



THE INFORMER

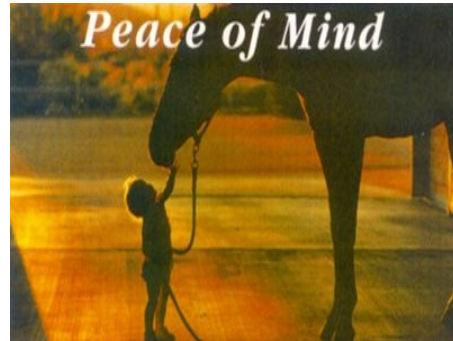
Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

December 4, 2012

FINDING THE SOURCE OF PEACE

Mike King



During this time of the year, much emphasis is given to having “peace on earth and good will toward men.” We fully understand that Jesus is the “Prince of Peace” and that which would be said or taught by Him would have the potential for bringing peace to the hearts of men.

Our culture is pointing us in the wrong direction to find that peace that is so much desired. Our culture says: deny God, debase man and deny morals. In essence, remove all accountability in your life and void your conscience of any wrong, i.e., stick your head in the sand and bad things will go away. That may be wishful thinking, but also naïve!

Solomon, a voice of experience, dealt with the true source in Proverbs chapter five. True peace, according to him, comes from controlling our hearts. He issues a number of factors for a pure life and peace. His first is the “**Instruction Factor**” (vv. 1-2). When attention is given to wisdom and understanding in order to be discrete. The Bible is the “handbook of the heart” and when read and studied, it can bring knowledge and control to the heart. Secondly, there is a “**Deception Factor**” (v. 3). Sin’s wares are frivolity, flattery and futility (vv. 4-6). Sin promises but never delivers! Load up on the Word of God to obtain a way of life that comes by the reproof of instruction (Prov. 6:23-24). Thirdly, there is a “**Protection Factor**” (vv. 7-8). The words of God will serve and direct its readers to an avenue of life free from the burdens of impurity. It will tell us to avoid traveling the path that goes to her door to avoid impurity (committing fornication) (vv. 7-8; I Thess 5:22; I Cor. 6:18). Fourthly, we are to avoid the “**Destruction Factor**” (vv. 9-14, 22). With it comes dissipation, disease and disappointment. There are immediate results that make us aware of our wrongs now, but largely this factor has its impact in our eternal existence. Next, we need to make use of the “**Diagnostic Factor**” (v. 14). Someone has said, “If you don’t want it published, don’t let it happen.” Be willing to come to grips with our life-style and then seek the remediation of the problem. The “**Dominion Factor**” (vv. 22-23) seeks to possess our minds. The devil fascinates then assassinates, he thrills then kills! Man is taken by his own wickedness and held with the cords of sin. Christ can help you unravel a twisted mind and life.

“An Unnecessary Exercise”

A man was hoeing his garden in a chair. Said the passerby to himself, “What laziness!” However, closer observation revealed to the passerby’s eye, a pair of crutches leaning against the gardener’s chair. The passerby was guilty of that unnecessary exercise called “jumping to conclusions.”

Be Honest! Very little effort is required for attaching the worst connotation possible to the decisions or actions of others. Yes, it is so easy to jump to conclusions, ignoring (or being void of) all the facts behind the decisions and actions of others. On the other hand, it is more difficult to believe in, and hope for, the best from one another - as Christians who love one another should (I Cor. 13:8).

So what will help us be more fair in the concepts we have of one another. And in the conclusions we draw about one another? From the words of Jesus in that familiar passage Matt. 7:1-5, there are several things we need to remember.

1. First, it is wrong to impetuously judge and jump to conclusions about one another. Jesus said, “*Judge not*” (Matt. 7:1).
2. Second, life is a mirror: we receive from it what we put into it. Jesus warned, “*With what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged; and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again*” (Matt. 7:2). Yes, if we jump to conclusions about others, others will jump to conclusions about us!
3. Third, jumping to conclusions will adversely affect our relationship with fellow brethren. Such is inevitable. We must not capitalize on the faults of brethren, “*the mote that is in thy brother’s eye*”, and fail to consider our own faults, “*the beam that is in thine own eye*” (Matt 7:3).
4. Fourth, jumping to conclusions will adversely affect our concept of self. Such transpires when our actions say to another, “*Let us pull out the mote out of thine eye*”, but at the same time a “*beam*” is in our own eye. (Matt. 7:4).
5. Fifth, jumping to conclusions will adversely affect our relationship with God. Yes, jumping to conclusions makes one a “*hypocrite*” (Matt. 7:5).



We need not be blind to the faults of others; but let us at least be fair to one another in reference to these faults. Remember, the crosses people bear are seldom in plain sight! “*Judge not according to appearance, but judge righteous judgment*” (Jn. 7:24). Wouldn’t that be great?

By: Dan Winkler

Confession Vs. Hypocrisy

After hearing a sermon on confession a man approached his preacher with a heavy conscience. He explained that he worked for a boat builder and stole expensive brass nails. The man could not tell the boat builder, he said, because he would lose his job and his boss would think him a hypocrite and all of the times I shared my faith with him will go to waste. Finally guilt got so bad he had to confess. He offered restitution. His boss responded, “I always did think you were just a hypocrite, but now I feel there’s something in this Christianity after all. Any religion that would make a dishonest workman come back and confess that he had been stealing brass nails and offer to settle for them must be worth having.” “Confess” Jas 5:16.

