



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

August 11, 2015

Life's Most Vital Question

Mike King



Jesus began His ministry among His own people which spelled trouble from the beginning. He would later declare that *“a man is without honor in his own country”* (Mt. 13:57). He was surrounded by Galilean foes who opposed His growing popularity. He wanted to insure that if anything happened to Him that His cause would continue and grow in the minds and hearts of His followers. Compelled by the awareness that His life could be short-lived, He asked His disciples, *“Who do men say that the Son of man is?”* He then personalized His question by asking, *“Who do you say that I am?”* (Mt. 16:13).

Many responses have been given with the passage of time from then until now as to who He was and is. Many answers would complement Peter's affirmation that *“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God”* (v.16). Some have argued that Jesus was a myth, a wishful fantasy, or simply a good person, but not the Son of God! Others viewed Him as an impractical dreamer or deluded visionary. *Charles F. Jacobs* has depicted Jesus as “the human face of God,” “the fairest among ten thousand,” and “the hope of the world.” These and others have depicted Jesus as divine, underlining *Emerson's* saying that the name of Jesus “is not so much written as ploughed into the history of the world.”

The question: *“Who do men say that the Son of man is?”* remains the most important question on history's agenda, even during our time. A world of consequences, both good and bad, hangs upon our answer.

Jesus responded to a mission that had been given Him of the Father. The arrival of the kingdom, the territory over which God rules and reigns became the avenue through which He would accomplish it. This kingdom, the church, had its establishment on the day of Pentecost and immediately 3,000 were inducted into it on the basis of their belief, confession, repentance, and baptism into Christ. As men left their own ways and chose to walk with Him, they would experience the reign of God in their lives. Jesus declared that *“I am the way”* and *“I am the door”* through which believers could pass into the presence of the Eternal. God saw that *“The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us”* (Jn. 1:14).

When Jesus said, *“I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me”* (Jn. 14:6), he spoke the basic fact of our faith and our eternal hope.

The Mousetrap

A mouse looked through the crack in the wall to see the farmer and his wife open a package. "What food might this contain?" the mouse wondered. He was devastated to discover it was a mousetrap. Retreating to the farmyard, the mouse proclaimed the warning: "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!"



The chicken clucked and scratched, raise her head and said, "Mr. Mouse, I can tell this is a grave concern for you, but it is of no consequence to me. I cannot be bothered by it."

The mouse turned to the pig and told him, "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!" The pig sympathized, but said, I am so very sorry, Mr. Mouse, but there is nothing I can do about it but pray. Be assured you are in my prayers."

The mouse turned to the cow and said "There is a mousetrap in the house!" The cow said, "Wow, Mr. Mouse. I'm sorry for you, but it's no skin off my nose."

So the mouse returned to the house, head down and dejected, to face the farmer's mousetrap alone. That very night a sound was heard throughout the house of a mousetrap catching its prey.

The farmer's wife rushed to see what was caught. In the darkness, she did not see it was a venomous snake whose tail the trap had caught. The snake bit the farmer's wife. The farmer rushed her to the hospital and she returned with a fever.

Everyone knows you treat a fever with chicken soup, so the farmer took his hatchet to the farmyard for the soup's main ingredient. His wife's sickness continued, so friends and neighbors came to sit with her around the clock. To feed them, the farmer butchered the pig. The farmer's wife did not get well; she died.

So many people came for her funeral; the farmer had the cow slaughtered to provide enough meat for all of them. The mouse looked upon it all from his crack in the wall with great sadness.

So, the next time you hear someone is facing a problem and think it doesn't concern you, remember when one of us is threatened, we are all at risk.

From Cody's Desk

Sadly this will be my last article written for the *Inform*. I have greatly enjoyed my two summers working with the Church in New Albany. I have been extremely impressed with the type of people that I have had the opportunity to work with, and the quality of teenagers that were in the youth group. I loved seeing the Christian family that has been created here, and getting to be a part of it was very encouraging. Ever sense I was twelve years old my dream has been to be a youth minister, this congregation over the past two summers has given me the opportunity to fulfill that dream. I thank you for that, and for all the accommodations that have been made for me here. This group of people will always have a special place in my heart and my prayers. Thank you.



AREA EVENTS

- Gloster St. Church of Christ invites you to "Faith Basics Youth Rally 2015" August 15th from 9:00am-2:00pm.
- Fulton Bible Institute is offering: "The Book of Galatians" with classes beginning Tues. Aug. 25th. Classes are from 7:00-8:30pm each Tues.
- Area Wide Youth Devotional hosted by: Chapman Church of Christ in Ripley, MS will be held August 16th at 6:00pm. The guest speaker will be *Tom House*. A meal will be provided following the service.
- You are invited to Friends and Family Day at the Marlow Church of Christ August 23rd. The speaker will be *Tom Childers* and song leader: *Larry Smalley*.
- Senior Adult Rally, Sat. Aug., 15 at Booneville Church of Christ. Program starts at 10:00am with guest speaker *Tracy Love*. Lunch provided.

