



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

June 24, 2014

From Bondage To Bondage

Mike King



Near the time that our original thirteen states adopted the new constitution in 1787, *Alexander Tyler*, a Scottish history professor at the University of Edinburgh, had this to say about “The Fall of the Athenian Republic” which occurred about 2,000 years earlier: “A democracy is always temporary in nature; it simply cannot exist as a permanent form of government. A democracy will continue to exist up until the time that voters discover that they can vote themselves generous gifts from public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates who promise the most benefits from the public treasury, with the result that every democracy will finally collapse over loose fiscal policy, (which is) always followed by a dictatorship. ‘The average age of the world’s greatest civilizations from the beginning of history, has been about 200 years. During those 200 years, these nations always progressed through the following sequence: from bondage to spiritual faith, from spiritual faith to great courage, from courage to liberty, from liberty to abundance, from abundance to complacency, from complacency to apathy, from apathy to dependence, from dependence back into bondage.’ “Professor *Joseph Olson* of Hamline University School of Law, St. Paul, Minnesota believes that the U.S. is now somewhere between the “apathy” and the “complacency” phase of Professor Tyler’s definition of democracy. He further observes that 40% of the nation’s population has already reached the “governmental dependency” phase by living off of welfare. His implication is that we are not far from being impoverished and back into bondage once again. The percentage has risen this past year to 49% of American homes, where at least one household member is dependent upon the Government for existence.

There is a correlation between physical kingdoms and God’s spiritual kingdom. God caused Israel to be made poor (impoverished) due to their rebellion and rejection of Him and His will for them—“*And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord and God delivered them into the hand of Midian seven years...And Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites; and the Children of Israel cried unto the Lord.*” His response, “...*but ye have not obeyed my voice*” (Judges 6:1, 6, 10). Faithlessness leads to loss of courage and liberty, with indifference and apathy, ensuing. Satan then becomes our dictator and we suffer from spiritual poverty!

Prayer, It Just Makes You Feel Better

When our country was at war with itself, a preacher from the North went to visit with the sixteenth President of the United States--Abraham Lincoln.

When the preacher arrived at the White House, it wasn't to make a request, but rather an observation and to offer a word of encouragement. He said that we from the North are convinced that God is on our side in this war, and we will win. Further, he stated that he wanted the President to know that a day did not pass without every soldier's family constantly remembering their President in prayer. The preacher wanted his President to know that he and many others were praying that Lincoln might have wisdom and strength to lead them to victory.



As the story goes, at this point President Lincoln was in tears and said that he surely would have given up had it not been for all the prayers. Further, he said that it was the custom of his people to ask the preacher to lead a prayer in the presence of the host before leaving the residence. So, the preacher led a prayer on President Lincoln's behalf.

At the conclusion of the prayer, the President grabbed the hand of the preacher and said, "I feel better."

*The Bible says, when someone uses you, pray (Lk. 6:28).

*The Bible says, when you're stressed about how much work there is to do, and how few workers there are to do it, pray (Lk. 10:2).

* The Bible says, when you've sinned and need forgiveness, pray (Act 8:22).

* The Bible says, when you're troubled and don't know what to say or how to say it, just pray (Rm. 8:26).

* The Bible says, when you're concerned about one another, pray (1 Thes. 5:23).

The point is, if you want to feel better about a situation, pause and talk to the Lord about it. Then, let it go and let God work it out.

~ Neil Richey ~

From Cody's Desk:

I hope everyone is having a wonderful week so far. This week is not quite as busy as previously, however, we do have a big trip coming up. Saturday we go to the Memphis Zoo! We might try to leave some of the kids there so they can be with others animals! We will leave the building at 8:30am on Saturday and get back around 3:30pm. You can still pay and come with us. You can pay by Wednesday night, or you can bring your money with you and pay when you get there, but that'll cost a few more dollars. I want to apologize for all the money that is due all at the same time, but I promise this is the last bit of money you have to pay to me all summer. We have a few more things that cost money but the kids can bring the money with them. Hope to see everyone at services this week.

One Sunday morning a man chose to go to services. He didn't like the songs selected, he was distracted by a baby crying during a prayer, and he caught the preacher messing up four or five times. He left the services complaining saying I'll never go back to that church again! The same morning another man chose to go to services too. He was greatly uplifted by the singing, he felt closer to God because he had the opportunity to talk to him, and really enjoyed the lesson given by the preacher. These men went to the same church that morning. One went expecting to have a bad time, be bored, and not enjoy it. The other went expecting to be uplifted and have a wonderful Sunday morning. They both found what they were looking for. While worship is not about us, we can still find joy in it. Next time you enter worship service take time to focus yourself and go into it with a good attitude. *"Worship the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing."* (Psalms 100:2).

