

THE INFORMER

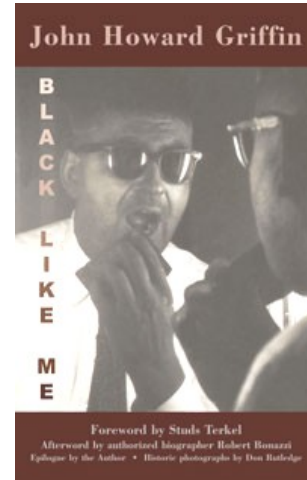
Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

July 16, 2013

HIS LIKENESS TO OURS

Mike King



John Howard Griffin believed he could never understand the plight and predicament of the African-American unless he could become like one. He made a plan and in 1959; he darkened his skin with medication, by use of sun lamps, and stains. He traveled throughout the South where racism was strong at the time. A book was written, *Black Like Me*, giving detailed record of his treatment and the differences in his life simply due to the altering of his skin color. His book helped whites to understand the humiliation and discrimination that are faced daily by people of color.

Our Lord conducted himself somewhat similarly, but with greater consequence, when He came to earth to dwell among men. He wanted so dearly to understand our plight in life and minister to us tenderly and intelligently. *“He is despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief [suffering]”* (Is. 53:3).

It is to this Savior that we answer and look for the real sustenance of life. It is to God that we look for food, shelter, clothing, and our very health. It is to this compassionate friend, sacrifice, and High Priest that we look to meet our eternal needs. The Hebrew author declares that *“no creature is hidden from his sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”* Verses later, he confirms that *“we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need”* (Heb. 4:13-16).

A nineteenth-century missionary was ministering to people with leprosy on the island of Molokai, Hawaii. Those to whom he ministered loved him dearly. One morning before *Joseph Damien* went to worship he was pouring a cup of hot water and it swirled out on his foot. He poured more hot water on the same foot and there was no feeling. He walked tearfully to deliver his sermon. His introduction was quite different this day. Normally it began, “My fellow believers.” This morning he began his lesson with, “My fellow lepers.”

In greater measure, Jesus came into this world knowing what it would cost him. He bore the marks of evil that we might be made pure. *“For this cause I came into the world”* (John. 18:37). My Jesus knows just what I need and our plight in life; trust Him!

A Lesson in Loyalty

My favorite season is right around the corner. I know it's arrived when I hear the wonderful words, "It's football time in Tennessee!"

Now, I realize my audience varies, and we likely will not be pulling for the same team when August arrives. However, I have no doubt that we'll be in agreement over the principle contained in what I'm about to share.

It's been reported that one of the greatest quarterbacks in recent decades, both on the collegiate and professional levels is none other than the NFL's Denver quarterback, Peyton Manning. Peyton was a standout as well at the University of Tennessee.

Many thought that after his junior year he would most certainly leave the college arena and go on to the NFL. However, in March of 1997, he thrilled Vol Nation with these words, "I'm going to stay at the University of Tennessee."

Okay, you're still wondering about that "principle." I believe it's found in comments made by one of the winningest coaches in SEC history--Manning's coach, Phillip Fulmer. Fulmer said this,

Today we are blessed with the ultimate return of loyalty and commitment...Peyton's decision makes a huge statement, I think, for Peyton Manning and his character, putting team and program and alumni and fans and friends and teammates ahead of immediate financial gains and the limelight of the National Football League.

Ah, the point--loyalty.

The day you stepped onto the playing field called Christianity, you made a commitment. You said that from this day forward you are going to be loyal to the Christ, God's Word, and your brethren. You decided to put a cause greater than yourself above everything else.

At times we're confronted with opportunities that in the short term seem appealing; that mean more money, notoriety, and at times are more enjoyable. For instance, we may be tempted to take a job that distances our relationship from Jesus, His Word, and our brethren by keeping us from worship, Bible study, and church work. We may choose hobbies, recreational interests, or even relationships that stand in the way of the passion that we once had to serve Jesus above everything and everyone else.

Jesus said, *"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you"* (Mt. 6:33). Be loyal to Jesus. Everything else will work out in due time.

~ Neil Richey; Neil's Daily Devotional Nuggets

From Andy's Desk

This past weekend was the first wedding shower that Victoria and I have been a part. We were overwhelmed by the fact that so many people were willing to give to us as we are about to start our lives together soon, and I know that we will feel equally as humbled and blessed by the shower here at New Albany. It is amazing to me how generous God's people are, but as the shower came to a close and we were loading down my parents' van (and when I say loading I mean just that, as we could barely close the trunk) I could not help but think of how much more amazing God is with His giving to us. Each day when we wake up we are "showered" with blessings and gifts from the Lord, whether we take the time to acknowledge and appreciate it or not. Every morning we need to thank God for allowing us to live another day on this beautiful world that He created just for us. We should also be grateful for the number of physical and materialistic blessings we are given that include a bountiful supply of food, drink, clothing, transportation, shelter, and much more. Our spouses, friends, family, and other relationships (such as our brothers and sisters in Christ) that make this life so precious and meaningful, can also be attributed to God; and the freedoms we have in this country are not to be taken lightly when considering our blessings from the Lord. When we stop to think about all that God does for us each and every day, along with the fact that we have been given the greatest gift of all, salvation through the willing death and sacrifice of Jesus Christ, it is easy to see how God has showered us with blessings and continues to do so each and every day of our lives. Therefore let us live in a way that is gracious and honoring and thankful to the Lord who has done EVERYTHING for us!

