



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.org

September 27, 2011

Cannibals On The Prowl

Mike King



The story is told of an infidel visiting the Fiji Islands who spoke critically of the elderly chief. He said, “You’re a great leader, but it’s a pity you’ve been taken in by those foreign missionaries. No one believes the Bible anymore. People are tired of the threadbare story of Christ dying on the cross for the sins of the world. They know better now. I’m sorry you’ve been so foolish as to accept their story.”

The old chief’s eyes flashed as he answered, “See that great rock over there? On it we smashed the heads of our victims. Notice the furnace next to it? In that oven, we formerly roasted the bodies of our enemies. If it hadn’t been for those good missionaries and the love of Jesus that changed us from cannibals unto Christians, you’d never leave this place alive! You’d better thank the Lord for the gospel; otherwise we would already be feasting on you. If it weren’t for the Bible, you would now be our supper.”

Our initial response to this story is that we find it humorous. When we examine it in the light of spiritual understanding, we learn that we may be surrounded by cannibalism that gnaws at our spiritual integrity and faith. The **cannibal of emotionalism** is eating at the very foundations of truth and true righteousness. The Christian life is characterized as having many emotions, but that must not be the primary objective for worship and service. When truth and good judgment are “eaten alive” from our understanding and response to God, apostasy lurks in the not too distant future. The **cannibal of liberalism** declares that the gospel must be updated, having no place in the pulpit, and refusing to use its terms to describe sin and the end result of a godless life. To the liberal, it is inappropriate to stress the plan of salvation at the close of the sermon. There is a **cannibal of apathy and indifference** that perpetually “eat away” at the Christian, prompting him to overlook religious differences between us and our religious neighbors. He declares that the church has failed and that “organized religion” is a thing of the past.

A major concern for Paul was that the brethren “...bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another” (Gal. 5:15). The Devil epitomizes cannibalism in that he “walks about seeking whom he may devour” (1 Pet. 5:8).

It is not uncommon when we have something troubling us for someone to say, “What’s eating you?” If you are spiritually troubled, I would simply ask, “What’s eating you?”

PREPARING AHEAD

A traveler became lost in the desert region of Algeria. Realizing his only chance for survival was to find civilization, he began walking. Time passed, and he became thirsty. More time passed, and he began feeling faint. Reduced to crawling, he was on the verge of passing out when he spied a tent about 500 yards in front of him. Barely conscious, he reached the tent and called out, "Water..."

A Bedouin appeared in the tent door and replied sympathetically, "I am sorry, sir, but I have no water. However, would you like to buy a tie?" With this, he brandished a collection of exquisite silken ties.

"You fool," gasped the man. "I'm dying! I need water!"

"Well, sir," replied the Bedouin, "If you really need water, there is a tent about a mile south of here where you can get some."

Without knowing how, the man summoned sufficient strength to drag his parched body the distance to the second tent. With his last ounce of strength he tugged at the door of the tent and collapsed.

Another Bedouin, dressed in a costly tuxedo, appeared at the door and inquired, "May I help you sir?"

"Water..." was the feeble reply.

"Oh, sir," replied the Bedouin, "I'm sorry, but you can't come in here without a tie!"

There are events in our lives that seem to serve little purpose, but they prepare us for something that lies ahead. I am reminded of the story Jesus told in Matthew 25 about the wise and foolish virgins. The only difference between the two was that the wise virgins had made prior preparation.

The point of that parable is to stress the need to prepare our lives for the day when Jesus returns. "*Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.*" Matthew 25:13

If we want eternal life later, then now is the time to start making preparation.

Alan Smith

YOUTH NEWS

- Thanks to *Brad* and *April Pounders* for hosting the youth devo Sun. night. We appreciate them so much!
- Our Jr. Bible Bowl youth did an excellent job Sat. by answering all their questions!
- Several of our youth participated in the Tallahatchie River Run this past weekend. Out of 487 runners participating, *Daniel Drummond* placed 5th and *Hunter Jennings* placed 6th. Others of our youth participating were, *Erin Wall*, *Dillon* and *David Clayton* and *Caleb Jennings*. We are proud of all these young people.
- Next Area Wide Youth meeting will be October 9th, at the East Main Church of Christ.

AREA EVENTS

- **North Mississippi Ladies Retreat** will be held October 21 & 22 at Tishomingo State Park. The speaker will be *Marlene Howell* of Jasper Ala. Pre-Registration is requested by Oct. 10th. Check the bulletin board for more details.
- The **Beech Hill Church of Christ** will have a Gospel Meeting Oct. 2nd -5th, at 7pm each evening. The guest speaker will be *Phil Sanders*.
- **Skyline Church of Christ** in Tupelo will have a Gospel Meeting Oct. 9th-13th. The guest speaker will be *Windell Fikes*. Times: Sun. 7:30pm & Mon-Wed night at 7:00pm.
- **Fall Gospel Meeting**, hosted by the **Ashland** and **South Ashland Churches of Christ** will be Oct. 9th-12th. They will meet Mon-Wed. night at 7pm. They will also host a Youth Rally Sat. Oct 8th from 10:00am till 2:00pm.



