



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.org

September 13, 2011

ACCORDING TO WHOSE TERMS?

Mike King



It has been the observation of *Donald Macleod* that there are three totalitarian powers at work in our society today. The first originated in Moscow and bears the tag of “Communism,” the second is spawned and is rampant in our Western civilization, called “totalitarian secularism,” and the third originated from heaven being the totalitarian God. He also made the deduction that if we do not accept the third, we would embrace the second, and if not the second, we will find ourselves hopelessly an atheist!

Our God, by His very nature, lays claim to His creatures. All through the Old Testament, God was seeking for “*My people*” and in the New Testament was extending a constant invite for people to “*Come unto me.*” He desires all that we have and are, but will never secure it through force. He longs for loving devotion to Him and His cause in this world. He said, “*Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in*” (Rev. 3:20).

The big puzzlement about the above three mentioned powers is that the third one that came from heaven claims a smaller number than the two aforementioned! Man in general fails to realize that the ultimate significance and value of life is determined by his response to what God wants and demands of it. It would be fair to say that God calls for absolute moral obedience and unconditional spiritual surrender before His terms can be met. There was a man in the Bible that said, “*Lord, I will follow thee; but...*” (Lk. 9:61). How would we complete this sentence? What would be our “but” that would be employed for an excuse to be negligent and derelict in the Master’s cause?

As with us sometimes, there was a flourish of enthusiasm until the “but” insertions began to fly. Any good intentions were rendered null and void any kind of previously expressed intentions. One had to bury his father and another wanted to bid farewell to departing friends (Lk. 9:57-62).

Christ claims each of us today to work for Him, to live for Him and if necessary to die for Him. To offer Him a portion or token of our devotion to Him instead of total self would be failing Him.

Reginald Heber penned the following musical lyrics of those dedicated to God:

*They climbed the steep ascent of heaven
Through peril, toil and pain.
O God to us may grace be given
To follow in their train.*

MEET THE TATER FAMILY

Some people never seem motivated to participate, but are just content to watch while others do the work. They are called Speck Taters.

Some people never do anything to help, but are gifted at finding fault with the way others work. They are called Commen Taters.

Some people are very bossy and like to tell others what to do, but don't want to soil their own hands. They are called Dick Taters,

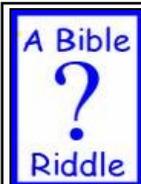
Some people are always looking to cause problems by asking others to agree with them. They are called Agie Taters.

There are those who say they will help, but somehow just never get around to actually doing anything. They are called Hezzie Taters.

Some people can put up a front and pretend to be someone they are not. They are called Emma Taters.

Then, there are those who love others and do what they say they will. They are always prepared to stop whatever they are doing and lend a helping hand. They bring real sunshine into the lives of others. They are called Sweet Taters.

“By love, serve one another.” Galatians 5:13



I am the plague that God sent on the Egyptians when Moses scattered ashes toward heaven.

What plague am I?

Exodus 9: 8-10

YOUTH NEWS

- Thanks to *Dan Cobb* for taking our youth to the Area Wide Youth Meeting at the Hillcrest congregation this past Sunday. Several parents also went with the youth group. We appreciate you all.
- The Senior Bible Bowl will be held September 18th, at the Nettleton Church of Christ. Questions will be taken from the book of Acts, chapters 1-7.
- The first Junior Bible Bowl will be held Saturday, September 24th, at the Hwy 15 Pontotoc Church of Christ. Questions will be taken from the book of Luke. Study! Study! Study!
- This month's youth devo will be held Sunday night, September 25th at the fellowship building. *Brad and April Pounders* will be hosting.

AREA EVENTS

The **East Main Church of Christ** will be hosting a leadership training class every Monday night, from 7:00 to 8:30 beginning Sept. 12th –Dec. 12th. They will use the book titled “Christian Leadership Handbook” by *J.J. Turner*.

Ashland Church of Christ invites you to their **Fall Gospel Singing** Saturday, September 17th from 5:00pm-7:00pm. Refreshments will be served after the singing.

You are invited to a **Ladies Day** September 24, from 9:00am-12:00 noon at the **Amory Church of Christ**. Guest speaker: *Jane Washington*

The **Antioch Church of Christ** will have a **Gospel Meeting** September 25-28, with *Matthew Benfield* as the guest speaker. Services times are: Mon.-Wed. night at 7:00.

