



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

April 22, 2014

Don't Be Afraid- Possess the Land

Mike King



We know the story well of the ten spies that came back with a negative report. Joshua and Caleb believed in the power of God. When Joshua became successor to Moses, his desire was to trust in God and possess the land (Jos. 1). The following are some suggestions as to how we too can “possess the land.”

God told them to simply “*Go over and take the land*” (v. 2-3). He further stated, “*I give you the land.*” When God makes a promise, it is as good as done! God provides for us by grace, but we receive His bounty by faith. Go after it if it is something God can in good conscience supply, otherwise, we better forget it!

He promised, “*None shall be able to stand*” (v. 5). Giants and walled cities meant nothing to God. What appears to be an obstacle to us will not faze God. The question that must be pondered is, “*If God is for us, who can be against us?*” (Rom. 8:31).

God reassured His people that “*I will not fail or forsake you*” (v. 5). Can you think of any other legitimate promise that Israel needed? What other promise do we need? (Heb. 13:5; Matt. 28:20).

They were instructed to “*Be strong and courageous*” (v. 6). This could only be obtainable by remembering God’s ability to enable them to do so. In similar manner, we today can be tenacious toward sin and coping with life when tapping God’s great power (Heb. 13:6; Eph. 6:10).

The taking of the land could only be accomplished when willing to “*Do everything according to the word*” (vs. 7). God promised to bless them if they stayed with His word. They were told to meditate on it day and night and be careful to do its teaching (v. 8). We as well will prosper and have success when we stay with the teaching (II Jn. 9-11)!

Finally, they were told, “*Don't be afraid*” (v. 9). God will go before you. He used hornets, plagues and even people like the harlot Rahab. The only thing that stopped them was when sin was allowed to enter the camp (e.g., Achan). When they sat down on the job, they had reasons to be fearful for God withdrew from them. Hear the key words of James: “*submit...resist...flee...draw...cleanse...purify...humble...and he shall lift you up*” (4:7-9). We may need to make a move in God’s direction!

GRANDMA WENT TO THE MALL

Grandma went to the mall the other day and came home horrified. She said, "I have never seen the like of poor teens we have in this country." I asked, "Grandma, how could you tell they were poor?" "It was easy," she said. "Just look at them."

"Most of the young men didn't even own a belt to keep their britches up. And on top of that, their jeans were a sight to behold. They must have borrowed their father's jeans, because they were so big and baggy that they hung so low that you could see their underwear. Furthermore, the jeans were dirty and had big holes in them and the knees were ripped out.

The girls hanging out with the boys were even worse. Most of them had on their little sister's clothes. The jeans were five sizes too small. How they got into them I'll never know. They hardly covered the girl's hipbones, and oh my, the tops they wore were so short that there was a gap in the middle between the top and the jeans. I felt embarrassed for those poor girls that they were forced to walk around looking like that."

So, grandma went to bed last night feeling sorry for the poor boys and girls who hang out at the mall of America. She wishes she could donate some of her clothes kept in her full closet, but she knows her clothes would certainly not be the right style for that generation.

So the styles in clothing keep changing. The next generation sees nothing wrong with the new styles. In all honesty, all generations are horrified to look back to old pictures and high school year books and remember how cool they felt then and how ridiculous those styles look now. So, even though grandma is shocked and worried, that's not the real problem. Styles do change and always will.

Modesty and appropriateness, however, never change! Let's try to remember that in the midst of a changing world that there is a Biblical constant which should guide us in our decision making.

~ Tim Woodward



Lads to Leaders/Leaderettes Results

Songs of Praise

Masey Kate Adams, 3rd grade — 2nd place
Olivia Pounders, 6th grade — 1st place
Audrey Anna Young, 9th grade — 3rd place

Winners' Circle Songs of Praise

Jodi Parks, 4th-6th grade — 1st place
Madison Griggs, 7th-9th grade — 3rd place
Bailey Adams, 10th-12th grade — 1st place

Winners' Circle Song Leading

David Clayton, 4th-6th grade — 1st place

Winners' Circle Speech

David Clayton — 1st place
Audrey Anna Young — 2nd place
Dillon Clayton — Finalist
Anderson Parks — 2nd place

Speech

Masey Kate Adams, 3rd grade — 1st place
Jodi Parks, 5th grade — 2nd place
Olivia Pounders, 6th grade — 2nd place
Thomas Wall, 8th grade — Finalist
Madison Griggs, 9th grade — 3rd place
Tyler Weaver, 9th grade — 1st place

Power Point

Ashley Weaver — 1st place

Participated in Winners Circle Song Leading:

Ruston Adams 7th-9th & Speech

Centurion of Scripture:

Dillon & David Clayton, Olivia Pounders & Anderson Parks

Received Certificates: Cooper Pounders

Participated Locally: Carlisle Smithey

Youth News

- Congratulations to our young people for a job well done this past weekend at the Lads to Leaders Convention. We are so proud of you all.
- There will be a Youth Devo Sunday night following services the boys are asked to bring hamburger buns, (8 count), and the girls are asked to bring chips. The *Parks'* and *Smitheys'* will be hosting.

