



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

November 17, 2020

How You Doin'?

By Tim Dooley

In a book I read recently the author joking and parenthetically states, *"If I had known I was going to live this long, I would have taken better care of myself!"* I read this and as I finished the paragraph my mind was drawn back to the depth of the statement.

In this life, it is true, that we do not know how much time we have. From the tragic death of an innocent child to those who live to see a century or more and everyone in between, we just don't know when we will breathe our last breath. But consider that God, in creating man, *"...created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them"* (Genesis 1:27). The depth of this truth needs to be, but is seldom considered. In this case however, we only need to realize that God created us as "spiritual beings," immortals that will live forever.

The apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:44b, *"There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body."* Our existence then is not confined to the physical life we live here on earth. When we die, *"Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it"* (Ecclesiastes 12:7). We also read that, *"...it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:"* (Hebrews 9:27). So notice that there is no "second chance," no reincarnation. But also, once we die, we still exist, how else could we stand before God in judgment, how is it that every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess (Romans 14:11).

All too often we get caught up in this physical existence and fail to realize the futile, temporal life we live in the flesh. We should be living every day trying to develop a personal relationship with God in preparation for our existence with Him in eternity. We need to be laying up for ourselves treasures in heaven (Matthew 6:20). Notice that it is a personal responsibility; no one else can "lay up" for us. We have to take care of ourselves!

To the young evangelist Paul wrote, *"For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come"* (1 Timothy 4:8). Sure, we need to eat right, exercise and take care of ourselves. Do so that we may be able to serve God in this life with ever fiber of our being (Mark 12:30). But we need to be taking care of our spiritual lives and exercising ourselves to godliness.

With these thoughts in mind let us ask ourselves, "how we doin'?" Seeing just how long we are going to live and that the options are limited to heaven and hell (Matthew 25:46), shouldn't we be taking better care of ourselves? Be Faithful!

Endangered Character

During his time as a rancher, Theodore Roosevelt and one of his workers lassoed a maverick steer. They lit a fire and prepared the branding irons. Unfortunately, the part of the range they were on belonged to one of Roosevelt's neighbors, Gregor Lang. According to the cattleman's rule, the steer belonged to the neighbor since it was found on his land. As his worker was about to apply the brand, Roosevelt said, "Wait, it should be Lang's steer." "That's all right, boss," said the worker. "But you're putting on my brand," Roosevelt said. "That's right," said the man. "Drop that iron," Roosevelt demanded, "and get back to the ranch and get out. I don't need you anymore. A man who will steal for me will steal from me" (Today In The Word, Mar 28, 1993).

Even in Roosevelt's day, honesty and integrity were exceedingly rare traits. Today, it seems they are nearly extinct. Taking someone at his word is foolish. A gentleman's handshake has become basically worthless. People no longer value nor strive to be honest and upright. Scripture, however, makes it quite clear that God values such qualities.

Elders and deacons are the only two leadership positions God gives qualifications to. Interestingly, among all the qualifications that are listed, God expects elders and deacons to be men who uphold honesty and integrity. The elders are called to be men who are above reproach (blameless), respectable, and love what is good (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9). The deacons are to be men of dignity and not double-tongued (1 Timothy 3:8-13).

If these are the qualities God expects of the most devout leaders in the church, then certainly these are qualities we should all strive to have in our own lives as well. It's not just these two positions though; God calls on all people to be honest and upright (1 Kings 9:4-5; Proverbs 19:1; 1 Peter 3:10-12; Philippians 4:8-9). In a world that will do anything for self, let's stand out of the crowd with our good example. Let's keep these godly characteristics from going extinct. Above all else, let's please God by being people of truth.
~ Brett Petrillo ~

Three Word Phrase

I Miss You: Perhaps more marriages could be saved & strengthened if couples simply & sincerely say to each other, "I miss you." This powerful affirmation tells partners they are wanted, needed, desired, & loved. Consider how ecstatic you would feel, if you received a phone call from your spouse in the middle of the workday, just to say, "I miss you!"

Spiritually Shabby Reflects on our Father

The following was written by Richard Clinard and shared with me by Wilma. I think it is worth sharing.

When I was growing up, the one thing that you did not do was embarrass your parents. That is not to say I never did it! I can almost hear my mother now, "Richard Matthew, do not embarrass us!" Mom was high on what other people thought about her youngins! I feel the same way today.

I think in a similar way, our Heavenly Father would have each of us live in such a way that would have others see him in His proper place. Calvin Miller writes, "The great sin against God is to live in such a way that others don't see us as wealthy in the spiritual sense." To live a spiritual shabby life is to cause others to see God as a poor father!

The great sin of the prodigal son was in his making his father look bad! If anyone saw him at the hog pen, they would have surely thought that his father didn't love him at all! They would have never dreamed that hanging on the wall in a big house back home was the portrait of this filthy hog herder! When we walk through life looking just like everyone else in life, everyone else may think we are just like everyone else! But when we walk through life with the confidence that God is our Father, and that He is a Father who cares for his children, and who provides everything, down to the very bread we eat and the clothing that we wear, then others can see how glorious our Father is! But if we walk through this life not caring how we present ourselves; not caring about our attitudes, our actions, or our appearance, others will think we have a poor father!

