



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

March 11, 2014

Words Against the Lord

Mike King



During the days of Malachi, some were speaking against the Lord. They had begun to believe that worship, obedience to God, and repentance to God were not worth its time. Listen to Malachi's indictment of these people: *"Your words have been harsh against Me," says the Lord, "yet you say, 'What have we spoken against You?'" "You have said, 'It is vain to serve God; what profit is it that we have kept His ordinance, and that we have walked as mourners before the Lord of hosts? 'So now we call the proud blessed, for those who do wickedness are raised up; yes, those who tempt God go free.'"* This is so characteristic of our generation today. How is this done?

We speak against God when denying His existence. Atheist *Robert Ingersoll* said that, "he had never seen one." Neither had he seen electricity, love, etc., but yet accepts them as existing! Only a fool will deny God's existence (Ps. 14:1). Even the heavens show His workmanship (Ps. 19:1).

Some speak against His creative power by espousing evolution and not creation. This is even believed by those who refer to themselves as "Christians." God stated His case for existence in the very first verse of the Bible (Gen. 1:1), *"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."*

Others speak against God's Word, which is vicariously speaking against Him. Students of His Word find it to be inspired and adequate to address man's every need in this life" (II. Tim. 3:16-17). Too, we believe that *"holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost"* (II Pet. 1:21).

Another select group speaks against God by speaking against His Son Jesus. Jesus is brushed off as being a "good man." Good men do not lie; He claimed to be the only *"begotten Son of God"* (Jn. 1:14), born miraculously by a virgin (Mt. 1:18-23) placing Him equidistant between God and man as a mediator (I Tim. 2:5).

Some speak derogatorily against God's ability. A knowledge of God would set people free from the ignorance of His power (Jn. 8:32) which can be cured by proper study (II Tim. 2:15). God had to have power before He could give it to Jesus. Science, history, archeology, etc., are finding proof on a daily basis that God and Jesus were who they said they were. It shall only become clearer with time.

There are various other ways to speak against the Lord. Any disrespectful reference or sacrilegious treatment of God will be met with disdain!

Am I Giving My Best?

And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave themselves to the Lord and then to us by the will of God." (II Corinthians 8:5).

I read that Queen Mary used to go to Scotland every summer. She was so loved by the people that she went about the country without an escort. One afternoon she was walking with some children. Suddenly dark clouds came up. The queen stopped at a house and asked to borrow an umbrella. She said to the lady of the house, "I'll send it back to you tomorrow." The lady was reluctant to lend a good umbrella to a stranger, but remembered that she had an old one in the attic. One rib was broken and there were several holes in it, but she turned it over to the lady at the door with an apology.

The next day there was another knock at the door. When she opened the door, a man in gold braid stood with a big envelope in hand. The queen sent me," he said, "and she asked me to thank you for the umbrella." For a moment the woman was stunned and then she burst into tears. She said, "Oh! What an opportunity I missed that I did not give her my best!"

The story is told of a rich man who wanted to help a poor carpenter and his family. He hired him to build a house and went away on a long journey. The carpenter said, "My boss is away, so I can use shoddy materials, cut down on supporting work, and no one but me will know." So he built a cheap and shoddy house.

When the rich man returned, the carpenter said to him, "Here is your house all finished according to your instructions."

"Good," said the rich man, "and here are the keys and the deed. It is yours. I am giving you this house." Over the years the carpenter grieved. In using cheap materials, he had only cheated himself.

Each day we have an opportunity to give Jesus the best of our time, money, ability, and opportunity. According to Jesus, we are helping ourselves when we give our best to Him. *"Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal, For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."* (Matthew. 6:19-21).

Jesus tells us that our treasures are indications of our focus, faith, and future.

Our giving tells where we place our emphasis, how much we believe in what we do not see and the direction our heart will travel. What umbrella are you giving the King? What kind of house are you building for yourself?