PRAYER LIST

Janice Cobb, will have by-pass surgery Wednesday, in Oxford.

Ruth Brown, sister of *Bobby Marques* will have extensive back surgery Wednesday.

John Tompkins, had triple by-pass surgery this past week in Tupelo.

Earnestine McKinney, mother of *Perry Jones*, is in a Memphis hospital after having a possible stroke.

Corey Graham, friend of the *Parks* will have back surgery Wednesday in Memphis.

Ruby Shouse, sister of *Price Senter* is recovering from a broken hip. Her address is: room #A-9 Baldwyn Nursing Facility 739 S. Fourth St. Baldwyn, MS 38824.

Continual Prayer

Lisa Mitchell, Ron Garner, Dick Young, Ruby Shouse, Eleta Grimmett, Billy Joe Bray, Charlie Sims, Steve Livingston, Cindy Sprouse, Pat Reed, Randy Wall, Daphne Fitzpatrick, Tony Cross, Tauso Branch, Al Pless, Hugh Collins, Shane Crofts, 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

“I’VE LEARNED”

.... That when your newly born grandchild holds your little finger for the first time, that your hooked for life.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

October 01.....Harold Russell
October 04.....Tara Sparks
October 05.....Claudia Senter

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

October 09.....Terry & Betty Young

THANK YOU

Thank you for your calls, prayers and visits.

In Christian Love, *Pat Reed*

MEN’S ANNUAL “CHICKEN FEST”



The men’s “Chicken Fest” is scheduled for Sunday night, October 9th, following services, at *Phil Young’s* barn. Be sure to sign the list in the foyer. *Phil* said: “No Name, No Chicken!”

RECIPES: LAST CALL!



All recipes for our cookbook project need to be turned into the office by Sept. 30th. We are excited about this project and would like to thank all who have sent in their recipes. You may send your recipes by email to: office@nacoc.org or by mail to: P.O. Box 148 New Albany, MS 38652

FALL LECTURES



Our “Fall Lectures” will begin Wednesday night, October 5th, and continue each Wednesday night through October. We will have a guest speaker each night. There will be a meal each night before the lectures with the adult classes providing the meal.



OUR RECORD

Sunday School	124
Sunday A M	147
Sunday P.M.....	126
Wednesday.....	112
Contribution	\$3,334.76
Budget	\$3,455.70

TO SERVE

Scripture	Dean Dillard
A.M. Prayer.....	Terry Young
Closing Prayer.....	Phil Young
P.M. Prayer.....	Burrell Walton
Closing	Shane Crotts
Wed 10/5.....	Andy Clemmer
Wed. 10/5.....	Bill DePriest
Usher & Lock ..	Harold Russell
Greeter.....	B & A Pounders



PANTRY ITEM

Breakfast Foods

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

MONTH: OCTOBER 2011

SOUND ROOM	Brad Pounders	ANNOUNCEMENTS	Troy Robertson
LEAD SINGING		USHER	Phillip Young
<i>SUN AM:</i>	Greg Harrison		
<i>SUN PM:</i>	R. Jennings	PREPARE	
<i>WED:</i>	Dalton Beard	COMMUNION	Erin Wall

LORD'S

SUPPER

<i>N Head:</i>	R. Jennings	<i>S Head:</i>	Lonnie Weaver
<i>N Help I:</i>	Bill Frohn	<i>S Help I:</i>	Martin Crotts
<i>N Help II:</i>	Dillon Clayton	<i>S Help II:</i>	Tyler Weaver

SUNDAY

PRAYERS A.M.

	Opening	Closing
<i>1ST</i>	Terry Young	Phil Young
<i>2ND</i>	Jerry Gibson	Greg Clayton
<i>3RD</i>	Paul Ormon	Dan Cobb
<i>4TH</i>	Richard Adams	Ronnie Griggs
<i>5TH</i>	Dalton Beard	Jason Jennings

SUNDAY

PRAYERS PM

	Opening	Closing
<i>1ST</i>	Burrell Walton	Shane Crotts
<i>2ND</i>	Roger Clayton	Matt Jennings
<i>3RD</i>	Bill Botts	Bill Lyon
<i>4TH</i>	Harold Crowe	Olen Clark
<i>5TH</i>	Randy Wall	Carl Smith

WED PRAYERS

	Opening	Closing
<i>1ST</i>	Andy Clemmer	Bill DePriest
<i>2ND</i>	Mike King	Bobby Marques
<i>3RD</i>	Greg Harrison	Mark Jennings
<i>4TH</i>	Ray Kennedy	Bobby White
<i>5TH</i>		

SCRIPTURE READING

Dean Dillard
Dan Drummond
Steve Todd
Ruston Adams
Gary Turner

USHER &

LOCK

Harold Russell
Randy Wall
Lonnie Weaver

Bill Botts

Greg Clayton

GREETERS

B & A Pounders
A & S Clemmer
H & D Crowe
R & K Jennings
B & N Frohn

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