



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

November 10, 2020

The Power of One

By Tim Dooley

The Bible is the autobiography of God. It is His story and we are living out not our lives but the very story of God and His creation. A fundamental truth of this epic is the power of one. Just as we recognize the power of unity in a military fighting force or sports team we see the same power of oneness in everything God does. For us it is important to recognize this unity as His children. In *Ephesians 4:3* Paul writes that we are to be “diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” With this plea the following truths are set forth (vv 4–6); There is:

One Body – What mankind (and Satan) has done to cause division in the church and create the plethora of denominations, false teachings, and confusion has led to a weakening of the cause of Christ. God commanded that we be united (*1 Corinthians 1:10, 12:25*) but warned that divisions would come (*Acts 20:29–30; 1 Timothy 4:1*). While the religious world recoils at the doctrine of one true church the Bible bears out that there is one body and in it there is great power.

One Spirit – The job of the Spirit was to reveal God’s words, His message, to mankind (*John 14:26, 15:26, 16:13*). It was the spirit who proclaimed and confirmed the message through inspiration and with powerful miracles. Let us not miss the great power in the Spirit: “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart” (*Hebrews 4:12*).

One Hope – The Bible reveals then the one true hope: salvation from our sins and eternal life in Heaven, escaping the eternal torment of a devil’s hell. Many people have tried to assert that even if Christianity is false, or if God is not real, this life is still the best life to live. However the Bible disagrees. In fact Paul says, “If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men miserable” most (*1 Corinthians 15:10*). There is eternal power in the one hope.

One Lord – We have all heard the old adage of there being too many “cooks in the kitchen” or “too many chiefs and not enough Indians.” Spiritually speaking the world has too many lords: self, family, work, money, sports, sin or anything else that unseats Christ from the throne of your heart. There is power and freedom in having the one true Lord of lords ruling your life.

One Faith – Another damning division and effective tool of Satan has been the idea that there are many different faiths. This has taken a bit longer than denominationalism to materialize but we now are told that it really doesn’t matter what you believe, what faith (system of belief) you follow everyone goes to heaven (except for the really bad people). But as Christians we need to be more assertive with our defense of the one true faith (*Jude 3*). It is this one faith that has the power to save us (*Ephesians 2:8*).

One Baptism – The Bible lists seven different baptism, so what do we make of this “one baptism” here in *Ephesians 4*? The only one commanded, taught and said to put us into Christ (*Galatians 3:27*) and wash away our sins and save us (*Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21*) is the baptism in water for the remission of our sin in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Jesus shed His blood to redeem us and coming into contact with that blood is essential (*Romans 6:3–6*). There is power in the blood and there is power in the one baptism.

One God and Father of all – This is His story. He is the author of life, both limited physical life and eternal spiritual life. He is omnipotent (all-powerful)!

There is power in one but that power is not in you and I individually as finite, sinful human beings. We must then be submissive, obedient, and faithful. “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God” (*Hebrews 10:31*).

Be faithful!

Life Is a Gift

Today before you think of saying an unkind word — Think of someone who can't speak.

Before you complain about the taste of your food — Think of someone who has nothing to eat.

Before you complain about your husband or wife — Think of someone who's crying out to God for a companion.

Today before you complain about life — Think of someone who went too early to heaven.

Before you complain about your children — Think of someone who desires children but they're barren.

Before you argue about your dirty house, someone didn't clean or sweep — Think of the people who are living on the streets.

Before whining about the distance you drive — Think of someone who walks the same distance you drive with their feet.

And when you are tired and complain about your job — Think of the unemployed, the disables and those who wished they had your job.

But before you think of pointing the finger or condemning another — Remember that not one of us are without sin and we all answer to one maker.

And when depressing thoughts seem to get you down — Put a smile on your face and thank God you're alive and still around.

Life is a gift, live it, celebrate it, and fulfill it.



REMEMBER OUR VETERANS!