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016



PRAYER LIST

Joel Holley remains in the Tupelo Hospital. He was moved back to the cancer floor Monday, room 579. He has been experiencing breathing and kidney problems.

J. L. Eaton is at home following back surgery this past Friday, in Tupelo. He is slowly improving.

Nancy Petrowski, daughter of *Harold* and *Deloris Crowe* is at the Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville preparing for chemo treatments and a bone marrow transplant. She is expected to be there for about 4 months.

Gail Clayton, aunt of *Richard Adams* underwent emergency by-pass surgery Monday in Tupelo.

Sympathy:



We express our deepest sympathy to *Richard Adams* and family in the death of his grandmother **Maxine Carlisle** of Fulton.

Funeral services were held Monday, April 21st in Fulton, MS.

Continual Prayer list:

Pat Reed, Betty Young, Tetterian Wilson, Tony Cross, Glen Jumper, Joyce Gilmore, Eulene Hooper, Grace Anderson, Alicia Dukes, Rivers Robertson, Hudson Grisham, Kelly Fryar, Donna & Roy Crow, Hugh Collins, Jack Dunlap, Prebble Foster, Terry Young

Shut-Ins:

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

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

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

Military List:

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



Wise Thoughts

Satan is a fisherman too. Deceit is his bait.
Suckers get caught.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



April 26. Austin Garrett
April 29. Lana Todd
April 30. Jamie Crow

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

April 28. Larry & Linda Ashmore
April 28. John & Brooke Mann
April 29. Harold & Deloris Crowe



REJOICE!

Congratulations to *William Sloan* on his decision to be baptized Friday morning, April 18th. We commend *William* for his willingness to dedicate his life to Christ. Please welcome our new brother in Christ and encourage him as he begins his new life as a Christian. *William* is the son of *Brad* and *Kirsten Sloan*.

L/L SERVICE AND AWARDS

Sunday night April 27th, our young men who participated in Lads to Leaders will be in charge of our evening service. Following our worship service all the young people who participated in Lads to Leaders, Junior, and Senior Bible Bowls will be recognized. Please come and encourage these young people who are striving to live for the Lord and learn better how to serve Him.

AREA EVENTS

- Gospel Meeting at the Batesville Church of Christ, April 27-30 at 7:00pm nightly with guest speaker, *Mark Ray*.
- The Mayfield Church of Christ will have a Gospel Singing May 2nd from 7:00-9:00pm and a Gospel Meeting May 4th with *Leon Barnes* presenting a sermon series titled "Parents in Pain."
- The Nettleton Church of Christ will have a Gospel Meeting May 4-7 at 7pm. Guest speaker will be *Philip Hathcock*.
- A Gospel Meeting at Hwy 178 Church of Christ to be held May 19-22, at 7:00pm nightly. Guest speakers will be *David Jackson & Billy Moore*.

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

Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com Church Text # 662-854-0053

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
Lonnie Weaver.....801-8448

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Hunter Jennings
A.M. Prayer.....Brad Pounders
Closing Prayer.....Bill Lyon
P.M. Prayer.....Lonnie Weaver
Closing.....Josh George
Wed.4/30.....Phillip Young
Wed.4/30.....Ruston Adams
Usher & Lock.....Brad Pounders
Greeter.....S & L Todd

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....90
Sunday A.M.....123
Sunday P.M.....90
Wednesday.....112
Contribution.....\$3,330.00
Budget.....\$3,989.47



PANTRY ITEM

Crackers

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Life Is a Gift

- Today before you say an unkind word—think of someone who can't speak.
- Before you complain about the taste of your food—think of someone who has nothing to eat.
- Before you complain about your husband or wife—think of someone who's crying out to God for a companion.
- Today before you complain about life—think of someone who died too early.
- Before you complain about your children—think of someone who desires children but they're barren.
- Before you argue about your dirty house someone didn't clean or sweep—think of the people who are living in the streets.
- Before whining about the distance you drive—think of someone who walks the same distance with their feet.
- And when you are tired and complain about your job—think of the unemployed, the disabled, and those who wish they had your job.
- But before you think of pointing the finger or condemning another—remember that not one of us is without sin and we all answer to one Maker.
- And when depressing thoughts seem to get you down—put a smile on your face and thank God you're alive and still around.



~ Author Unknown ~