



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

December 1, 2015

Naming the Devil In Your Will

Mike King



A man was cleaning out his desk and found a shoe repair ticket that was ten years old. He figured he had nothing to lose to try to collect his shoes. He presented it to the repair man and he was gone for several minutes. He returned and gave the ticket back to the man. He inquired as to what was wrong, “Couldn’t you find my shoes?” The repair man replied, “Oh, I found them and they’ll be ready next Friday.” Do you not think it correct to conclude that procrastination is not the result of lack of time to complete a task but an attitude and must be dealt with as such?

There was an infidel who died and left his estate, a farm, to the devil. This was no small matter of deliberation for the court. They handed down the following decision: “It is decided that the best way to carry out the wish of the deceased is to allow the farm to grow weeds, the soil to erode, and the house and barn to rot. In our opinion, the best way to leave something to the devil is to do nothing.” We may not be infidels, but will procrastinate and postpone the great decisions of life and end up having willed our soul to the devil.

Thomas Huxley in Technical Education wrote, “Perhaps the most valuable result of all education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not, it is the first lesson that ought to be learned; and however early a man’s training begins, it is probably the last lesson that he learns thoroughly.”

Someone in years past made the observation that “Procrastination is the thief of time.” This has proved to be so true. *Gordon McDonald* emphasizes the seriousness of loss or waste of time by titling two chapters (6 & 7) in his book Ordering Your Private World respectively, “Has Anyone Seen My Time? I’ve Misplaced It!” and “Recapturing My Time.” How certain can we be that it can be recaptured or reclaimed?

Solomon wrote in the Ecclesiastes (3:1) that there is “*a time to every purpose under heaven.*” Hosea said, “*Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up the fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you*” (10:12). We must not be like those addressed in John 4:35 who were saying there are yet four months until the harvest. Jesus said, “*Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.*” Is procrastination stealing our time on earth from doing God’s will?

THOSE TO SERVE THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2015

Announcements: Andy Clemmer
Sound Room: Dan Cobb
Usher: Will Bowlin

Lead Singing: Sun. A.M.: Richard Jennings
Sun. P.M.: Greg Harrison
Wed.: Ray Kennedy/Youth

Sunday Prayers:

Dec. 06:
A.M. Troy Robertson
Paul Ormon
P.M. Perry Jones
Bill Lyon
Dec. 13:
A.M. Steve Todd
Ruston Adams
P.M. Randy Wall
Phillip Young
Dec. 20:
A.M. Harold Russell
Harold Crowe
P.M. Gary Turner
Jerry Grimmett
Dec. 27:
A.M. Brad Pounders
Jim Gann
P.M. Lonnie Weaver
Caleb Jennings

Lord's Supper:

North Head: Roger Clayton
North Helper I: Greg Clayton
North Helper II: Dillon Clayton

South Head: Olen Clark
South Helper I: Alvin Parks
South Helper II: Tyler Weaver

Scripture Reading:

Dec. 06 — Anderson Parks
Dec. 13 — David Clayton
Dec. 20 — Michael Crotts
Dec. 27 — Dean Dillard

Wednesday Prayers:

Dec. 02 — Ray Kennedy; Bobby Marques
Dec. 09 — Thomas Wall; Terry Stubblefield
Dec. 16 — Richard Adams; Shane Crotts
Dec. 23 — Phil Young; Daniel Drummond
Dec. 30 — Hunter Jennings; Drew Drummond

Greeters:

Dec. 06 — Richard & Kathy Jennings
Dec. 13 — Steve & Lana Todd
Dec. 20 — Troy & Novene Robertson
Dec. 27 — Greg & Kim Clayton

Usher & Lock:

Dec. 01 — Brad Pounders
Dec. 13 — Harold Russell
Dec. 20 — Randy Wall
Dec. 27 — Lonnie Weaver

Prepare Communion: Lea Ann McMillen



Absence is a Symptom

Fever is a symptom of a disorder somewhere in the body. The primary problem may be a hidden infection that would not otherwise be noticeable until it is in an advanced stage. High body temperature tells us something is wrong in the body, somewhere. It tells us a reliable cure needs to be found and applied.

Unnecessary absence from worship and Bible study is a fever-like symptom. Mere absence, however, is not the only factor for diagnosing spiritual illness. There are times when it may be necessary to be absent from worship and Bible study. On the other hand, habitual absence is a spiritual malady that needs to be cured.

As a fever may possess a man who does not know what causes it, even so a Christian can neglect worship without being aware of the problems that cause one to do so. We can easily camouflage our lack of concern for worship by involving ourselves in personal interests. This is easy to do when other interests seem to be more important than they really are. Select wisely the things that are important in life (Mt. 6:33).

We should recognize the difference in one who would rather attend worship but can't and those who attend but had just as soon be elsewhere. My mere presence in a meeting house every time the doors open should not be taken as a sign of "good spiritual health." Attending just to have a good record of attendance, without a positive desire to please the Lord and learn how to serve him better, is worthless.

