

THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

July 12, 2016

GOD IS SUPREME!

Mike King



There is nothing within or without the universe that is superior to Jehovah God in power or authority. This is the reason why the Bible teaches that God has the right to govern the affairs of the universe. As a result, He is known as the Supreme Being! David expressed it most poignantly in I Chron. 29:11-12, *“Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head over all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you reign over all. In your hand is power and might; in your hand is to make great and to give strength to all.”* Don't you wish that you had the gift of expression as David? He found it easy to exalt his God for He was/is deserving. Though David was king over Israel, he understood where the true power rested.

He is sovereign because He and His word are absolute. He is sovereign because of His divine perfection. Man is subject to error and weakness (finite) but God is perfect in all His ways without limitation (infinite). David recognized that *“we are all aliens and pilgrims before you.... our days on earth are as a shadow, and without hope”* (I Chron. 29:14-15). God is also sovereign because of His creative abilities. The Maker has the right to control or dispose. God holds the divine patent on every existing thing, including man! David proclaimed *“all that is in heaven and earth is yours... you are exalted as head over all...and you reign over all”* (I Chron. 29:11-12). God is sovereign because of being the source of all blessings. David said, *“For all things come from you, and of your own we have given you”* (I Chron. 29:14).

~ In acceptance there is peace ~

Satan comes under the sovereign control of God. Remember when the devil challenged God for Job's soul? God placed limitations upon the devil preventing him from taking Job's life (Job 1:6-12; 2:1-6).

Though God is sovereign, He provides man with power of choice (Jn. 3:16). Man makes sinful decisions at times when exercising this power and suffers consequences for the same (Gen. 3:16-19). God permits us to make our own choices and to experience the results. We must conclude that the stubborn will of man and the sovereignty of God clash; therefore, we should always yield right-of-way to the Almighty, Sovereign God who is Creator and Sustainer of the entire universe.

HOW TO MAKE OTHERS FRIENDLIER

I am exasperated at how unfriendly the people at church are. They never speak to me. When they do speak, I feel as though I am simply being tolerated. I do not feel a part of their "crowd." It is so unfair! But, I have the answers for me and any other poor soul who has encountered such unfriendliness when at the services.

I AM GOING TO MAKE EVERYONE CONVERSE WITH ME. I'll strike up conversations with everyone at church, including those I hardly even know. To make it better, I am going to find out what interests them so I'll have plenty to say and hear with them. I'm not going to give them the chance not to speak to me. I will eagerly listen to what they say, and they will think they've never met someone so sincerely interested! That'll fix them!

I AM GOING TO WEAR A BIG SMILE. I am going to develop a personality so magnetic that no one can resist getting to know me better. My grin will be an open invitation to visitors and members alike. I bet they'll all wonder what's gotten into me, that I'm so happy. They'll be eager to be a part of what makes me so cheerful!

I AM GOING TO DO UNSOLICITED ACTS OF KINDNESS. I'll send them notes of cheer, cards of sympathy, and letters of encouragement. I'll visit their sick family members and neighbors. They won't know what hit them. I'll pray for those folks down at church...by name...every night!

I AM GOING TO STAY AROUND LONGER AFTER THE LAST AMEN. I'll hang around the auditorium, get to the foyer early enough to catch the early departures, talk to the elderly, the small children, and even the visitors. I bet they'll mistake me for a deacon or an usher.

I AM GOING TO STUDY EVERY PASSAGE ON FRIENDLINESS AND KINDNESS I CAN FIND. I'll memorize, "*A man that hath friends must show himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother*" (Proverbs 18:24). I'll quote, "*And be ye kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you*" (Ephesians 4:32). I will model Colossians 3:12, "*Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, hearts of mercy, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, patience...*" I'll carry a plaque with me that reads, "*A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born of adversity*" (Proverbs 17:17). I am going to memorize the beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12), the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23), and the Christian graces (2 Peter 1:5-7). I can't kill them with kindness unless I've got my gun loaded!

Whew! Now I'm ready. Those unfriendly folks at church don't stand a chance. I'll melt every cold stare. I'll dodge every harsh word. I'll deflect every criticism with the shield of warmth. I'll be so friendly...hmmmmmm mmm...maybe that was the biggest part of the problem anyway. If I were more friendly...

~ Written By: Neal Pollard; Bulletin Date: 11/27/2005

God's Answer

I know not if the blessing sought
Will come in just the way I thought,
But leave my prayer with Him alone
Whose will is wiser than my own,
Assured that He will grant my quest
Or send some answer far more blessed.



AREA EVENTS

- A Gospel Meeting is scheduled for July 17-20 at the Potts Camp church of Christ. They will have a different speaker each night. Monday night July 18th, will be New Albany night. Please check the bulletin board for more details.
- Vacation Bible School will be held at the Chapman church of Christ July 17th-20th from 7:00-8:30.
- Chapman church of Christ Lectureship July 31-Aug. 3, 2016, at 7:00pm each evening. They will have a different speaker each evening. Check the bulletin board for more details.

PRAYER LIST




B. A. Stubblefield, father of *Terry Stubblefield* is scheduled for bladder cancer surgery Fri. July 15th.

Harold Russell is recovering from bypass surgery,(5 bypasses and a heart valve repair). He is at home doing well.