~ copied

Whoever You Are

- Whoever you are, there is some younger person who thinks you are perfect.
- Whoever you are, there is some work that won’t get done unless you do it.
- Whoever you are, there is someone who would miss you if you were gone.
- Whoever you are, there is a reason for becoming better than you are.
- Whoever you are, there is a place to be filled that you alone can fill.

Jesus emphasized the importance of personal example in His sermon on the mount as He stated, “*Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven*” (Matthew 5:16).



PRAYER LIST

Belle Cross fell and is in ICU of the local hospital with Cerebral Hemorrhaging.

Eleta Grimmert is at home slowly recovering from pneumonia. Please, no calls or visits at this time. She appreciates so much the many cards she has received.

Jeff Denton, uncle of *Andy Brown* (our summer youth intern) has been diagnosed with cancer.

Bill DePriest was carried to the hospital Sun. night with blood pressure problems. He is at home and doing better.

Continual Prayer

Melissa Reed, David Thornton, Crystal Bickerstaff, Whitney House, Audrey Clement, Suzette Renix, Grace Anderson, Anna Claire Ellis, Diane Sloan, Yolanda Stubblefield, Randall Haney, Taterrin Wilson, Rosie Wilson, Rex Lyon, Tauso Branch, Perrin Drummond, Mary Alice Holloway, Prebble Foster, Jack Dunlap, Tony Cross, Norman Brown, Al Pless, Hugh Collins, Shane Crotts, Terry & Betty Young

Shut-Ins

Jean Drummond, Billy Joe Garner, Belle Cross

Nursing Home/Assisted Living: Mattie Golden, Altha Rogers, Amy Vest, Laura Mae Harris

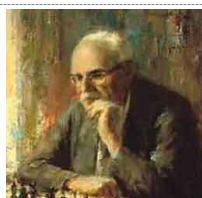
Military List:

David & Barry Wilhite, Jimmie Stutts, Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Michelle Hamm, Raegan Cole, Derek Bradley, Jesse Stroud



“I BELIEVE”

....that your mind can only hold one thought at a time, so make it a positive and constructive one.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- December 07.....Kathy Clayton
- December 08..... Larry Ashmore
- December 08..... Deloris Crowe
- December 10.....Maria Ormon
- December 13.....Clayton Hill
- December 14..... Eleta Grimmert

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

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



DECEMBER HAPPENINGS

- This month’s Youth Devo will be held Sun. Dec. 9th, following morning services. Following lunch the youth will make cards and go Christmas caroling. The boys are asked to bring desserts and the girls chips. Thanks to *Dan Cobb* and *Sarah Walker* for hosting.
- Our Holiday Fellowship will be held Sun. night Dec. 16th, following evening services. You are asked to bring finger foods and desserts.
- 5th Sunday Services will be Dec. 30th. There will be a potluck meal following morning services. The adult III class will be in charge of setup and cleanup of the fellowship building. Our afternoon service will begin at 1:15pm.



INFORMER MAILING UPDATE

If you would like to keep receiving the Informer by mail please clip your address from the front of the bulletin and mail it to us at: P.O. 148 New Albany, MS 38652. You may also contact us at 662-534-4649 or by email at: nacoc15s@gmail.com. We will be happy to keep you on our mailing list. Please let the office know by Dec. 31st.

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....	108
Sunday A.M.....	141
Sunday P.M.....	93
Wednesday.....	110
Contribution.....	\$ 3,442.55
Budget.....	\$ 3,567.55

TO SERVE

Scripture.....	Terry Stubblefield
A.M. Prayer.....	Harold Russell
Closing Prayer.....	Steve Todd
P.M. Prayer.....	Richard Adams
Closing.....	Gary Turner
Wed 12/12.....	Lonnie Weaver
Wed. 12/12.....	David Clayton
Usher & Lock.....	Randy Wall
Greeter.....	B & A Pounders



PANTRY ITEM

Dried Beans or Rice

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.....	538-8195
Harold Russell	534-4648
Randy Wall	316-9255
Lonnie Weaver.....	801-8448

MINISTER

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

PRIORTIES

We live in a world full of distractions. Therefore, we must constantly check our priorities to make sure they are in order. God demands first place!

Making God Second Best

I'm always prompt to punch the clock
I never miss a date;
But when I go to worship God,
I'm usually always late.
I wouldn't think of leaving work,
To visit brother Fred;
I just wait 'til Sunday comes,
And forsake the church instead.
I never miss a day at work;
Perfection's what I seek;
But I miss the worship of my God
Once or twice a week.
I talk with people daily,
Of many subjects rife,
But I never mention Jesus,
Nor show Him in my life.
I spend extra on my family
For things I can't afford;
But I don't remember, ever,
Giving extra to the Lord.
When your life on earth is over
And they lay you down to rest,
How can he say to you, "well done,"
If you've made Him second best?

"So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:33)

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