



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

June 3, 2014

Thundering Silence

Mike King



The vast majority of the differences between the Lord's church and denominations, is not over what the Bible says – but over what it does not say!

There are two basic schools of thought regarding Bible authority. First, God's word is authority and is expressed by statements such as "thus saith the Lord," "book, chapter, and verse," or "where the Bible is silent we must be silent." Secondly, some teach that wherever God's word has not specifically forbidden, we are free to act. Simply stated, where the Bible is silent, we are at liberty to act as we think best. This approach poses the question – "where does the Bible say not to?" The latter is in error.

Note the end result with Cain and Abel. Cain based his worship on what God **did not say** and Abel arrived at his on the basis of what God **did say** (Gen. 4:1-9). Cain was condemned! Nadab and Abihu offered strange fire in worship (Lev. 10:1-2). Their efforts, though sincere and dedicated to God, caused God's wrath to pour down from heaven simply because they violated His silence. David lived in luxury while God "dwelt" in a humble tent (II Sam. 7:6-7). He was well intentioned but good intentions could not substitute for God's will and "the end does not justify the means."

When something is specified, the birth date on driver's license, expiration dates, ingredients listed on a product, instructions for a recipe, etc.; everyone accepts the fact that all other instructions are excluded. Water baptism is being "buried" or "planted" (immersion) for those who believe, repent, and confess, excluding pouring, sprinkling and infant baptism (Acts 8:37; 10:47)! The instruction for each to teach and admonish one another by singing eliminates choirs, vocal bands, soloist, and praise teams (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16) in worship. In 1938, *W.R. Walker*, a Christian Church preacher, declared that he was free to use his own judgment in any case the Bible was not specific (*Gospel Advocate*, 7/28/38). This issue has contributed to the demise of many sound congregations of the Lord's church, taking its toll today! Similarly this same principle would hold true with the Lord's Supper, women's role in the church, and so many more teachings of the Lord affected adversely by the "strange winds" blowing in the church today. If our behavior is "*not of faith, it is sin*" (Rom. 14:23). Faith comes by the Word of God (Rom. 10:17), which is our authority. Silence cannot produce faith nor is it inspired (II Tim. 3:16-17).

AM I COMMITTED?

Some folks dabble a little in religion. One may attend an occasional worship period, but sit on the back seat, as if afraid of getting too much religion.

Another may come often to worship, but refuse to speak of Christ and His church to anyone during his day, saying, "It's bad for business." Still another may justify his lack of service by contributing money.

Jesus repeatedly told His followers that He wanted total commitment. He made quite clear His point that anything less than our best is not good enough.

A fable tells of a hog and a hen passing the meeting house where the sermon topic could be read, "How can we help the poor?" The hen said, "We could give them a ham and egg breakfast." The hog objected by saying, "To you it would be only a contribution, but to me it would mean total commitment."

Let us ask ourselves what we can do in the work of the church that we are not now doing. Maybe we need to do more than make a contribution. Maybe we need total commitment.

~ John Wright

WRONG SONG

A preacher was winding up his temperance sermon with great fervor, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river." And the congregation cried, "Amen!"

"And if I had all the whiskey and demon rum in the world, I'd take it all and throw it in the river." And the congregation cried, "Hallelujah!"

The preacher sat down. The song leader stood up and announced, "For our closing song, let us sing hymn #365, 'Shall We Gather at the River?'"

CHASED

Warmer months are here, and with the warm weather comes the challenge of modesty...

I'm not going to lecture or give you my "opinion." I don't want to set your standards for you, and tell you what you can and cannot wear. All I want to do is ask you to read God's Word and then answer one question:

"You shall not commit adultery" (Ex. 20:14).

"You shall not covet your neighbor's wife" (Ex. 20:17)

"Whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has committed adultery in his heart" (Matt. 5:28).

"Abstain from fleshly lusts that war against the soul" (I Pet. 2:11).

"Flee youthful lusts" (2Tim. 2:22).

"Possess your vessel in sanctification and honor, not in passionate lusts" (I Thess. 4:4-5).

"Women should dress in modest apparel; dress that professes one's godliness" (I Tim. 2:9-10). *"Let us resolve not to put a stumbling block or cause to fall in our brother's way"* Rom. 14:13).

Now then, the question: Does the way you dress cause the opposite sex to think you are "chaste," or does it cause them to think you want to be "chased?"

Honest self-evaluation, virtue, and an unrelenting desire to be pleasing to God is all that is needed, and modesty will take care of itself.

~ Steve Higginbotham ~

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (Rom. 12:2).

YOUTH NEWS

We had another wonderful week this week with the youth. Our movie night went very well, as did all our classes. I'm really enjoying getting to know the kids better and becoming friends with them all. We are looking forward to Thursday this week because we are headed back to my home town and my home congregation, Fulton church of Christ, for the Summer Youth Series. This is much like the Area Wide that we attend here, just on a smaller level. Thanks again to everyone who has played a part in this summer so far, I hope everyone has a blessed week.