Ricky Adams father of *Richard Adams*, is at home recovering from bypass surgery. His doctors will be treating him with medication for other heart issues.

Glenda Crumpton Cox, sister of *Steve Todd's* friend received both a liver and kidney transplant. Her surgery was successful and she is doing well.

 **Sympathy:** We express our sympathy to *Janet Drummond* in the death of her father, **Ray Camp**. *Mr. Camp* passed away Sat. July 9th, in Biloxi, MS. Funeral services will be held at Forest Hill East Funeral Home in Memphis, TN on Wed. July 13th, at 2:00pm. Visitation will be from 12:00-2:00pm

Continue to Remember:

Nicole Boyd, Wade Chism, Todd Coleman, Liz Collins, David Crossings, Roy Crow, Bill DePriest, Jackie Dodd, Gene Dowdy, Kevin Flowers, Preeble Foster, Ray Franks, Lana Gann, Sonny Gay, Pam Hall, Donna Haynes, Phillip Haynes, Dianna Hodges, Mayola Holley, Shane Hutton, Alfred Jones, Judy Kirk, Perry Lepard, Mayna Senter, Anna Claire Stokes, Sheila Thomas, Ed Walker, Judy Ward, Nicki Weaver, Chris Windham, Terry & Betty Young, Tommy Young.

Shut-Ins:

Teresa Clark, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Grace Anderson, Wanda DeLoach, Perrin & Jean Drummond, Laura Mae Harris, Cornelia Kennedy, Betty Lang, Claudia Senter, Miriam Styers, Ione Wall

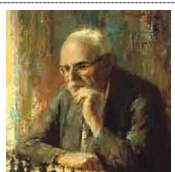
Military List:

Derek Bradley, Kevin Bradley



I've Learned...

If you do not enjoy what you have,
how will enjoy more!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- July 10.....Brenda Crow
- July 14.....Steve Hill
- July 21.....Ione Wall (90th)
- July 22.....Hunter Jennings
- July 22..... Matt Jennings
- July 22..... Jason McMillen

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- July 14.....Perry & Gloria Jones



FABULOUS FRIDAY YOUTH

Our six grade and under youth group have been very active this summer. We are grateful to the parents who have helped these young people learn to serve others as well as enjoy time together. The Fabulous Friday Youth Group is asking for help in two upcoming projects. They will be accepting donations of school supplies for needy children. Tubs will be placed in the foyer for donations. If you had rather give a monetary donation which will be used to purchase items, please see *Amy Jennings* or *Callie Smithey*. Some suggestions are: pencils, pens, crayons, backpacks, paper, notebooks, folders, binders, and glue sticks. They will also be collecting snack items for Pine Vale Children's Home. They are asking for individually wrapped items such as juice boxes, small bottles of water, nabs, Little Debbie type snacks (no chocolate please), etc. They will be visiting Pine Vale July 22nd, to deliver these items. Thanks for your help!

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

- 'Fabulous Friday' will meet at 10am, Fri., July 15th, and go to Chuck 'E' Cheeses in Tupelo.
- 3rd Sun. night fellowship is July 17th. Please bring finger foods and homemade ice cream.
- Our youth will leave for Maywood Christian Camp Sun., July 17th.

**"The family, through God's eyes,
as SEEN in 2016!"**



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 Weaver801-8448

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Dean Dillard
 A.M. Prayer.....T. Stubblefield
 Closing Prayer.....Matt Jennings
 P.M. Prayer.....Perry Jones
 ClosingCaleb Jennings
 Wed.7/20.....Randy Wall
 Wed.7/20.....Bobby Marques
 Usher & Lock...Lonnie Weaver

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....99
 Sunday A.M.....129
 Sunday P. M.....97
 Wednesday.....97
 Contribution.....\$10,179.07
 Budget.....\$4,037.54



PANTRY ITEMS CANNED FRUIT

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Correctly Handling Criticism

Mike Riley

As we grow older, we sometimes become set in our ways and unwilling to admit when we are wrong. Worse yet, if we don't see eye-to-eye with others, we become critical of them and try to discredit their views.

For example, when some members disagree with the preacher's remarks, they seem to be quick to judge motives. They may even suggest that the preacher is only looking for a paycheck.

This type of criticism happened to Amos about 750 BC. The prophet had been preaching a tough message about God's judgment of Israel. Understandably, his message was unpopular. Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, was irritated and told Amos to go back to Judah. Amaziah accused Amos of being a prophet-for-hire, preaching just to make a living (Amos 7:12). Amos responded by saying that he was prophesying only because God had told him to speak (Amos 7:15).

Whether we are preaching or teaching, we must faithfully serve the Lord as Amos did, even if the task is unpleasant, unpopular, or rejected by our audience (2 Timothy 4:1-4; cf. Stephen in Acts 7:51-60). And if we're in the congregation, we need to be sure that when we hear something we don't agree with, we're not actually resisting what the Lord wants us to hear and do.

Let's never fear criticism when we're right, and never ignore it when we're wrong. That's correctly handling criticism.