



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

February 16, 2021

Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?

By Tim Dooley



My friends, we are in the midst of a great crisis in the Lord's church. Satan and his children have infiltrated our congregations and the brethren are afraid. We know they're here and I'm convinced that even many of the ministers of unrighteousness themselves know whose children they truly are. Yet there are many who do not know that they're from the devil's pack, but are deceived thinking they are serving God. These may be the most dangerous because they just don't know.

The Bible warns us that these men exist. We are told, "*Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves*" (Matthew 7:15). "*Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision*" (Philippians 3:2). "*Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ*" (Colossians 2:8). "*Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness*" (2 Peter 3:17).

Yet notice that none of these passages, although they tell us to beware, tell us to be afraid. One of the greatest problems facing the church today is that many good brethren, preachers, and elderships are afraid to stand up to these wolves. They're afraid to speak out, mark, and identify the wicked and ungodly for who and what they truly are. Good brethren, what are we afraid of?

Former President Ronald Reagan once said, "Evil is powerless if the good are unafraid" These words echo what God has told us about the spiritual battle we fight. Christ said, "*Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid*" (John 14:27). The Lord spoke to Paul in a vision by night saying, "*Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not your peace*" (Acts 18:9). See also 1 Peter 3:14; Matthew 10:28; Revelation 2:10; Romans 8:31).

We have further instruction from the inspired pen of James to, "*Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you*" (4:7). Paul wrote to the brethren at Ephesus, "*Neither give place to the devil*" (Ephesians 4:27). "*Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil*" (Ephesians 6:11). This takes strength, fortitude, and an undying commitment to stand for what is right. So "*be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour*" (1 Peter 5:8). "*Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, act like men, be strong*" (1 Corinthians 16:13).

So, who's afraid of the big bad wolf? Not the faithful child of God, for we have nothing to fear! So, let us be bold in speech for God is with us. "*And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear*" (Philippians 1:14). "*But even after that we had suffered before, and were shamefully entreated, as ye know, at Philippi, we were bold in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God with much contention*" (1 Thessalonians 2:2). Remember He loves you and is fighting for you. Be faithful!

Playing Second Fiddle

“Do not exalt yourself in the king’s presence, and do not claim a place among great men” (Proverbs 25:6).

An orchestra conductor was once asked what the hardest position was to fill. His answer: “Second fiddle.” It is not a position where one is exalted by self or by others. It serves to assist the first-chair fiddler.

Do you know any second-fiddle people?

The Bible tells us about a fellow who was content to play the role of second fiddle. His name was Andrew. He was a follower of John the Baptist, but when John said, “Behold, the Lamb of God,” off went Andrew in search of Him. There are three places where we see Andrew playing second fiddle. Here they are:

1. John 1:35-42 shows us that Andrew was so excited about finding Jesus that he ran to tell someone. That someone was his brother, Peter.
2. In the second instance, Jesus was preaching to about 5000 men along with women and children. Jesus wanted to feed them when they became hungry. Philip complained that there was no food available to feed such a crowd. Someone found a boy with five loaves and two fish. Guess who that someone was: Andrew! (John 6:5-13).
3. In the third place, some Greeks (Gentiles) came to see Jesus. We don’t know why they came, nor did His disciples know. When they asked to see Jesus, Philip didn’t know what to do. He went to Andrew and said, “These Gentiles want to see Jesus.” Andrew didn’t have to wonder what to do. He and Philip brought the matter to Jesus (John 12:20-22).

In all three episodes, Andrew did something important – he took people to meet Jesus. First, he took his brother; next, he took a young boy; finally, he took some strangers.

Do you know what is interesting about all of this? Andrew never became one of the prominent apostles. He didn’t seem to care about that. Second fiddle is OK! --Richard Dent (via Old Paths)

CLOTHES CLOSET

We have a church clothes closet in the making, and can use your help by providing slightly used clothes and shoes. This work has been approved by the elders and is being overseen by *Madison Griggs* and *Madison Grigsby*.



YOUR GRANDMOTHER WAS ONCE A TEENAGER!

(There Is A Lesson Here!)

When a mother proudly introduces her little child to an adult, I have sometimes heard such responses such as: “Time passes so rapidly that she’ll be in college before you know it!” This concept reminds me of recently looking through some old family pictures and seeing one of my grandmother Horton. Although I remember her only as an older woman, I came upon a picture of her as a very young woman. That’s when it occurred to me that my grandmother was “once a teenager,” filled with youthful energy and great expectations for her future!

She grew up to marry G. W. Horton of Middle Tennessee where she, in time, gave birth to six strapping boys and two girls (in addition to a set of twins who died of Whooping Cough at age three.)

As a young girl, Grandma Horton could hardly imagine the children she was bring into the world and the satisfaction she would experience in the obedience and life-long faithfulness to the Lord of each of them!

Now, think of this: are you sitting down? It is difficult for any parent to imagine they may be leading about a future grandmother or grandfather who will, one day, many, many years from now, be looked upon by *their* children and grandchildren as the patriarch, or matriarch, of their family, and to whom their family’s faithfulness to the Lord is a direct result of the teaching and training you provide for them (your children) today!

But before you say, “This is too deep to think about,” take a moment to reflect upon your own family. You are what you are today because of the spiritual influence and training your parent (s) received from their parents and grandparents, etc., etc.

