



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.org

October 5, 2010

The Harvest Is Past, The Summer Is Ended

Mike King

Those who have had the experience of working garden or farm crops have had the joyous experience of harvest time. Much hard work has now met with fruition. It gives confidence that we shall have food for the coming year. We are rewarded directly in proportion to the amount of effort put forth and God's providing in terms of rain, sunshine, and "good ole mother earth."

This is always my favorite time of year, partly because of nostalgic remembrances that it stirs within me. There are remembrances of riding in the corner of the wagon being drawn behind the corn picker and being bombarded with falling ears at each turn. Memories remain of walking the woods with my grandfather in search of large paper-shell hickory nuts from the massive Shagbark Hickory trees. Memories of working on the farm and getting in the last of the hay, harvesting the corn, filling the silos with silage, and one final stripping of the garden can still be recalled. Usually, there was a butchering of a hog and a calf in readiness for the winter months. There was always a feeling of accomplishment and for some reason the vegetables tasted fresher and the newly prepared meat sweeter. As odd as it may sound, the swinging on the porch came with greater pleasure because of the peace of mind that came from the end of a job, a job well done!

The story is told of a farmer who was bringing in the last of his hay harvest which was loaded high on a wagon drawn by horses. The wagon began to tip over and the farmer was heard to say as he went into eternity, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and I am not saved." Jeremiah, ever so profoundly declared, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended and we are not saved" (Jer. 8:20). This is simply another way of saying that we have run out of time and not met our obligations to God. We cannot have "the peace that passes understanding" at the end of life's day, knowing that we have not been productive. Too, it reflects the fact that we are not prepared for the "long hard winter" ahead of us. The harvest represents survival. A failed harvest means destitution and ruin. Let us not face the coming of a barren season in our hearts.



"The harvest is past, the summer is ended and we are not saved."

Jeremiah 8:20

THE HARVEST & THE TEMPEST

Deep in the shadow of slumber, one night I lay on my bed,
And dreamed I Stood on a mountain, with valleys before me spread,
The valleys were wide and yellow with beautiful waving grain,
And a cloud hung in the distance, loaded with tempest and rain.

Looking I saw in the valley, laborers— But, Oh, so few!
I knew the gathering tempest would break before they were through.
Although they were all so busy, bending themselves to the work,
They saw the storm was approaching, and knew that they dared not shirk.

Then near the foot of the mountain, I happened to turn my eyes,
And there stood a man whose visage was brighter than sunset skies;
He spoke—in such tones of sorrow, it caused my heart to bleed;
“BEHOLD, HOW WHITE THE HARVEST—WITH REAPERS SO FEW INDEED.”

“Why are the workers not many?” I thought to myself—and then
I glanced about me and noticed the mountains were full of men;
Men who were laughing and joking, playing some sort of a game,
Not seeing how ripe the harvest, or heeding the storm that came.

Soon I could stand it no longer, “Listen!” I shouted again,
“The tempest shall soon be rushing over the beautiful grain;
Why waste your time in a frolic? Look at the gathering cloud!”
But one of them quickly answered, “You’re one of this idle crowd!”

Then came the crash of the tempest! The rushing wind and the rain
Came howling over the valleys, ruining the yellow grain!
The heavens were rocked from the thunder, the lightnings split the skies,
Till we who stood on the mountain covered our poor blinded eyes!

Above the crash of the Tempest the voice of the stranger broke,
“BEHOLD THE RUIN OF THE HARVEST— THIS IS THE HEATHEN!” He spoke.
“THE STORM THAT SO WILDLY RAGES IS GOD’S GREAT JUDGEMENT DAY!”
And I woke, and wept in repentance, as there on my bed I lay.

Calling on God in the Heavens, with contrite spirit I prayed,
“Oh, Lord, I will be a worker! Too long, Too long have I played!
Because of the ripened Harvest, I will give you my heart and my arm;
I’ll spend my strength in the valleys to save the grain from the storm!”

“Come & Learn, Go & Teach” — Lon Woodrum

YOUTH NEWS

- The next Area Wide Youth Meeting will be held Sunday, October 10th at the Antioch Church of Christ. Ray Kennedy will be the speaker. The van will leave at 5:50.
- This month’s Youth Devo will be held at the Wall’s campout, October 15th. Be sure to sign the list that is on the table in the foyer if you plan to attend and if you will be bringing a guest.