Saturday 28 - Memphis Zoo, Money due: \$2 Wrist bands, \$8.50 Shirts, \$12 Redbirds tickets

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

PRAYER LIST



Tauso Branch is in the local hospital. Her doctors are trying to regulate her medication.

Wadie Lepard, has been moved to the Meadows in Fulton for rehab. If you would like to send her a card her address is; The Meadows P.O. Drawer 127 Room 104B, Fulton, MS 38843.

Tim Kent, mayor of New Albany was injured in an accident this past week. He is recovering from surgery.

Carlie Wright, a five year old girl our youth visited at St. Jude while at the Lads to Leaders Convention, has had her cancer to return. She is back at St. Jude.

Pat Reed is at home slowly improving.

Continual Prayer list:

Billy Smith, Nancy Petrowski, Judy Ward, Bobbie Nunnally, J. J. Harris, Harvey Joel Holley, Tetterian Wilson, Glen Jumper, Eulene Hooper, Alicia Dukes, Hudson Grisham, Kelly Fryar, Donna & Roy Crow, Hugh Collins, Jack Dunlap, Prebble Foster, Terry & Betty Young

Shut-Ins:

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

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

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

Military List:

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

Bible Verse To Remember

So, when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.

John 8:7

Wise Thoughts

“A servant does not seek what betters him, but rather what will better his master.”



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



June 27..... J. L. Eaton
June 29..... Deborah Griffin
June 29..... Kaye Parks
July 02..... Karen Botts
July 05..... Terry Young

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

June 30..... Phil & Paige Young
July 01..... Steve & Andrea Hill
July 02..... Darrell & Patricia Crow



SYMPATHY

We express deepest sympathy to *Nicki Weaver* and family in the death of her grandmother **Maxine Dunlap** of Memphis, TN. Funeral services were held Monday June 23, in AR.

5TH SUNDAY SERVICES

We will have an All Day Service Sunday, June 29th. There will be a pot-luck meal following our morning worship and our evening services beginning at 1:15. Our young men will be in charge of the afternoon service. The adult I class will be in charge of set-up and clean-up of the fellowship building. Please invite your friends and family to join us.



AREA EVENTS

The Fulton Church of Christ invites you to their Vacation Bible School July 13-16. Their theme is “Camping For Christ: Stories Around the Campfire”. For more details please see the bulletin board.

THE INDIVIDUAL

“I am only one, but I am one,
I cannot do everything
But I can do something;
What I can do I ought to do,
And what I ought to do
By the grace of God I will do.”
~ selected ~

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 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.....Steve Todd
A.M. Prayer..Terry Stubblefield
Closing Prayer.....Randy Wall
P.M. Prayer Youth
Closing Youth
Wed.6/25..Ray Kennedy
Wed.6/25Ronnie Griggs
Usher & Lock ..Lonnie Weaver
GreeterG & K Clayton

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....103
Sunday A.M..... 127
Sunday P.M.....93
Wednesday..... 104
Contribution.....\$3,627.30
Budget.....\$3,989.47



PANTRY ITEM

Pantry is Low

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At Your House

What priorities will be established in your children when...

1. You are early for their ball game, but late for worship?
2. You check on their homework regularly, but never check on their Bible class lessons?
3. You won't let them stay up late on school nights, but let them stay up late on Saturday night?
4. You won't let them miss school even though they don't want to go, but let them miss church worship services?
5. You know the names of their school teachers, but do not know who is teaching their Bible classes, or what they are studying?
6. You will serve as room mother or volunteer at school, but will not help with classes, activities, or programs which involve spiritual matters?
7. You attend open house at their school, but do not visit their classroom for Bible school, or even know where their class meets?
8. You support, attend, or even participate in their sports activities but regularly miss activities involving church?
9. You never miss meeting with the civic or social club of which you are a member, but frequently miss worship?
10. You will not go on vacation during school days, but go on vacation during VBS, a lectureship, or a Gospel meeting?
11. You go to work even though you do not feel like it, but stay home on Sunday in the same condition?

Yes, with such situations prevailing, what priorities are being established in the hearts of our children?