BIBLE QUESTION:

The snail is mentioned in what Psalm _____?

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

PRAYER LIST



Nancy Petrowski is now at home recovering from a foot amputation this past week. She will undergo therapy in the future.

Betty Young had surgery this past week to put a pin in the arm she broke a few weeks ago. She has been in a good deal of pain but is improving.

Whit Robertson will have an MRI Thursday in Nashville. Please continue to pray for this young man.

Troy Robertson received some good news from his heart doctor earlier this week. He will return in a month for another check-up.

Novene Robertson, is scheduled for a stress test and ultrasound Tues. August 11th.

Nicki Weaver is waiting to begin IGG treatments. She is hopeful these treatments will help her.

Continue to Remember:

Chrystal Bickerstaff, Timmy Bolden, David Crossings, Roy Crow, Harold Crowe, Jackie Dodd, John Elliott, Justin Forsyth, Preeble Foster, Sonny Gay, Donna Haynes, Dianna Hodges, Shane Hutton, Judy Kirk, Lonnie Parker, Wayne Reams, Whit Robertson, Lisa Russell, Sheila Thomas, John Todd, Sean Thompson, Judy Ward, Chris Windham, Andy Ulmer, Terry & Betty Young, Tommy Young.

Shut-Ins:

Jean Drummond, Teresa Clark, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner, Claudia Senter

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Perrin Drummond, Betty Lang, Miriam Styers, Grace Anderson, Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris

Military List:

Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Raegan Cole, Derek Bradley, Jesse Stroud



I've Learned...

Thank God for what you have --
Trust God for what you need.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



August 15. Jessica Garrett
August 19. Kim Clayton
August 20. Phillip Young
August 21. Mary Frances Reid

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

August 18. Shane & Barbara Crotts
August 21. Roger & Kathy Clayton
August 21. Jerry & Lucille Gibson



SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to *Janice Griffin* and family in the death of her 7th month old great-granddaughter **Natalie Griffin**, of Nettleton. *Natalie* passed away August 5th after suffering with health problems since her birth. Funeral services were held Saturday August 8th in Tupelo.

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of **Pam Ledford** of Jacksonville, FL. *Pam* passed away following heart surgery August 7th. She was a former secretary and dear friend of *Mike* and *Sheila King*. A memorial service will be held in Jacksonville FL, August 13th.

THANK YOU NOTE

To my church family,

Thank you for all the prayers during the past 7 months for little Natalie, and for the kind words and support at her services.

Janice and Deborah Griffin

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

- Senior Bible Bowl at the East Main congregation in Tupelo Sunday, August 16th.
- Youth Devo August 23rd, following evening services. The *Garrett* and *Smithey* families will be hosting.
- Sunday August 30th, we will have our 5th Sunday Services. A fellowship meal will follow our morning service. The senior men will be in charge of the afternoon service at 1:15.

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 Clayton.....252-9762
Roger Clayton 538-8195
Brad Pounders.....316-7931
Harold Russell..... 507-1180
Randy Wall 316-9255
Lonnie Weaver.....801-8448

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Phil Young
A.M. Prayer.....Troy Robertson
Closing Prayer. Hunter Jennings
P.M. PrayerDan Cobb
ClosingShane Crofts
Wed.8/19.....Perry Jones
Wed.8/19.....Dillon Clayton
Usher & LockRandy Wall
Greeter.....L & N Weaver

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....114
Sunday A.M.....143
Sunday P. M.....102
Wednesday.....93
Contribution.....\$3,946.50
Budget.....\$3,984.46



PANTRY ITEMS

Toothpaste

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Volume 31

THE INFORMER (USPS 581-500)

Church of Christ
511 Hwy. 15 South, P.O. Box 148
New Albany, Mississippi 38652
(662)534-4649

Periodical
Postage Paid
New Albany, MS

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

Why Don't You Think God Can Not Use You?

The next time you feel like God cannot use you, just remember:

- Noah was a drunk
- Abraham was too old
- Isaac was a daydreamer
- Jacob was a liar
- Leah was ugly
- Joseph was abused
- Moses had a stuttering problem
- Gideon was afraid
- Samson had long hair and was a womanizer
- Rahab was a prostitute
- Jeremiah and Timothy were too young
- David had an affair and was a murderer
- Elijah was suicidal
- Jonah ran from God
- Naomi was a widow
- Job went bankrupt
- Peter denied Christ
- The Disciples fell asleep while praying
- Martha worried about everything
- The Samaritan woman was divorced, more than once
- Zaccheus was too small
- Paul was too religious
- Timothy had an ulcer...AND
- Lazarus was dead!

Now! No more excuses! God can use you to your full potential. Besides, you are not the message, you are just the messenger. In the circle of God's love, God is waiting to use your full potential.