



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

January 13, 2015

All of A Sudden

Mike King



We just passed the ten-year anniversary of the tragic cataclysmic occurrence which hit on December 28, 2004. The tidal wave tsunami startled the coastal areas of Asia, India and impacted parts of Africa. Some countries had some advanced warning broadcast, allowing them to make their way to higher ground. Far more countries were totally startled and surprised than those that had warning. Some were even standing on shore watching the tides arrive, but when the tsunami tidal wave hit, the 100 feet high wall of water swept them into oblivion! The devastation was caused by an earthquake off the coast of Indonesia.

J.C. and Betty Choate have been spreading the word throughout this region for many years. There is no doubt that many who perished were our brothers and sisters in Christ. One church member reported that some 5,000 fishermen were out to sea during that time hoping to catch a bounty of fish due to the full moon. All were missing and presumed dead. The search for survivors continued for days following. One of the early morning news stations reported that the death toll stood at 139,394 with more expected. This was a terrible disaster and a tremendous loss of lives! What is more disturbing is that large numbers met their Maker and Judge without being prepared for eternity. Whether it is a disaster or natural causes that claim lives, they are gone nonetheless! Their destiny is sealed and no alterations can be made.

We should be made to realize that our lives are temporary and vulnerable. We are much like a vapor that appears briefly (Jas. 4:13-16), then dissipates. The greater loss is not life, limb or property; it is the loss of our soul – the eternal part of us.

Jesus came to seek and save the lost (Lk. 19:10). That should be our mission as well. Consider the scores of people in our community who would be swept eternally into destruction should death visit their home tonight by a tornado or some other unexpected atrocity, or if time should end by the coming of the Lord today! We must assume the role of men like Paul Revere, William Dawes or Samuel Prescott who rode rapidly to announce the approaching enemy, so indicated by lanterns displayed “one if by land, two if by sea”! Let us broadcast and alert the inescapable coming of the Lord, or death, so ample preparations can be made in time!

LET YOUR SERMON BE SEEN!!

Margaret Thatcher, the very effective former Prime Minister of Great Britain, said on one occasion, "Being in power is like being a lady. If you have to remind people that you are, you aren't." Thatcher's words also have an application to living the Christian life. The most effective way to convince others of the truth of the gospel is not simply to defend it with talk but to demonstrate it with transformed living. Titus 2:7 authorizes Christians to "show off" their Christian lives- *"in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility."* Note the text twice says "showing," not just saying. Sermons are not just preached by preachers in pulpits with words on Sunday. Every child of God preaches a sermon-Monday through Saturday-at home, at school, in the neighborhood, on the job, not merely with words but by the way we live. You may compliment the preacher's sermon on Sunday or you may condemn it. But by your life all week long you, too, have been preaching a sermon by the way you have lived. The New International Version of Titus 2:7 says: *"In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness."* The simple fact of the matter is you are setting an example. As someone observed, "None of us is entirely useless. Even the worst of us can serve as bad examples." Good or bad, you are setting an example, you are being watched, and you are preaching a sermon and making an impression on those around you.

Titus 2: 1 -10 reveals 3 reasons why we should strive to preach by our lives the same thing we proclaim with our lips: (1) *"that the word of God may not be blasphemed (vs 5b);* (2) *that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you (vs 8b);* (3) *that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things"* (vs 10b). It is sobering to realize that by the way I live I can make God and His Gospel look good--or, if I fail to live rightly, I can make them look bad. In Matthew 5:14-16 Jesus calls on us to preach sermons that can be seen: *"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lamp stand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."* D. L. Moody told the truth when he said, "Where one man reads a Bible, a hundred read you and me." Your sermon is being seen and read. What is it saying?

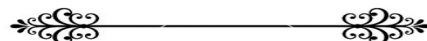
~ Dan Gulley

SERMONS WE CAN SEE

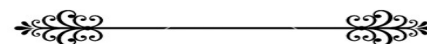
I'd rather see a sermon than to hear one any day.
I'd rather one would walk with me than merely show the way.
The eye's the better pupil, more willing than the ear.
Fine counsel is confusing but example is always clear.
The best of all the preachers are the men who live their creed.
For to see the good in action is what everybody needs.
If you let me watch you do it I can see just how it's done.

I can see your hands in action but your tongue too fast may run.
And the sermons you deliver may be very wise and true,
But I'd rather get my lesson from observing what you do.
For I may misunderstand you and the high advice you give.

But there is no misunderstanding how you act and how you live. (read Mt. 5:14-16).



WORRY is like a rocking chair; it will give you something to do but it won't get you anywhere.



How To Find Friends

*I went out to find a friend,
But could not find one there;
I went out to be a friend,
And friends were everywhere!*



For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

PRAYER LIST



Terry Young will have defibrillator replacement Tue, in Oxford.

