



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.org

June 28, 2011

Make Sure You Get the Whole Message

Mike King



Steve Higginbotham tells of an event that occurred in 1815 when Napoleon was defeated at Waterloo. When the French forces of Napoleon came up against the Duke of Wellington, the Duke won. Notice how the people learned the outcome.

The news was relayed from the battlefield of Waterloo to England by an English ship that signaled to a man on shore. He in turn relayed the message to a man on an adjacent hill, and so on across England. The initial word that was sent from the ship was “Wellington.” The next word relayed was “defeated.” The fog then rolled in to obscure the message conveyance.

The people of England wept, grieved, and were disheartened by the two-word message, “Wellington defeated.” When the fog lifted, the message continued with the balance of the message which read, “the enemy.” Then hope rose out of despair when the “whole truth” became known. “Wellington defeated the enemy!”

A significant lesson that we can learn from this is that the death of Jesus was only a portion of the message to mankind. When Jesus was crucified, on a Friday, it was a day of gloom to all who loved and followed the Lord. Their hopes were dashed by His death. The terms: death, leave, “*let not your hearts be troubled,*” crucified etc., give room for despair and emptiness. The rest of the message was revealed on Sunday when the tomb was found empty.

It was sad that when “*Jesus cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost,*” some only felt fear and sorrow. The veil of the temple was rent from top to bottom, the earth quaked and the rocks were breaking apart. The situation worsened when the graves began to open and dead bodies began to rise and even entered the city and appeared to those who would have recognized them. The centurion and those with him “*feared greatly*” and declared that “*Truly this was the Son of God*” (Mt. 27:50-54).

Our hope of heaven can be obscured by death or sickness. Life’s troubles and sin impair spiritual vision, keeping us from seeing the message’s end - victory in Jesus! He has “*begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you*” so we can “*be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus*” (1 Pet. 1:3-4, 7).

LET FREEDOM RING THROUGH CHRIST



Over two hundred years ago, "...our forefathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war..." No, not the one Abraham Lincoln talked about in the Gettysburg Address, but one being fought today. I speak of a spiritual civil war dividing this country. Secular Humanism and the traditional moral standards on which America was founded have collided. No longer can we pray or speak of God in many places. Will God and His name be banned in America? Will absolute standards of right and wrong become a part of an out-dated moral code?

America was founded on the principle of freedom for all people. However, today a vocal minority has done a great deal to abuse the freedoms that Americans enjoy. Our babies are being murdered (abortion). Convicted murderers are being let back onto the streets to kill again. No one seems to accept personal responsibility for his actions anymore. It is always someone else's fault!

National freedom is not free. Several times our nation has gone to war and men and women have given their lives to protect our freedom. Freedom is a wonderful thing, but it costs! Spiritual freedom in Christ cost God the life of His Son on the cross! If we are to enjoy the blessings of freedom in Christ and freedom for our nation, we must abide by the moral standards given to us in the Bible! God has richly blessed America and my prayer is that he will continue. Let us pray for a spiritual rebirth in our nation so that it can truthfully be said that this is "one nation under God!"

~Daniel Whitworth, Bulletin Digest



FREEDOM

"Stand fast Therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage" (Galatians 5:1). Our country was founded upon the dream of freedom. However, some would interpret this to mean that one can do what he wants to do when he wants to do it regardless of the wishes of others.

This cry for liberty without limit is heard too often in our country and sometimes in the church. But when we live with others, we must learn to restrict our desires when they conflict with the good of others. As someone put it, "A man's right to throw his fist around ends where the other fellow's nose begins." When you think about it, there is no absolute freedom.

No one is free from the law of gravity on earth. No one is free from the harmful effects of poison. It kills the innocent baby as well as the hardened criminal.

The astronauts who went to the moon were not and could not be free from physical needs. That is why they carried food, water, and oxygen.

Even God has voluntarily restricted Himself. He cannot be tempted with evil, nor does He tempt man to do wrong (James 1:13). It is impossible for God to lie (Hebrews 6:18).

Therefore, it should not surprise us to realize that we serve someone. *"Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, whether of sin to death, or of obedience to righteousness?"* (Romans 6:16)

When we make the choice, the blessing or the consequences are included in the choice. But we are free to choose. Are you using your freedom wisely?

Jerrie Barber, Bulletin Digest

PRAYER LIST

Eleta Grimmett, was released from the local hospital Monday after having breathing problems.

Travis Jamieson, father of *Kathy Dorris*, remains in a step-down room of the Tupelo hospital. He is showing some signs of improvement.

Teresa Clark, has not been feeling well, but was able to be at worship Sunday.

Phares Birdwell, father of *Sheila King*, had test run last week in Alabama; awaiting results.

Mable Erwin, is recovering from eye surgery.

Billy Joe Griggs, brother of *Ronnie*, has cancer and is not doing well.

Bill DePriest, is doing well following cataract surgery.