When Paul Gets Personal

Figures of speech are used in every language to color, emphasize ideas and make each language more expressive. Examples such as "I've got a mountain of work ahead of me" or "I bit the bullet." The south seems to take this practice and ramp it up to a new level. Being from the south, I know one can construct an entire language out of idioms. People are always "fixin" to do something and being "up a creek" is a negative thing. I could go on until the cows come home, but being Southerners yourself, you get the picture. Colloquial language can be fun and, when both the speaker and the hearer understand such language, it can make conversation meaningful.

Interestingly, various figures of these instances are extremely powerful as the writer seeks to make a point. of speech (including regional idioms and colloquial phrases) can be seen throughout Scripture. Some-Perhaps one of the more heartfelt images can be found in the first chapter of 1 Timothy. Within this letter, Paul is expressing to the young preacher the necessity of remaining godly. Notice 1:19, "holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting this, some have made shipwreck of their faith."

The only other time the word for "shipwreck" appears in the New Testament is in 2 Corinthians 11:25. Within that context, Paul explains several tragic events that have inflicted pain on him. If anyone knew the devastating forces of a shipwreck, it'd be Paul. With this personal and experiential knowledge, Paul now makes the point that there are those who are shipwrecking their faith because they are rejecting a godly life-style.

I know several people who have been in car accidents so severe it put their lives in jeopardy. If one of them came to me after his/her recovery and said, "by rejecting godly living, there are those who make a car wreck of their faith," I would listen. Imagine being in the shoes of Timothy as he reads this statement from his father in the faith. Two great lessons can be gleaned from this one verse. First, it shows the passion that Paul had behind his teachings. I don't remember who said it, but they said "religion isn't powerful until it's personal." Second, we need to hear his words and recognize the role that a steady, godly life plays in aiding our faith.

~ copied

YOU TUBE ~ LIVE STREAMING ~ Sun. @ 9:30; Wed. @ 6:30

PRAYER LIST



Andrea Hill, is home from the hospital following two procedures due to a bile duct blockage. They put in stints and removed several stones but have not gotten them all. She is being sent to UAB Birmingham for future treatments.

Greg Grigsby, father of *Shaler Grigsby*, has been diagnosed with Covid 19.

Ronnie Miller, father of *Amanda Coggin*, is in the hospital with breathing problems and fluid on his lungs. He is expected to be there a couple weeks.

Sarah Grace Wise, 21 year old from the Ingomar community has begun her cancer treatments at MD Anderson.

Don Golden was diagnosed with a blood clot on this heart. He will also be having a defibrillator placed as soon as it can be scheduled.

Donnie Wilson, nephew of *Gloria Jones* suffers from serious health problems.

Tim Dye is slowly recovering from elbow surgery.

Ricky Adams, father of *Richard Adams*, is still in some pain following his back surgery, but improving.

David Holmes, neighbor of *Kevin & Stephanie Simmons* has been diagnosed with bladder cancer.

Continue to Remember:

Chris Bradley, Kathy Clayton, Shelly Clayton, Shane Crotts, Amanda Dye, Kathy Dye, Prebble Foster, Don Golden, Ron Griggs, Eleta Grimmett, Madison Hardy, Bill & Grace Lyon, Ronnie Miller, Olivia Pounders, Lake Tremble, Charles Ulmer, William Wilson

Shut-Ins:

J. L. Eaton, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner, Nancy Petrowski,

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Bill & Helen DePriest, Joe Downs, Lucille Gibson, Price Senter, J.D. Stroud

Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley, Luke Goff, Chase Seals

I've Learned...