David Crossings of New Zealand has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. The brethren there have requested prayers on his behalf.

Sonny Gay, uncle of *Darrell Crow* has been in and out of the hospital the last few weeks with congestive heart failure. He is now at home under Hospice Care.

Ruston Adams, home sick with the flu.

Gary & Terri Turner, niece of *Grace Lyon* and her husband lost everything in a house fire Sunday morning. They live in Holcomb, MS.

Continue to remember:

Natalie Griffin, Andy Ulmer, B. A. Stubblefield, Whit Robertson, Grace Lyon, Harold Reeves, Sheila Thomas, Yolanda Stubblefield, Barbara Davis, Nancy Petrowski, Justin Forsyth, Preeble Foster, Donna Hanes, Hugh Collins, Jack Dunlap, Terry & Betty Young

Shut-Ins:

Jean Drummond, Teresa Clark, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner, Tauso Branch, Claudia Senter

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Betty Lang, Charlene Coker, Grace Anderson, Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris, Louise Holcomb

Military List:

Barry Wilhite, Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Raegan Cole, Derek Bradley, Jesse Stroud

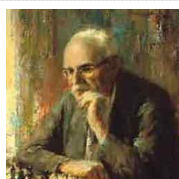
Sympathy:

We express our sympathy to *Kathy Clayton* in the death of her aunt **Lorrayne Johnson**. Funeral services will be held Wed., Jan. 14th, in Memphis.



I've Learned...

Your life may be the only Bible some people read.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



January 15..... Jason Jennings
January 17..... Amy Jennings
January 18..... Jean Drummond
January 21..... Bobby White
January 21..... Audrey Anna Young
January 23..... Shane Crotts



LADS TO LEADERS PRACTICE

It is time to get busy preparing for the Lads to Leaders Convention. This year's competition will be held April 3-5 in Memphis. Practice will be every Sunday evening beginning at 4:00pm unless otherwise announced. All Lads to Leaders early entry items are due Sunday, Jan. 18th. Please see *Lonnie Weaver* if you have any questions.

3RD SUNDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

There will be a fellowship Sunday night, Jan. 18th following our evening services. You are asked to bring soup, sandwiches, and desserts. The Young Adult Class will be in charge of the fellowship building.



YOUTH NEWS

- Senior Bible Bowl Sunday, Jan. 18th at the Hillcrest congregation in Baldwin. The youth will eat at the Tupelo Mall before the competition.
- Lads to Leaders practice Sun. Jan 18th, @ 4pm.
- Jr. Bible Bowl Sat. Jan. 24th, at the East Main congregation in Tupelo.



AREA EVENTS

A Gospel Meeting at the Verona Church of Christ will be held Jan. 16-18th with guest speaker *James Segars*. Check the bulletin board for times.

**Christ Living in Me...
To Be Seen in 2015!**



Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.us>
Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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

MINISTER

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

ELDERS

Richard Jennings316-1305
 Troy Robertson316-3163

DEACONS

Greg Clayton.....252-9762
 Roger Clayton 538-8195
 Brad Pounders.....316-7931
 Harold Russell..... 507-1180
 Randy Wall 316-9255
 Lonnie Weaver.....801-8448

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Phillip Young
 A.M. Prayer....Richard Jennings
 Closing Prayer...Richard Adams
 P.M. PrayerThomas Wall
 ClosingDillon Clayton
 Wed.1/21.....Gary Turner
 Wed.1/21.....Ruston Adams
 Usher & LockRandy Wall
 Greeter.....T & N Robertson

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....121
 Sunday A.M.....148
 Sunday P. M.....98
 Wednesday.....100
 Contribution.....\$4,300.92
 Budget.....\$3,984.46



PANTRY ITEM

Soup

THE INFORMER

January 13, 2015

Volume 02

THE INFORMER (USPS 581-500)
 Church of Christ
 511 Hwy. 15 South, P.O. Box 148
 New Albany, Mississippi 38652

Periodical
 Postage Paid
 New Albany, MS

(662)534-4649

POSTMASTER: Send address changes
 (Form 3579) to: The Informer, P.O. Box
 148, New Albany, MS 38652

DAILY INVENTORY

When evening comes, go off into a quiet place and review your day.

- Have you been kind and thoughtful or mean and thoughtless?
- Have you kept an even temper, or have you lost your temper when things went wrong?
- Have you inspired those whom you have met, or have you depressed and discouraged them?
- Have you done something creative and worthwhile, or have you wasted the day with petty things?
- Have you been fair and square in what you have done?
- Have you increased the happiness in the lives of others, or have you thought only of self?



What we do day by day determines what we become. Hour by hour we build our lives for better or worse. A daily inventory will help keep us on the right track, headed toward our highest ideals.

“Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates.”

II Cor. 13:5