Continual Prayer

Al Pless, Billy Joe Bray, Aliene Cain, Donna Haynes, Shelly Trout, Willie Jackson, David Harendt, Hugh Collins, Shane Crofts, Terry Young

Shut-Ins

Lessie Bryant, Jean Drummond, Billy Joe Garner, Laura Mae Harris, Belle Cross, Raymond & Amy Vest

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Corrine Hall, Anna Davis, Mattie Golden & Pauline Smith

Military List:

David Wilhite, Barry Wilhite, Jimmie Stutts, Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Michelle Ham, Raegan Cole, Micah Russell

“I’VE LEARNED”
That when you harbor
 bitterness, happiness will dock
 elsewhere.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- June 29.....Deborah Griffin
- June 29.....Kaye Parks
- July 02.....Karen Botts
- July 05.....Terry Young
- July 06.....Catelyn Smithey

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- June 30.....Phil & Paige Young
- July 02.....Darrell & Patricia Crow
- July 07.....Brian & Shelby Carpenter

SYMPATHY



We express our sympathy to *Mike & Sheila King* in the unexpected death of their dear friend, *Mike Nix*. He was the minister for the Beltline Church of Christ in Decatur, Alabama. Funeral services were held Tuesday in Decatur.

RECIPES

Please remember to turn in your favorite recipes. We look forward to receiving recipes from former and current members. If you would like to email us your recipes you may do so at: office@nacoc.org

AREA EVENTS

- The Tiplersville Church of Christ invites you to their Gospel Meeting July 10-14, at 7:30 each evening. Guest speaker: *Mark Blackwelder*
- Potts Camp Church of Christ Gospel Singing is July 10, from 1:00-2:00pm.
- Chapman Church of Christ VBS is July 17-20.
- Fulton Church of Christ VBS is July 17-20.
- Evangelism Training Workshop to be held July 12-14 at the 21st Century Global Mission in Fulton. Check the bulletin board for details.

OUR RECORD

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Sunday School | 110 |
| Sunday A M | 129 |
| Sunday P.M | 111 |
| Wednesday | 100 |
| Contribution | \$3,547.25 |
| Budget | \$3,455.70 |

TO SERVE

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Scripture | Ruston Adams |
| A.M. Prayer | Burrell Walton |
| Closing Prayer..... | Shane Crotts |
| P.M. Prayer..... | Brad Pounders |
| Closing | Drew Drummond |
| Wed 7/6 | Phillip Young |
| Wed. 7/6 | Olen Clark |
| Usher & Lock..... | Randy Wall |
| Greeter..... | H & D Crowe |



PANTRY ITEM:
TOOTH PASTE

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Sunday School | 9:30 |
| Morning Worship | 10:30 |
| Evening Worship | 6:00 |
| Wednesday Bible Study | 7:00 |

ELDERS

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Richard Jennings | 534-6671 |
| Troy Robertson | 534-3491 |

DEACONS

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Bill Botts | 316-2422 |
| Greg Clayton..... | 252-9762 |
| Roger Clayton..... | 534-5240 |
| Andy Clemmer | 816-5887 |
| Harold Russell | 534-4648 |
| Randy Wall | 316-9255 |
| Lonnie Weaver..... | 801-8448 |

MINISTER

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Mike King | 507-0625 |
| Home..... | 534-6872 |
| Office | 534-4649 |

MONTH: JULY 2011

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| SOUND ROOM | Richard Adams | ANNOUNCEMENTS | Greg Clayton |
| LEAD SINGING | | USHER | Matt Jennings |
| <i>SUN AM:</i> | Greg Harrison | | |
| <i>SUN PM:</i> | Richard Jennings | PREPARE | |
| <i>WED:</i> | Dalton Beard | COMMUNION | Roger Clayton |

LORD'S

SUPPER

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| <i>N Head:</i> | Gary Turner | <i>S Head:</i> | T. Robertson |
| <i>N Help I:</i> | Harold Russell | <i>S Help I:</i> | Randy Wall |
| <i>N Help II:</i> | Clay Ormon | <i>S Help II:</i> | Lonnie Weaver |

SUNDAY

PRAYERS A.M.

| | Opening | Closing |
|------------|------------------|---------------|
| <i>1ST</i> | Burrell Walton | Shane Crotts |
| <i>2ND</i> | Paul Ormon | J.L. Eaton |
| <i>3RD</i> | Richard Jennings | Ronnie Griggs |
| <i>4TH</i> | Dalton Beard | Mark Jennings |
| <i>5TH</i> | Bill Botts | Bill Lyon |

SUNDAY

PRAYERS PM

| | Opening | Closing |
|------------|---------------|---------------|
| <i>1ST</i> | Brad Pounders | Drew Drummond |
| <i>2ND</i> | Roger Clayton | Clay Ormon |
| <i>3RD</i> | Andy Clemmer | Harold Crowe |
| <i>4TH</i> | Jerry Gibson | Dan Cobb |
| <i>5TH</i> | Ray Kennedy | Carl Smith |

WED PRAYERS

| | Opening | Closing |
|------------|----------------|---------------|
| <i>1ST</i> | Phillip Young | Olen Clark |
| <i>2ND</i> | Jason Jennings | Phil Young |
| <i>3RD</i> | Dillon Clayton | Bill DePriest |
| <i>4TH</i> | Greg Harrison | Bobby White |
| <i>5TH</i> | | |

SCRIPTURE

READING

| |
|---------------|
| Ruston Adams |
| Dean Dillard |
| Daniel D. |
| Matt Jennings |
| Steve Todd |

USHER &

LOCK

| |
|---------------|
| Randy Wall |
| Lonnie Weaver |
| Bill Botts |
| Greg Clayton |
| Roger Clayton |

GREETERS

| |
|---------------|
| H & D Crowe |
| A & S Clemmer |
| L & N Weaver |
| B & G Lyon |
| Pounders |

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