Jesus said, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven!" Remember, HE IS A GOOD, GOOD FATHER!
~copied

CARE GROUPS

- We will be helping with the angel tree for the residents of New Albany Health and Rehab on Glenfield Road this year. We will have more details this Sunday. This is not only for those who participate in our Care Groups but anyone who would like to help.
- The Care Groups will be once again be collecting food and snack items to be sent home with children in our county who are in need. There will be a table set up in the foyer for these items. We will have further information this Sunday.



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

PRAYER LIST



Josh Moore, brother-in-law of *April Ponders*, was admitted to the hospital Sun., for bilateral Covid 19 and double pneumonia.

Joe Reed, is having problems with his legs and not able to get around well.

Bonnie Ann Taylor and daughter **Kenessa**, sister and niece of *Perry Jones*, have Covid 19.

Andrea Hill, will be going to UAB Birmingham in Dec., for tests and possible additional treatment for Bile Duct problems.

Greg Grigsby, father of *Shaler Grigsby*, has Covid 19 and not recovering as fast as he would like.

Ronnie Miller, father of *Amanda Coggin*, remains in the hospital having a difficult time with his breathing. He is undergoing some therapy.

Don Golden, father of *LaKisha Harris* had a defibrillator implanted this past week and is home doing good.

Tim Dye is recovering from elbow surgery and has begun physical therapy.

Sympathy: We express our sympathy to the family and friends of **Dean Long** who passed away Sun. Nov. 15th. He was a long time member of the Enterprise congregation.

Continue to Remember:

Ricky Adams, Chris Bradley, Kathy Clayton, Shelly Clayton, Shane Crotts, Amanda Dye, Kathy Dye, Prebble Foster, Don Golden, Ron Griggs, Eleta Grimmett, Madison Hardy, David Holmes, Ronnie Miller, Olivia Ponders, Lake Tremble, Charles Ulmer, William Wilson, Donnie Wilson, Sarah Grace Wise

Shut-Ins:

J. L. Eaton, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner, Bill & Grace Lyon, 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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



November 17. Josh George
November 18. Linda Griggs
November 19. Linda Clark
November 19. Darrell Crowe
November 23. Betty Young
November 28. Jerry Grimmett



THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for all the calls and texts during my surgery. I am truly blessed to have this church family.
Tim Dye

I'd like to than everyone for your prayers on behalf of my day. He is home and doing great. He is a bit sore so continue prayers would be greatly appreciated. Thanks again so much!

LaKisha Harris

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

- There will be a Youth Devo. Sun. Nov. 22nd, at 6:00pm, at the fellowship building. The girls are asked to bring desserts and the boys drinks. *Kurt & Shelly Clayton* and *Lea Ann Clark* will be hosting.
- There will be a deacon's meeting Sun. Nov. 22nd at 8:30am.
- Men's breakfast/planning session Dec. 5th.
- Teachers are needed for the winter quarter beginning Dec. 6th. Please sign the list on the bulletin board.
- *Tim Dooley* will be with us Dec. 6th, to begin his work as our minister. He and *Colleen* will move here later in the month.

YOUTUBE CHANNEL

We have a YouTube channel and if you have not subscribed to it yet, please do so. This will give you access to all our videos. There are two ways to get to our YouTube channel. First go to https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtxulLTTbbhJCop9y_vKbTA, or you can search "New Albany church of Christ Youtube" and click the subscribe button.

I've Learned...

Fear ends where faith begins. Live by faith — one day at a time!



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

Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com

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Volume 44

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.....Phil Young
 Scripture.....Mason Simmons
 A.M. Prayer.....Thomas Wall
 Closing.....Alvin Parks
 P.M. Prayer.....
 Closing.....
 Wed 18th..S. Todd/Dillon Clayton
 Lock.....Harold Russell
 UsherRandy Wall
 SecurityRichard Adams

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....NA
 Sunday A.M.....86
 Sunday P.M.....
 Wednesday.....67
 Contribution.....NA
 Budget.....\$4,095.92

PANTRY ITEMS



Canned beans or peas

THE INFORMER (USPS 581-500)

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DO NOT MERELY LISTEN TO THE WORD —APPLY IT

Every morning I made the inspection. I wondered if what had been sprayed on the weed in my yard was going to work. At first, the objects of my dissatisfaction, those persistent weeds seemed undisturbed. But after a few more days, obvious changes were beginning to take place. By the seventh day it was apparent the solution had done its job for there was no sign of life in the once flourishing weed. The solution had attacked the roots of the weeds for an effective kill.

Think about sin in our lives. Sin will not only affect externals it makes its way into our hearts and strikes at the root of faith, of spiritually, of life. If we continue to ignore sin the result will be a withering conscience, a shriveling of morals, and in time a complete collapse of the soul (James 1:15). Sin ultimately destroys the soul unless it is repented of and cleansed by the blood of Christ. James said, *Do not merely listen to the Word and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.* (James 1:21).

We can be set free of any sin that seeks to binds us, but we must not take sin lightly (Luke 13:3, John 8:31-32). There are certain sins that may take longer to get to the root of our lives, but any sin we ignore promises to destroy our souls.

~ Clark Tatum