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Margaret Bailey, mother of Paige Young is in room 4425 of North MS Medical Center following surgery to remove brain tumors. Types of follow up treatments will be decided in the neat future.

Claudette Ponders, mother of Brad Ponders had back surgery Monday in Tupelo.

Earnestine McKinney, mother of Perry Jones has been in Baptist Desoto Hospital having tests run.

Barbara Smithey, mother of Chris Smithey, is now at home and slowly improving.

Betty Eaton, wife of J.L., is having a difficult time

Jean Drummond, will be see her doctors in Memphis this week in preparation for oral surgery.

Continual Prayer List

Susan White, Betty Adams, Shane Crofts, Udell Wilson, Arkie Grimmett, Bill King, Donna Weeden, Sylvia Plunk, 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:

Marie Wells, Sue Collins, Shane Hutton, Corrine Hall, Eunice Mabry, Faye Owen , Anna Davis, J.A. Thornton

Military List:

David Wilhite-Navy-Florida Barry Wilhite-Marine-Navy -Virginia, Jimmie Stutts-Air Force-California, Tiffany Erwin- Army-Camp Rooker, AL; Aaron Raines-Army, Afghanistan; Jamie Vansandt, Alaska; Michelle Montgomery, Fort Leonard, Missouri, Jim Vest-Afghanistan

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

October 12.....Greg Harrison

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

October 9.....Terry & Betty Young

October 13.....Olen & Teresa Clark

October 14.....Perrin & Jean Drummond

October 23.....J.L. & Betty Eaton

October 27.....Jason & Amy Jennings

MEN'S ANNUAL CHICKEN -FEST

Men, remember the Chicken Fest that will be held Sunday night October 10th following services at Phil Young's. Please be sure to bring your lawn chair.

CAMP-OUT

The Fall Campout at the Wall's if planned for Friday, October 15th. If you plan to attend please sign the list that is on the table in the foyer, please do so by Sunday, October 10th. This month's Youth Devo will be held at the campout. Please remember to bring your lawn chair.

SINGING CLASS

We plan to begin a singing class Sunday evening October 17th at 5:00 pm in the Adult I classroom. The class will emphasize song leading skills but general music theory will be taught. Anyone interested in learning more about music/singing is welcome. We will meet on Sundays at 5:00pm except when early afternoon services are planned.

- **North MS Ladies Retreat** to be held at Tishomingo State Park, October 22&23. Check bulletin board for more details.
- **Ashland & South Ashland Fall Gospel Meeting**, Oct.10th-13th with different speakers each night. They will meet at the Ashland Church of Christ building. Sunday times: 9:30/10:30 and 1:30PM; Mon-Wed at 7:00PM
- **AREA-WIDE SINGING Oct. 17&Oct. 29th** at the West Main Youth Activities Center; 6th grade up.

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

OUR RECORD

Sunday School	110
Sunday A.M	138
Sunday P.M.	100
Wednesday	92
Contribution	3,156.25
Budget	\$3,305.70

TO SERVE

Scripture	Olen Clark
A.M. Prayer	Jason Jennings
Closing Prayer ..	Mark Jennings
P.M. Prayer	Jerry Gibson
Closing	Bobby White
Wed. 10/13.	Dan Cobb
Wed. 10/13	Bobby Marques
Usher & Lock ...	Andy Clemmer
Greeters	A & S Clemmer

**PANTRY ITEM:
Boxed meals**

**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	904-705-4206
Office	534-4649

**BIBLE QUIZ
Good people in High Places**

1. Paul sent greetings to the Philippians church from the saints who were of whose household? _____
2. Pharaoh appointed this man governor over Egypt: _____
3. These men were appointed administrators over the province of Babylon: _____
4. The Bible says this man was “next unto King Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews:” _____
5. What was the name of the proconsul of Cyprus who became a Christian? _____
6. On His way back home to Ethiopia, this treasurer was baptized into Christ by Philip: _____
7. This man was Artaxerxes’ cupbearer: _____
8. Who was queen to Ahasuerus? _____
9. Who was made ruler over the whole province of Babylon by King Nebuchadnezzar? _____
10. This centurion was converted by Peter: _____

(hints: Gen. 41:39ff.; Neh. 1:11ff.; Esth. 2:17; 10:3; Dan. 2:48,49; Acts 8:27; 10: 1,2; 13: 7-12; Phil. 4:22).

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