



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

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Named by God as Heirs

Mike King



A very provocative thought has been penned by *Oren Arnold*. He pretty much spoke for all mankind when he wrote, “It wouldn’t help much for me to see myself as others see me. I simply would not believe it!”

When we think about being the recipients of God’s choicest blessings as heirs of God, we find it a concept hard to grasp. Typically, we feel unworthy and undeserving to be blessed by God. It is an amazing thought to ponder--heirs of God! Just who are the heirs of God? It is explained in Rom. 8:17 just who they are, “...*if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with him, that we may also be glorified together.*” Did you notice that he did not say if we are “*creatures, then heirs?*” It did not indicate that if we were descendants of godly people that we would be heirs (Heb. 9:7ff). The Bible does say that “*If children, then heirs.*”

The Father’s estate is of great value. He is the Lord of heaven and earth. Everything that is visible and invisible belongs to Him. It is flattering that He is willing to share His bounty of wealth with us. It is exciting to know that we can be recipients of His great holdings of both a physical and spiritual nature.

When becoming the children of God we have access to “*the grace of life*” (1 Pet. 3:7); righteousness (Heb. 11:7); salvation (Heb. 1:14); the promise (Heb. 6:17); the kingdom (Jas. 2:5); eternal life (Titus 3:7); and all things (I Cor. 3:21-22; Rev. 21:7).

An additional piece of positive information is that we are “*Joint heirs with Christ Jesus.*” He shares with us His glory because we share in His resurrection (Jn. 14:19; 2 Tim. 1:10), His nature (Phil. 3:20-21; 1 Jn. 3:2), and His eternal home (Jn. 14:1-3; Mt. 25:31).

Since we cannot inherit without being children, it behooves each of us to learn how to become and remain as God’s faithful children. We are adopted (Rom. 8:15) and admitted into His divine family by faith, a repentant faith (Acts 2:38). It is faith that leads us to the birthing process, by which we become God’s children in baptism (Gal. 3:26-27). By this, we become the adopted children of Royalty, a child of a loving, wise, rich, and eternal Father. “*How can we neglect so great a salvation?*” (Heb. 2:3).

A Great Gift —Make a Visit

The days of sitting, rocking, and talking on the front porch with a neighbor, friend, or even total stranger may be gone. However the need for visiting folks is just as important as it ever was.

"Well, we don't have a visitation program in our church," someone says. Who says you need a program to do what should really just be part of your Christianity. "Easy for you to say, preacher. You're paid to visit."

If I know my heart, I would be engaged in regular visitation even if I wasn't a preacher--in part because of my upbringing. I can't remember a time that my family and I didn't make regular visits to homes, hospitals, nursing homes, door knocking to set up Bible studies, and so on.

It started with my childhood, and I've carried it through to the present, a heart for ministry--visiting. There has rarely been a month (for the last many years, a week) go by where visitation and personal Bible studies have not been part and parcel to my life. I reckon that if I could have it both ways, I'd spend 100% percent of my work day studying, and the other 100% of it visiting and conducting Bible studies. :-) Most preachers would I suppose. Now one of my great joys is instilling this discipline in the hearts of my children.

There is a wonderful illustration of the need for visiting in Luke 10:25-37. It tells of a man who was overtaken by thieves. His clothes were stolen, his body beaten, and he was left for dead in the street. The first two who came upon the tattered and tired man were religious individuals--a priest and a Levite. The priest didn't stop. He never made eye contact. He may have even crossed the street to walk on the other side. The Levite, who also should have known better, stopped and stared, but then behaved like the priest and walked on the other side.

It wasn't until a Samaritan saw him and had compassion on him that the abused was "visited"--looked upon, inspected, and then taken care of. Notice the order of this "visit." The Samaritan (1) approached the man, (2) served the man, (3) cared for the man, and (4) cared for the man some more.

While that's fascinating, what comes next should really stir us. Jesus says, "...Go, and do thou likewise" (v. 36).

Jesus wants us to visit. I can think of no greater gift you can give yourself, your family, a friend or neighbor this year than to share your love by making a visit. Think about it. ~ Neil Richey



Church Attendance -- Is it Necessary?

Seek First the Kingdom

It is a strong congregation whose members can be counted upon to assemble together unless they are truly hindered from the Lord. The principle that Jesus stated in Matt. 6:33 to "Seek first the kingdom of God" is the basis that faithful Christians should use in determining whether or not to assemble with the church. Placing the Lord's church before the other things that compete for our time and energy is certainly the proper attitude.

The Lord in Our Midst

If we believe Matt. 18:20 "For where two or three have gathered together in my name there I am in their midst,," we will then realize that if we absent ourselves from the assembly, we remove ourselves from a meeting where the Lord is present.