Now, you know the importance of teaching and training your children and living as an example of Christ before them. Serious? It sure it! Read Deut. 6:6-9.

Well, Solomon said, “Answer a fool according to his folly,” (Prov. 26:5) so a friend said to this man: “You have miscalculated! You only measured *the ground floor!* You forgot to measure 1500 miles HIGH, in addition to length and width! Now put another floor up every ten feet up to 1500 miles and multiply the number of floors by the number of people on your first floor, and you will find that you have a much greater percent of humanity in heaven than you first estimated!” The man was then convinced and said, “Why, I never thought of that! We can get the whole human race in on that kind of calculation!”

Heaven is within the spirit realm – not a physical one. It WILL be large enough for every soul found to be righteous to dwell there for all eternity! Including YOU! Obey God today!

My minute’s up. ~James A. Horton

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

PRAYER LIST



Nancy Petrowski will begin dialysis treatments as soon as a port can be placed.

Eleta Grimmett is scheduled to see a pulmonologist about her lung condition.

Kathy Clayton is being treated for shingles.

Luke Jennings, is scheduled to see a pediatric cardiologist Feb. 22nd.

Deborah Griffin received good new from her recent surgery and biopsy. Her doctor feels confident he removed all the cancerous tissue. She will see an oncologist just to be sure.

Stephanie Simmons is recovering from Covid.

Continue to Remember:

Ricky Adams, Shelly Clayton, Grace Crotts, Shane Crotts, Earnestine Dye, Kathy Dye, Prebble Foster, Ron Griggs, Eleta Grimmett, Madison Hardy, Sue Marques, Olivia Pounders, Joe Reed, Harold Russell, Ansley Thompson, Lake Tremble, Terri Turner, Charles Ulmer, William Wilson family, 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

Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley, Chase Seals

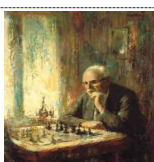


What Must I Do To Be Saved?

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:13-17)
2. Believe the Gospel (Acts 15:7; Mark 16:15, 16)
3. Repent of Sins (Acts 3:19)
4. Confess Faith in Christ (Acts 8:37)
5. Be Baptized for the Remission of Sins (Acts 2:38)
6. Be Faithful (Revelation 2:10)

I've Learned

“Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrows; it empties today of its strength.”
— Corrie Ten Boom



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- February 19.....Barbara Crotts
February 22..... Jennie Bell
February 28..... Brian Carpenter

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- February 16..... Kelvin & Lakisha Harris



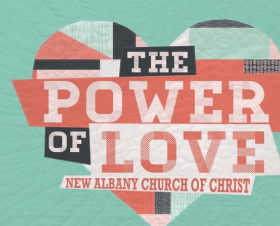
THANK YOU NOTE

We received a thank you note from Pine Vale Children 's Home this past week thanking our Care Groups for the fresh produce and meat They also thanked *Kurt Clayton* for delivering these items to them.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

- NAYPE (New Albany Youth Prayer & Evangelism) will begin meeting again Feb. 3rd. They will meet every other Wed night following Bible study.
- A Youth Devo is scheduled for Sun. Feb. 21st, following morning services, and hosted by the *Simmons*'. We will send a text out if it needs to be rescheduled.
- Youth to attend CYC in Pigeon Forge TN, Feb. 26-28th.
- Remember to bring Care Group items or give donations to either *Kurt Clayton* or *Brian Carpenter*.
- Help is needed to host the Youth Devo's through out the year. Please sign up to help.
- A new quarter for our Bible classes will start March 7th. Books for the auditorium class are on the back pew.
- We would appreciate getting everyone's email address. Please sign the list in the foyer.

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

Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com

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February 16, 2021

Volume 07

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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

MINISTERS

Tim Dooley.....859-486-4215
 Shaler Grigsby...Youth/ Assoc.
256-263-9137
 Office.....662-534-4649

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.....Phillip Young
 A.M. Prayer....Kevin Simmons
 Closing.....Harold Russell
 P.M. Prayer.....
 Closing.....
 Wed Feb.24.D.Coggin /T. Dooley
 Lock.....T. Stubblefield
 UsherRoger Clayton
 SecurityRichard Adams

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....
 Sunday A.M.....41
 Sunday P.M.....
 Wednesday.....77
 Contribution.....\$2,600.00
 Budget.....\$4,219.62

PANTRY ITEMS

Instant Potatoes



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 148, New Albany, MS 38652

Hard Lessons Learned

(James 1:1-5)

Life is not always easy, that's one thing for sure.
 Problems and trials will come along, seemingly without a cure.

Why are things so unfair, we can't seem to get ahead?
 Just when it seems we're on our feet, we fall back down instead.

Some folks get discouraged, cause trouble is all they get.
 Pain and sorrow bad decisions, all with great regret.

But for the disciple of the Savior it doesn't have to be this way.
 Cause he has hope within his heart and there it will always stay.

Be joyful when the hard time comes, it will be faith's test.
 And from the test patience will grow, making you more blessed.

Not only should we take it in stride, happy when trials are past.
 But we must learn and grow from it all, remaining all steadfast.

If we want to be wise then ask it we must, then God will supply.
 Hard lessons to learn but better equipped to let them fly right by!

Don't complain when things aren't right, suffer we must sometimes do.
 But God is faithful and will bring us through, that's forever true.

Jay Launius 2020