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 *"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."* (NKJV)

***Upcoming Youth Events: Saturday, July 20: Memphis Redbirds Game; August 1-2: Lock-In**



PRAYER LIST

We extend our sympathy to *Kathy Clayton* and family in the death of her niece, **Rhonda Sue Harriman** of Cherokee, NC., who passed away Monday, July 8th.

Continual Prayer :

Nancy Petrowski, Eleta Grimmett, Troy Robertson, Melissa Reed, Suzette Renix, Ken Joines, J.V. Davis, Judy Ward, Pat Reed, Rivers Robertson, Ruth Brown, Barry Yancey, Jack Dunlap, Rosie Wilson, Prebble Foster, Tony Cross, Norman Brown, Shane Crotts, Terry & Betty Young

Shut-Ins:

Jean Drummond, Billy Joe Garner, Tauso Branch, Teresa Clark

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Mattie Golden, Amy Vest, Laura Mae Harris, Louise Holcomb, Maxine Carlisle, Jennie Frohn

Military List:

David & Barry Wilhite, Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Michelle Hamm, Raegan Cole, Derek Bradley, Jesse Stroud & Christopher Phagan

Attending Maywood Camp this week:

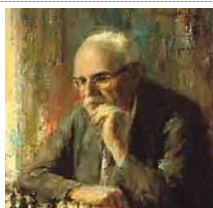
Ruston Adams, Dillon & David Clayton, Jeremiah Howell, Caleb, Clay, & Luke Jennings, Olivia Pounders, Erin & Thomas Wall

RESPONSES

This past week four of our young ladies, *Bailey Adams, Madison Griggs, Ashlee Weaver* and *Audrey Anna Young* attened Horizons at Freed-Hardeman. While there they rededicated their lives to Christ. We appreciate these young Christian girls for their tender hearts and their desire to live as Christ would have them. Accompanying them during the week was *Victoria Botts* and *Erica Crotts*.

Good Thoughts

Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on the front door forever.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



July 21.....Ione Wall
July 22..... Hunter Jennings
July 22..... Matt Jennings
July 22..... Jason McMillen
July 27.....Dixie White

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

July 25..... Bobby & Sue Marques



THANK YOU NOTE

Thanks for all your prayers, calls, cards, visits to the funeral home during the illness and death of *Jimmy Bray*. You are a wonderful Christian family.


In Christian love, Harold & Deloris Crowe

BRIDAL TEA



You are invited to a bridal shower in honor of *Victoria Botts* bride elect of *Andy Brown*, Sun. July 21st, from 1:30-3:00 at the fellowship building. The couple is registered at Bed, Bath & Beyond, Calico Mushroom and Wal-Mart. *Victoria* and *Andy* are planning a fall wedding.

MOVING

Wadie Leopard recently moved to Mooreville, MS to be near her daughter, *Susan White* and family. *Wadie* worshiped with the New Albany congregation for nearly 40 years. We will really miss her! She will be worshipping with the West Main congregation in Tupelo. Her new address is: 721  County Road 1310, Mooreville, MS

AREA EVENTS

- The **Pine Bluff Church of Christ** invites you to their Gospel Meeting July 21-24, with *Cecil May* as the guest speaker.
- The **Potts Camp Church of Christ** invites you to a Gospel Meeting July 28th-31st. There will be a different speaker for each service. Monday the 29th will be New Albany night. Check the bulletin board for mote details.
- **Chapman Church of Christ Lectureship** July 28-31. Check the bulletin board for more details.

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 Clayton..... 252-9762
Roger Clayton..... 538-8195
Brad Pounders.....316-7931
Harold Russell 534-4648
Randy Wall 316-9255
Lonnie Weaver..... 801-8448

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Phil Young
A.M. Prayer.....Anderson Parks
Closing Prayer....Lonnie Weaver
P.M. Prayer.....Paul Ormon
Closing.....Brad Pounders
Wed 7/24.....Thomas Wall
Wed.7/24.....Ruston Adams
Usher & Lock.....Randy Wall
Greeter.....T & N Robertson

OUR RECORD

Sunday School..... 117
Sunday A.M.....136
Sunday P.M116
Wednesday 129
Contribution.....\$3,509.35
Budget.....\$3,817.55



PANTRY ITEM

Peanut Butter

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What Is Personal Work?

1. It is discussing Christianity with a friend.
2. It is giving him an article on a particular subject.
3. It is telling and showing your neighbor the happiness of being a Christian.
4. It is inviting the postman to worship with you.
5. It is ringing doorbells in the name of Christ.
6. It is teaching or hosting a home Bible study.
7. It is visiting in the home of a student in your Bible class.
8. It is telling an employer about Jesus Christ.
9. It is planting the Word in someone's heart.
10. It is bringing a friend to a ladies' Bible Class.
11. It is writing a letter to a loved one expressing your interest in his soul.
12. It is having a prospect in your home for dinner and fellowship.
13. It is the encouragement given to a new member.
14. It is any deed showing the love of God working through you.

And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: (Hebrews 10:24)

