



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

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Subversion Through Procrastination

Mike King



There is a myth that describes the Devil coming to subvert the earth. Speculations were made as to which ware or tool he would use to accomplish his task. Some mentioned fornication as the vice that causes sufficient destruction. Another felt as if cheating and stealing would suffice. After many reports, Satan announces that he will subvert the world by using the tool of procrastination. He would lead everybody to believe that there is plenty of time to obey the gospel or become involved in exercising good works as Christians.

Let me mention some major characteristics of procrastination to enable each of us to examine ourselves to see if we are being subverted by procrastination.

1. "Let's put this off until later." We let good works die of natural causes and they never get done. Interest, momentum, and concern for doing them are lost by waiting!
2. A contingency procrastination occurs when a work becomes "dependent upon something or someone else. We may have awaited the construction of a new auditorium, waiting on leadership or a convenient time. We may substitute a minor project to license neglect of a more important one because we feel threatened or uncomfortable in dealing with it directly.
3. Getting sidetracked with diversionary tactics to justify not doing it because of lack of interest or concern. This indicates a priority problem or lack of discipline.
4. Waiting for the right circumstances is another form of procrastination. We await the ideal (i.e., impossible condition) required in which to do it. Many churches and Christians stagnate because of not being able to reach beyond waiting for the right time. A keyword of the Bible is "TODAY."
5. Placing finances a cause for not getting something done is another example. A killer phrase for good programs often heard in elders' and business meetings is: "This would be a great work if we just had the money."
6. Fear of unpleasant results causes us to procrastinate. It is nothing but "fear" for seldom do our fears materialize. Counselors tell us that 95% of the things we fear never come about and the 5% that do, we have no control over them in anyway.

Solution? - *"Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going."* (Ecc. 9:10).

Baptized Again

Does anyone ever need to be baptized again? On the occasion of Acts chapter 19, there were some who were baptized again. The following is the account of what happened: “And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Acts 19:1-5).

According to the text, Paul met people in the city of Ephesus who had been baptized with the baptism of John the Baptist (verse 3), and those people were baptized “again” (verse 5). Bear in mind that John, who served as a forerunner of Christ, immersed people in water for the remission of sins (cf. Matthew 3:1-6; Mark 1:4). Why, then, would these disciples in Ephesus need to be baptized again? They had already been immersed in water. Why was that not sufficient?

The answer is that John's baptism was no longer a valid baptism. It had become obsolete. Those who received John's baptism were taught to believe on Christ who was to come. However, the disciples of Acts chapter 19 received John's baptism “after” Christ had come. They had been taught to believe on Christ “who was to come,” but they should have been taught to believe on Christ who “had come” already. In fact, He had died, been buried, and raised again. When the disciples of Ephesus heard this, “they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus” (verse 5). They knew their knowledge had not been complete, and they were baptized again.

What if an adult learns that, when he was a child, water was sprinkled on him as a “form” of baptism? Now the adult understands that sprinkling, as a form of baptism, is an unscriptural practice? Should he be baptized again? What if a person was baptized to join a denomination, and later that person learns that no person of the Bible was ever baptized to join a denomination? Should he be baptized again? What if a person was baptized, believing that he was saved before being baptized? Later, he learns that Bible baptism is “for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38). Should he be baptized again?

There was a time when John's baptism “was” valid. Nevertheless, the disciples of Acts chapter 19 who had experienced that baptism were baptized again? In contrast, the practices just mentioned have “never been valid” or scriptural. Does it not seem reasonable that a person who has received an invalid or unscriptural baptism should be baptized again? Please be sure that you have been baptized scripturally.

~ Mark Lindley, Chapman Church of Christ

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE RIDDLES



1. I am the Bible book that says: “I have put off my coat; how shall I put it on.” What book am I?

2. I am the book from which comes the phrase: “A lamb for the slaughter.” What book am I?

3. I am the book that starts with Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God. What book am I? _____
4. In a story told only in John's gospel, I am the pool where Jesus healed a man which had an infirmity thirty-eight years. What pool am I? _____
5. I am the book from which comes the phrase: “Can a leopard change his spots.” What book am I?