You can tell how much a man cares by what he is willing to do.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



November 13.....Joe Reed
November 16..... Jackson Coggin
November 17.....Josh George
November 18..... Linda Griggs
November 19..... Linda Clark
November 19..... Darrell Crowe



NEW MINISTER

We are so happy to report that *Tim Dooley* has excepted our minister's position here at New Albany. *Tim &* and his wife *Colleen* are in the process of moving to New Albany from Hebron, KY. He hopes to be here around the first part of December.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

- Sunday, Nov. 15th, we will have as our guest speaker, Wayne Scott of Freed-Hardeman University. He will be speaking at both our Sunday school hour and our morning worship hour. We will not have a meal due to Covid 19. Please join us Sun!
- There will be a Youth Devo. Sun. Nov. 22nd at 6:00pm, unless otherwise announced. Kurt & Shelly Clayton and Lea Ann Clark will be hosting.
- Those participating in Lads to Leaders need to turn in their forms to Greg Clayton by Sun. Nov. 15th.
- Ladies, due to the Corona Virus we will not be having our annual Ladies' Christmas Bruch this year We hope to be able to plan a gathering for the ladies in the near future.
- Men's breakfast/planning session Dec. 5th.

AREA EVENTS

- The Nettleton Church of Christ invites you to join them for their Fall Lectureship Sun. 8— Wed. Nov. 11. They have a different speaker each night, at 7:00pm.
- Area Wide (Youth) Organizational meeting has been rescheduled for early Dec. We will repost the date when it becomes available.

Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.us>

Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com

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Volume 43

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....9:30
 Morning Worship.....10:30
 Evening Worship.....
 Wednesday Bible Study....6:30

MINISTER

Shaler Grigsby....Youth/ Assoc.
256-263-9137
 Office 534-4649

ELDERS

Greg Clayton.....252-9762
 Tim Dye.....316-2527
 Richard Jennings316-1305
 Troy Robertson316-3163
 Phil Young.....316-2059

DEACONS

Kurt Clayton.....316-6420
 Roger Clayton 538-8195
 Shane Crotts.....266-0195
 Jason Jennings..... 801-3260
 Mark Jennings....731-609-3309
 Randy Wall 316-9255

TO SERVE

Communion.....T. Stubblefield
 Scripture.....Hunter Jennings
 A.M. Prayer.....Paul Ormon
 Closing.....Perry Jones
 P.M. Prayer.....
 Closing.....
 Wed 18th..K. Simmons/R. Clayton
 Lock.....Jason Jennings
 UsherJason Jennings
 SecurityDan Cobb

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....61
 Sunday A.M.....94
 Sunday P.M.....
 Wednesday.....NA
 Contribution.....NA
 Budget.....\$4,095.92

PANTRY ITEMS



Soup

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Diaper Thieves

I get it. Being the father of four children who have filled diapers with the best of them, I understand the unending, insatiable need for diapers. The thought of stealing diapers, however, is about as petty as it gets. Nevertheless, a few years ago the Diaper Bank of North Carolina had 13,000 diapers stolen. Apparently, the thieves weren't even planning to put them to, well, "good" use on their own children (if they have any). The diapers began showing up at garage sales and on the streets for \$4 per package, bringing a potential profit of \$24,000 from the stolen diaper packages ([Fox News](#)).

It's sad to think about how low and how trivial the sins people commit are. These thieves have continued to endanger their eternal souls by stealing, of all things, diapers! These crooks are apparently willing to throw heaven away just to make a few bucks and possibly cover a few baby bottoms ([1 Corinthians 6:9-11](#)).

Sometimes a little perspective is in order. Are stolen diapers worth eternal punishment? If this sounds completely and utterly ridiculous, then you get the point. Let's make no mistake though, absolutely no sin is worth going to hell for ([Luke 16:19-31](#)).

It's easy to get caught up in the heat of a tempting moment ([James 1:14-15](#)). We can lie and convince ourselves the silliest and ridiculous sins are worth it. We can persuade ourselves into thinking the sin isn't all that bad. No matter what we tell ourselves, there is never, ever a sin that is worth risking the eternal reward of heaven for ([Revelation 21:10-27](#); [22:1-5](#)).

~ Brett Petrillo