~ Jerry Barber ~

BIBLE TRIVIA

1. Who was the left-handed judge? _____ Judges 3:15
2. Who was a herdsman of Tekoa and a gatherer of sycamore fruit? _____ Amos 1:1 7:14
3. Who were Moses' parents? _____ Exodus 6:20
4. Who climbed a sycamore tree to see Jesus? _____ Luke 19:4
5. What did God give Jonah for a shade? _____ Jonah 4:6
7. What is the longest word in the Bible? _____ Isaiah 8:1
8. Who was the female judge of Israel? _____ Judges 4:3
9. Who had a donkey that spoke? _____ Numbers 22:28
10. Who was the wife of Moses? _____ Exodus 2:21
11. Name two men who did not die. _____ Genesis 5:24; _____ II Kings 2:11
12. Who commanded the sun to stand still? _____ Joshua 10:12
13. Which king consulted the witch of Endor (woman with a familiar spirit)? _____ I Samuel 28:7
14. Who was surnamed "the sons of thunder"? _____ Mark 3:17
15. Who was accused of turning the world upside down? _____ Acts 17:6
16. To whom did God show his back parts? _____ Exodus 33:23
17. What is like apples of gold in pictures of silver? _____ Proverbs 25:11
18. Who was a man after God's own heart? _____ I Samuel 13:14 and Acts 13:22
19. This queen was thrown out of her window and her flesh was immediately eaten by dogs. _____ II Kings 9:36
20. This king was eaten by worms and died because he did not give God the glory. _____ Acts 12:23



For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016



PRAYER LIST

Pat Reed is in room 5521 of the Tupelo Hospital recovering from hip surgery. She will remain there for about a month for rehab and dialysis.

Joel Holley, father of *Kim Clayton* has been released from the hospital for a few days before his next treatment. Please keep him in your prayers.

Nancy Petrowski, daughter of *Harold* and *Deloris Crowe* will be going to the Vanderbilt Hospital March 17th, for a bone marrow biopsy and prepare for a bone marrow transplant. Please pray for her during this time.

Continual Prayer list:

Barbara Kimbrell, Tony Cross, Tetterian Wilson, Gloria Jones, Ivery Cobb, Joe Wilson, Glen Jumper, Joyce Gilmore, Eulene Hooper, Tony Cross, Grace Anderson, Alicia Dukes, Rivers Robertson, Hudson Grisham, Justin Forsyth, Kelly Fryar, Donna & Roy Crow, Hugh Collins, Jack Dunlap, Prebble Foster, Terry Young

Shut-Ins:

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

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris, Louise Holcomb, Maxine Carlisle, Jennie Frohn

Military List:

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

GOSPEL MEETING

Our Gospel Meeting begins Sunday March 31st, with *Chad Ramsey* as our guest speaker. Mark this date on your calendar and begin inviting your friends and neighbors.

Wise Thoughts

Remember, when you forgive you heal and when you let go, you grow.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



March 15. Masey Kate Adams
March 15. Andy Clemmer
March 16. Charles Kimbrell
March 17. Patricia Crow
March 17. Laura Mae Harris
March 19. Dan Cobb
March 19. Clay Jennings
March 21. Bill Botts

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

March 17. Mark & Alyce Jennings



NEW ADDRESS



We received a letter from former member *Darlene Lancaster* that she has moved to a senior residence apartment. Her new address is Sedgwick Plaza 2455 N. Woodlawn #146, Wichita, KS 67220. Her telephone remains the same. Her letter is posted on the bulletin board.

PM FELLOWSHIP

Sunday night March 16th we will have a fellowship meal following our evening services. You are asked to bring finger foods and desserts. The adult II class will be in charge of set-up and clean-up of the fellowship building. Make plans to stay and enjoy a time of good food and fellowship.



YOUTH NEWS

- The Junior Bible Bowl will meet for the final competition of the season March 22nd, at the Gloster St. congregation.
- The Senior Bible Bowl will meet for their final competition Sunday, March 16th at the Mayfield congregation.
- *Cody Hardin*, our summer youth intern, will be here to speak Sunday, March 23rd at our morning worship service.
- This month's youth devo will be held Sunday night, March 23rd. The Weavers' will be hosting.

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

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 Jennings534-6671
Troy Robertson534-3491

DEACONS

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

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Clay Ormon
A.M. Prayer.....Perry Jones
Closing Prayer.....Alvin Parks
P.M. Prayer...Terry Stubblefield
Closing.....Thomas Wall
Wed.3/19.....Ray Kennedy
Wed.3/19.....Bill Lyon
Usher & Lock.....Brad Pounders
Greeter.....B & A Pounders

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....106
Sunday A.M.....128
Sunday P.M.....84
Wednesday.....113
Contribution.....\$3,586.46
Budget.....\$3,989.47



PANTRY ITEM

Jelly

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Volume 10

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

10 Rules for Happy Living:

1. Give something away (no strings attached).
2. Do a kindness (and forget it).
3. Spend a few minutes with the aged (their experience is priceless guidance).
4. Look intently into the face of a baby (and marvel).
5. Laugh often (it's life's lubricant).
6. Give thanks (a thousand times a day is not enough).
7. Pray (or you will lose the way).
8. Work (with vim and vigor).
9. Plan as though you'll live forever (because you will).
10. Live as though you'll die tomorrow (because you will die on some tomorrow).

"Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

II Thess. 5:16-18