Clues: Jeremiah 13:23; Isaiah 53:7; John 5:1-9; Song of Solomon 5:3; Romans 1:1

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

PRAYER LIST



Wayne Reams, father of *Mitzi Dunagan* had back surgery May 7th, in Nashville. His surgery went well.

Natalie Griffin, great-granddaughter of *Janice Griffin* had to be taken back to Le Bonheur due to continuing health issues.

Nancy Petrowski, daughter of *Harold* and *Deloris Crowe*, had to return to Vanderbilt because of a broken bone in the top of her foot. This is the same foot that has been causing problems due to an infection.

Whit Robertson, grandson of *Troy* and *Novene Robertson* will have another round of chemo this week. Please continue to pray for this young man.

Continue to Remember:

Nancy Petrowski, Whit Robertson, Harvey Lovelady, Nicki Weaver, Salena Koester, Lisa Russell, Judy Kirk, Barbara Davis, Jackie Dodd, Genice Collett, John Elliott, Timmy Bolden, Judy Ward, William Wilson, Sonny Gay, David Crossings, Andy Ulmer, Sheila Thomas, Yolanda Stubblefield, 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, Claudia Senter

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Betty Lang, Miriam Styers, Grace Anderson, Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris

Military List:

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

VBS June 15, 16, & 17

I've Learned...

A Christian is a living sermon whether or not he preaches a word .



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



May 13. Carl Smith
May 19. Bobby Marques
May 22. Lea Anne McMillen
May 22. Will Bowlin

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

May 19. Eric & Stacie Dunn



SUNDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

Our 3rd Sunday night fellowship will be held May 17th, following services. We will be honoring our two high school seniors: *Bailey Adams* and *Erin Wall*. Please make plans to attend and help congratulate these two girls on their many accomplishments. You are asked to bring finger foods and desserts. The Young Adult Class will be in charge of the fellowship building.

CHURCH COOKOUT

The annual church cookout will be held Sat., May 29th, at the Walls' Lake. We appreciate so much *Randy, Christy, Erin, and Thomas Wall* for hosting this event each year. You may come in the afternoon to fish or just visit. The meal will be served sometime around 6:00 or 6:30pm. We have more details later. Please remember to bring your lawn chairs.



5TH SUNDAY SERVICES

We will have an All Day Service Sun., May 31st. There will be a fellowship meal (potluck) after our morning service. Our evening service will begin at 1:15 and lead by the Deacons. The Young Adult Class will be in charge of set-up and clean-up of the fellowship building.



**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 Clayton252-9762
Roger Clayton 538-8195
Brad Pounders.....316-7931
Harold Russell..... 507-1180
Randy Wall 316-9255
Lonnie Weaver.....801-8448

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Shane Crotts
A.M. Prayer.....Jim Gann
Closing Prayer.....Dan Cobb
P.M. PrayerAlvin Parks
ClosingPaul Ormon
Wed.5/20.....Ray Kennedy
Wed.5/20.....Gary Turner
Usher & Lock ...Harold Russell
Greeter.....T & N Robertson

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....99
Sunday A.M.....126
Sunday P. M.....82
Wednesday.....114
Contribution.....\$3,891.00
Budget.....\$3,984.46



PANTRY ITEMS

Beef Stew

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BORDERLINE CHRISTIANS

B. C. Goodpasture told the story of a county superintendent of education who had three applications to fill one vacancy among bus drivers. He devised a scenario for selecting the proper man for the job.

The superintendent took the first applicant to a sharp curve on a steep grade along the road and asked, "How close can you drive the school bus to the edge of the road on the curve without going over the cliff with the children?"

The interested driver replied, "I believe I can go within two inches and still be safe."

The second person who had applied for the job heard the same proposition. He checked the curve and told the county official, "I believe I can drive within one inch of the edge and not go over."

When the superintendent took the third driver to the same highway and made a similar proposition to him, the applicant immediately asked, "Do you think I'm crazy? I'm not interested in seeing how close I can get to the edge with the bus. I'll be trying to see how far I can keep away from the danger line with the bus!" He received the job.

There is a borderline between the church and the world for the Christian. The church means "the called out from the kingdom of sin." John said, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in Him." (I John 2:15).

~ Tim Woodward ~