Jesus Call For Reapers!

To His Disciples, Jesus said, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he send forth laborers into his harvest" (Matt. 9:37-38).

On another occasion Jesus said, "lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; they are white already unto harvest" (Jn. 4:35). The harvest fields await reapers — shall God's servants spend time in idleness? There is an urgent need, and a place for every Christian to serve in gathering in the sheaves! Are you serving?



New Albany Church of Christ

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

PRAYER LIST



Jerry Gibson had eye surgery Monday, at St. Frances Hospital in Memphis.

Nancy Petrowski is improving from her recent surgery on her foot.

Joe Reed will be gone for a few weeks to McBryde Center for the Blind in Jackson, MS. He wants to learn Braille, how to use the computer and other things that will help him. He will be able to receive phone calls. If you would like to give him a word of encouragement you will find his cell # in the directory.

Continue to remember:

Genice Collett, John Elliott, Timmy Bolden, Judy Ward, Natalie Griffin, Roger Clayton, Tatarin Wilson, Lacy Wilson, William Wilson, Sonny Gay, David Crossings, Andy Ulmer, Whit Robertson, Harold Reeves, Sheila Thomas, Yolanda Stubblefield, Barbara Davis, Justin Forsyth, Preeble Foster, Donna Haynes, Roy Crow, Shane Hutton, 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:

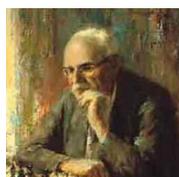
Barry Wilhite, Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Raegan Cole, Derek Bradley, Jesse Stroud

BIBLE QUIZ:

- **What did James and John want to do to the unwelcoming Samaritan village?**
_____ **Luke 9:54**
- **What did Paul do when he couldn't bear to be away from the brethren at Thessalonica any longer?** _____
I Thess. 3:1-2

I've Learned...

A Christian must carry something on his shoulders heavier than chips.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



March 05. Price Senter
March 06. Bill Lyon
March 10. Richard Jennings
March 13. Olivia Pounders

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

March 11. Charles & Barbara Kimbrell



THANK YOU NOTE

Thank you all for the calls, visits, food and cards. You all are a very special group and I love you all very much.
Roger Clayton

TIME CHANGE!

Sunday March 8th, Daylight Savings time begins. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed Saturday night or you will be late for Sunday School! If you have not been coming to Sunday School now is the perfect time to begin. We have just begun a new quarter. See you Sunday at 9:30AM!



AREA EVENTS:

- The Area Wide Youth Meeting will be held at the Church St congregation in Pontotoc Sun. March 8th. The van will leave at 5:55PM.
- The Senior Bible Bowl will be held at the Mayfield congregation Sun., March 15th.
- The Junior Bible Bowl will be held Sat. March 28th, at the Gloster St. congregation.
- Pine Vale Children's Home Annual Benefit Golf Tournament will be held Sat., April 18th. Please check the bulletin board for more details.

**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.....Burrell Walton
A.M. Prayer.....Harold Russell
Closing Prayer..Hunter Jennings
P.M. PrayerGary Turner
ClosingDan Cobb
Wed.3/11.....Harold Crowe
Wed.3/11.....Bill Lyon
Usher & LockRandy Wall
Greeter.....A & K Parks

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....99
Sunday A.M.....119
Sunday P. M.....94
Wednesday.....NA
Contribution.....\$4,375.16
Budget.....\$3,984.46



PANTRY ITEMS

Canned Carrots

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“Is It Bad or Good?”

“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”
Rom. 8:28

There is an old story which is told of a man who raised horses for a living. When one of his prized stallions ran away, his friends gathered at his home to mourn his great loss. After they had expressed their concern, the man raised this question: “How do I know whether what happened is bad or good?” A couple of days later the runaway horse returned with several strays following close behind. The same acquaintances again came to his house, but this time to celebrate his good fortune. “But how do I know whether it’s good or bad?” the old gentleman asked them. That very afternoon, one of the horses kicked the owner’s son and broke his leg. Once more the crowd assembled—now to express their sorrow over the incident. “But how do I know if this is bad or good?” the father asked again. Only a few days later, war broke out. The man’s son, however, was exempted from the military service because of his broken leg. Yes, you guessed it, his friends again gathered -- but the story stops here. We can easily see how it could go on and on. This tale points out that from our limited human perspective, it’s impossible to know with certainty how to interpret the experiences of life. The writer of Ecclesiastes said, “*I surely know that it will be well with those who fear the Lord, who fear before Him.*” Eccl. 8:12