, you and a parent need to meet with Sarah at 5pm Sun., Jan. 23rd.
- This month's Youth Devo will be held Jan. 23rd. The Clayton's will be hosting.
- Congratulations to the K-1st grade class for receiving an award for the "neatest classroom". We are proud of you: Masey Kate Adams, Jenna Carpenter, Luke Jennings and teacher, Janet Drummond!

# For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

## PRAYER LIST

**Faye Owen**, mother of Joe Owen is in room 353 of the local hospital.

**Ronnie Griggs**, will have a heart ablation procedure done Wednesday, in Tupelo.

**Eleta Grimmett**, is now at home and improving.

### Sympathy

We express our sympathy to the family of *Dorothy Holley* who passed from this life Wed., Jan. 12. Funeral services were held Sat., Jan 15, in Fulton. She was the grandmother of *April Pounders* and *Kim Clayton*.

### Continual Prayer

**Wadie Lepard, Diane Jackson, Allen Kelly, Jim Dickerson, Will Bowlin, Harmon Craft, Robert Hancock, Hugh Collins, Margaret Bailey, Donna Haynes, Shane Crotts, Bill King, Terry Young**

### Shut-Ins

**Jean Drummond, Lessie Bryant, Billy Joe Garner, Laura Mae Harris, Belle Cross, Pauline Smith, Raymond & Amy Vest**

### Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

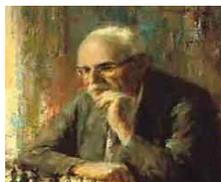
**Corrine Hall, Faye Owen, Anna Davis & Mattie Golden**

### Military List:

**David Wilhite, Barry Wilhite, Jimmie Stutts, Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Michelle Ham, Raegan Cole**

### SAGE ADVICE

Don't put a question mark where  
God puts a period.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

January 21.....Bobby White  
January 21.....Audrey Anna Young  
January 23.....Shane Crotts  
January 25.....Belle Cross  
January 25.....Melissa Reed  
January 29.....Alice Ashmore  
January 29.....Victor Ashmore

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

January 29.....Victor & Alice Ashmore  
January 30.....Raymond & Amy Vest

## THANK YOU

Words can't express how much we love the congregation here at New Albany. During the passing of our grandmother we received many calls, cards, and prayers. Several of you even made the long drive to the funeral home and we greatly appreciate everything each of you did. Please continue to pray for the entire Holley family as we deal with our loss. Our grandmother left a great Christian example for us to follow. We are comforted by the fact that our loss is heaven's gain!

In Christian love,

April, Kim and family

## 5th SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday, January 30, will be the first 5th Sunday service of the New Year. We will have a potluck meal following our morning service. Our evening service will be at 1:15pm, led by the senior men of the congregation. Please make plans to join us and bring someone with you. The adult I class will be in charge of set-up and clean-up.

Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.org>

## OUR RECORD

Sunday School .....	105
Sunday A.M .....	138
Sunday P.M .....	95
Wednesday .....	83
Contribution .....	\$2,946.00
Budget .....	\$3,455.70

## TO SERVE

Scripture.....	Phillip Young
A.M. Prayer.....	Jason Jennings
Closing Prayer.....	Paul Ormon
P.M. Prayer.....	Bill Botts
Closing .....	Bobby Marques
Wed. 1/26.....	Gary Turner
Wed. 1/26.....	Randy Wall
Usher & Lock.....	Bill Botts
Greeters.....	A & S Clemmer



**PANTRY ITEM:**  
**Canned fruit**

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School .....	9:30
Morning Worship .....	10:30
Evening Worship .....	6:00
Wednesday Bible Study .....	7:00

## ELDERS

Richard Jennings .....	534-6671
Troy Robertson .....	534-3491

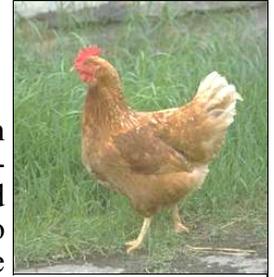
## DEACONS

Bill Botts .....	316-2422
Greg Clayton .....	252-9762
Roger Clayton .....	534-5240
Andy Clemmer .....	816-5887
Harold Russell .....	534-4648
Randy Wall .....	316-9255

## MINISTER

Mike King .....	507-0625
Home .....	534-6872
Office .....	534-4649

## Shamed By A Chicken



Aunt Lula Holloway was never one to let an opportunity pass without capitalization. At ninety-six years of age she still isn't! She has that good word to say for the Lord and that encouragement "to do your duty" even though she sounds out from the confinement of a nursing home.

The first forty-three years of her life she was unmarried. Never having given birth to a child she "adopted" a passel of nieces and nephews as her own. Though part of her teaching was formal in her Bible class at old Schochoh church, much of it was informal yet pertinent. As the day gave an opening she walked through that door to use any possible object lesson to expose a child more completely to a Biblical principle. This writer remembers one she taught him sixty years ago in his preschool age.

There was a barrel at the end of Grandpa's porch. It caught the rain water from the porch gutter. The barrel was always handy for filling the chicken troughs scattered here and there in that country yard.

One day as chickens were drinking she said, "I want you to watch. A chicken always sticks his beak in the water, then raises his head to let it trickle down his throat. But just maybe he is doing something else! Let's imagine he's raising his head to thank God for giving him what he needs. God gives you good things—don't let that pullet get ahead of you. You raise your face to God and thank Him always for what He gives. And remember, I've never seen the righteous forsaken or his seed begging bread." For sixty years I've remembered! And thanks to Aunt Lula, I don't want some chicken putting me to shame.

Have you thanked the Lord lately for your blessings— like Peter, do you hear the rooster crowing?

~Jim Bill McInteer

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Volume 3

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