Hwy 15 Church of Christ in Pontotoc invites you to their **Fall Gospel Meeting** September 18-22. The guest speaker will be *B.J. Clarke*. Service times are: Sun.-Thur. night at 7:00.

PRAYER LIST



Roger Clayton, has been diagnosed with pancreatitis. He will return to his heart doctor this week for a stress test.

Eleta Grimmatt, is in room 233 of the local hospital. She is experiencing problems with her lungs.

Continual Prayer

Billy Joe Bray, John Sanford, Charlie Sims, Steve Livingston, Cindy Sprouse, Pat Reed, Janice Griffin, Randy Wall, Drew Ferguson, Daphne Fitzpatrick, Tony Cross, Tauso Branch, Al Pless, Hugh Collins, Shane Crotts, 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



THANK YOU

Thank you for helping make our celebration of our 40th wedding anniversary a true success! We love all of you and feel blessed to be part of such a loving group.

*The Clayton Family,
Roger, Kathy, Jodie, Andrea & Sallye*

“I’VE LEARNED”

...That having a child fall asleep in your arms is one of the most peaceful feelings in the world.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- September 16.....Lessie Bryant
- September 17.....Dalton Beard
- September 17.....Bill Frohn
- September 22.....Tauso Branch
- September 22.....Jonathan Clayton
- September 23.....Helen DePriest

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- September 15.....Jerry & Eleta Grimmatt
- September 16.....Chris & Callie Smithey
- September 17.....Steve & Lana Todd

FALL FOOD DRIVE



It is time for the annual Fall Food Drive for Pine Vale Children’s Home. They are asking different congregations to supply only certain items. However, any item you wish to send will be appreciated. They have asked for our congregation to provide velveeta type cheese, spray starch and evaporated milk. There will be a box placed in the foyer for you to place your items. Please bring these items by Oct 16th.

FELLOWSHIP



A fellowship meal is planned for Sunday night, September 18th, following our evening service. Please bring your favorite finger foods, soups (if the weather is cool), and deserts. Adult 3 class will be in charge of set-up and clean-up.

APPRECIATION

We appreciate so much *Andy Clemmer* and *Lonnie Weaver* filling the pulpit Sunday, while Mike was away in a gospel meeting. They both had excellent lessons and we appreciate them and their willingness to preach the gospel.

OUR RECORD

Sunday School	102
Sunday A M	117
Sunday P.M.....	80
Wednesday.....	109
Contribution	\$2,914.21
Budget	\$3,455.70

TO SERVE

Scripture.....	Gary Turner
A.M. Prayer.....	Greg Harrison
Closing Prayer.....	Bobby Marques
P.M. Prayer.....	Richard Jennings
Closing.....	Bill Lyon
Wed 9/21.....	Harold Russell
Wed. 9/12.....	Ronnie Griggs
Usher & Lock.....	Roger Clayton
Greeter.....	B & N Frohn



PANTRY ITEM

Chili or Beef Stew

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

Lord, Prop Us Up...

"Every time I am asked to pray, I think of the old fellow who always prayed, 'Lord, prop us up on our leanin' side.' After hearing him pray that prayer many times, someone asked him why he prayed that prayer so fervently.

"He answered, 'Well sir, you see, it's like this...I got an old barn out back. It's been there a long time; it's withstood a lot of weather; it's gone through a lot of storms, and it's stood for many years.

"It's still standing. But one day I noticed it was leaning to one side a bit.

"So I went and got some pine poles and propped it up on its leaning side so it wouldn't fall.

"Then I got to thinking about that and how much I was like that old barn. I've been around a long time.

"I've withstood a lot of life's storms. I've withstood a lot of bad weather in life, I've withstood a lot of hard times, and I'm still standing too. But I find myself leaning to one side from time to time, so I like to ask the Lord to prop us up on our leaning side, 'cause I figure a lot of us get to leaning at times.

"Sometimes we get to leaning toward anger, leaning toward bitterness leaning toward hatred, leaning toward cussing, leaning toward a lot of things that we shouldn't. So we need to pray, 'Lord, prop us up on our leaning side, so we will stand straight and tall again, to glorify the Lord.'"
~ unknown author



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