~ Cody



- The next Area Wide Youth Meeting will be held Sunday night, June 8th at the Mayfield congregation. The van will leave at 5:50.
- Monday, June 9th there will be an on-site devo.
- Our Youth will attend Maywood Christian Camp-July13-19. If you have not yet registered please go online to www.maywoodchristianncamp.com and register as soon as possible.

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

PRAYER LIST



Pat Reed remains in the Tupelo Hospital. Her doctors are trying to regulate her medications. She may be released this week.

Bill Lyon, will return to his doctor in Tupelo this week for the results of his tests. He is continuing to have severe head aches and weak spells.

Bobbie Nunnally, a member of the Chapman congregation and friend of *J. L. Eaton* has had cancer to return. She is undergoing treatments.

J. J. Harris, friend of *Kaye Parks* was diagnosed with breast cancer.

Tim Baxley, brother to *Mike* and *Sheila King's* son-in-law *Eric Baxley*, has been deployed to Somalia for 6 months. Please pray for his safety.

Continual Prayer list:

Larry Hester, Harvey Lovelady, Phillip Young, Joel Holley, Billy Smith, Nancy Petrowski, Maxine Dunlap, J. L. Eaton, Tetterian Wilson, Tony Cross, Glen Jumper, Joyce Gilmore, Eulene Hooper, Alicia Dukes, Rivers Robertson, 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:

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

MEN'S BREAKFAST/WORK DAY!

A men's breakfast and workday (weather permitting) is scheduled for Sat. June 7th, at 7:00am. All men are asked to be present. There is a lot of work to be done around the building and grounds.

Wise Thoughts

A good leader is someone who takes more than his share of the blame and a little less than his share of the credit.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



June 06. Sallye Bowlin
 June 06. Perry Jones
 June 06. Pat Reed
 June 10. David Clayton
 June 11. Christy Wall
 June 12. Collett Cross

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

June 08. Dalton & Marie Beard
 June 10. Ray & Pat Kennedy
 June 12. Rex & Jennie Bell
 June 12. Martin & Erica Crofts
 June 14. Austin & Jessica Garrett
 June 14. Greg & Lynn Harrison



HOMECOMING 2014

New Albany church of Christ has scheduled Homecoming for Sunday, Oct. 5th. That is just 4 short months away. The guest speaker for that day will be *Jesse Robertson*. Please mark this date on your calendar and make plans to join us. If you have addresses of former members please be sure to invite them or give their address to *Kathy Jennings*. We would also like any photos of former members and photos of church activities from the past. Your pictures will be returned to you. We will need a lot of participation from our members here to help prepare for that day. Working together we can make this a great day and enjoy worshipping together once again with those who were once a part of this congregation. We will have more information in the weeks to come.



AREA EVENTS

- A Gospel Meeting is scheduled for June 6-8 at the Verona Church of Christ. The guest speaker will be *Brad McNutt*. Times: Friday and Saturday night at 7:00pm and Sunday, 9:00, 10:00am & 12:30pm.
- You are invited to Vacation Bible School at the Ashland Church of Christ June 7th, beginning at 8:00. Awards will be at 1:00pm. Lunch will be provided.

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.....Josh George
A.M. Prayer.....Bill Botts
Closing Prayer.....Terry Young
P.M. PrayerDan Cobb
ClosingPerry Jones
Wed.6/11Andy Clemmer
Wed.6/11Cody Clemmer
Usher & LockHarold Russell
GreeterS & L Todd

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....112
Sunday A.M..... 150
Sunday P.M.....102
Wednesday..... 117
Contribution.....\$4,760.85
Budget.....\$3,989.47



PANTRY ITEM

Instant Potatoes

THE INFORMER

June 3, 2014

Volume 22

THE INFORMER (USPS 581-500)
Church of Christ
511 Hwy. 15 South, P.O. Box 148
New Albany, Mississippi 38652

Periodical
Postage Paid
New Albany, MS

(662)534-4649

POSTMASTER: Send address changes
(Form 3579) to: The Informer, P.O. Box
148, New Albany, MS 38652

BLESSINGS

I knelt to pray when day was done
And prayed, "O Lord, bless everyone,
Lift from each a saddened heart the pain
And let the sick be well again."

And then I woke another day
And carelessly went on my way,
The whole day long I did not try
To wipe a tear from any eye.
I did not try to share the load
Of any brother on the road.

I did not even go to see
The sick man just next door to me.
Yet once again when day was done
I prayed, "O Lord, bless everyone."

But as I prayed, into my ear
There came a voice that whispered clear,
"Pause now, my son, before you pray.
Whom have you tried to bless today?"

Gods sweetest blessing always go
By hands that serve him here below."
And then I hid my face and cried,
"Forgive me, God, I have not tried,
But let me live another day
And I will live the way I pray."