Deliberately missing a worship service or Bible study is always spiritually significant. It is significant because it reveals the presence of a wound, an infection, a depression, or some other spiritual disorder. The fact that a person "feels well" about their spiritual life is no guarantee of sound spiritual health.

We need be more interested in causes than symptoms. We cannot avoid the implications of continued absence from worship services. This would be like a parent ignoring a high fever in a child. The fever is a symptom; the cause may take the child's life if the fever is ignored. Deliberate absence from worship and Bible study may take a spiritual life if it is ignored. — *Borrowed, author unknown*

PRAYER LIST



Bobby White is recovering from injuries to the fingers on his left hand he received while using a saw this past weekend.

Betty Young is recovering from a procedure she had this past week on her arm and wrist. She has regained some motion and will continue with therapy.

J.T. Gaines, a 10th grade student at Myrtle High School, that was seriously injured in a 4-wheeler accident, has been in an induced coma and has shown slight improvements.

Robby Koester son-in-law of *Mike and Sheila King* is recovering from emergency kidney stone surgery.

Kathy Clayton is suffering from pancreatic spasms. She has been in a lot of pain.

Continue to Remember:

Ricky Adams, David Crossings, Joyce Clayton, Roy Crow, Vernon Davis, Jackie Dodd, John Elliott, Kevin Flowers, Preeble Foster, Sonny Gay, Pam Hall, Donna Haynes, Glen Hill, Dianna Hodges, Shane Hutton, Davie Johnson, Judy Kirk, Lonnie Parker, Nancy Petrowski, Wayne Reams, Brooks Russell, B. A. Stubblefield, Sheila Thomas, Judy Ward, Nicki Weaver, Chris Windham, Terry & Betty Young, Tommy Young.

Shut-Ins:

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

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Grace Anderson, Perrin Drummond, Cornelia Kennedy, Betty Lang, Mayna Senter, Miriam Styers, Laura Mae Harris

Military List:

Tiffany Erwin, Derek Bradley

AREA WIDE YOUTH MEETING

This months' Area Wide Youth Meeting will be held at the West Main Congregation Sunday Dec. 6th, at 6:30. The van will leave at 5:50pm.

I've Learned...

Faith means that you have peace even when you don't have all the answers.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- December 04..... Daniel Drummond
- December 07..... Kathy Clayton
- December 08..... Larry Ashmore
- December 08..... Deloris Crowe
- December 10..... Maria Ormon

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- December 08..... David & Sharon Peeler



MEN'S BREAKFAST/PLANNING MEETING

Saturday morning December 5th, the men of the congregation are asked to meet at 7:00am at the fellowship building for breakfast and a planning session. All men, young and old, are encouraged to come enjoy a good breakfast and time of fellowship as well as help make plans for the upcoming year.



LADIES' CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

All ladies are invited to the home of *Janet Drummond* Sat. morning, Dec. 5th, at 9:30 for the annual Christmas Brunch. You are asked to bring finger foods and a wrapped Christmas ornament.



CARE GROUPS MEET

- Care Team 2 will meet at the home of *Richard and Kathy Jennings* Friday night, Dec. 4th, at 6:00.
- Care Team 1 will meet at the home of *Bobby & Dixie White* Sunday, Dec. 5th, following morning services.
- Care Team 3 will meet at the home of *Jerry and Eleta Grimmert* Sunday, Dec. 5th, following morning services.



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



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.....Anderson Parks
 A.M. Prayer.....Troy Robertson
 Closing Prayer.....Paul Ormon
 P.M. Prayer.....Perry Jones
 ClosingBill Lyon
 Wed.12/9.....Thomas Wall
 Wed.12/9.....Terry Stubblefield
 Usher & LockBrad Pounders
 Greeter.....R & K Jennings

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....100
 Sunday A.M.....139
 Sunday P. M.....87
 Wednesday.....102
 Contribution.....\$3,349.22
 Budget.....\$3,984.46



PANTRY ITEMS

Canned Meats

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The Junk Drawer

Recently, we had our kitchen remodeled, and thankfully ended up with several more cabinets and drawers afterwards. Even after we got all our dishes and utensils put away, we were left with a couple of empty drawers. I think everyone has that one drawer that is the catch all for items that don't have a real place. We lovingly refer to our drawer like that as the "junk drawer." However, since we had a couple of extra drawers our socially acceptable ONE junk drawer has slowly started to become two junk drawers. We didn't fill the spare drawer with useful and organized items, so it quickly became messy and full of random things. It's going to take work to make it useful again.



Jesus gives us a similar warning in Matthew 12:43-45. He speaks about an unclean spirit finding its former house empty and bringing back even more unclean spirits. Jesus ends his warning by saying the last state of the man is worse than the first.

Sometimes in life, it takes a lot of work to get rid of something unclean in our lives. We sometimes have to make big changes. However, once we make those big changes, we need to be filled with good and useful things. We need to be doing good works and be involved in the church. If we remain empty, bad habits are going to creep back in. What are you doing to keep that from happening?

~ Andy McDonald ~