



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

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May 11, 2021

Heaven Bound

Tim Dooley

Hebrews 12:2 tells us that *“Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”* Notice the Hebrew writer said Christ did all this for the *“joy set before Him.”*

Six times in the Book of John (five times in chapter six) we read that Jesus *“came down from Heaven.”* Consider that Jesus, God Himself, left the place that we are trying to go to. He knew the glory set before Him, what He had to do, and where He was going. He also knew what He had to do in order to get there.

You and I can and should learn from Jesus what it takes to be “Heaven Bound.”

First of all Jesus came *“to fulfill all righteousness”* (Matthew 3:15). We too need to be seeking to fulfill all righteousness in our lives. Righteousness as Christ uses it here means equity (of character or act); especially (Christian) justification. We need to look to what God says is “right” and not *lean upon our own understanding* (Proverbs 3:5).

Paul wrote to Titus and said, *“For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;”* This begins with our humble submission to the Father even as we see Jesus’ submission.

For us this means hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:17), believing (active faith, James 2:20, 26), confessing Jesus with our lips and our lives (Matthew 10:32-33), repenting of all known sin (Acts 17:30), and being buried with Christ in baptism (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38).

Secondly, we should be like Christ in our desire to do the work set before us. Jesus said, *“For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me”* (John 6:38). In John 9:4 our Lord said, *“I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work..”*

Consider the principle laid forth in 2 Thessalonians 3:10, *“if any would not work, neither should he eat.”* How might this apply to our Christianity? If a man will not labor as a Christian, should he expect to reap the reward of one who does?

Thirdly, we must be faithful! Revelation 2:10 admonished the church at Smyrna (which included every individual member) to be *“faithful unto death.”* Hebrews 10:23 admonishes us to *“hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;).”*

We should be content to serve Him in this life for He is faithful and has promised He will never leave us. If we do these things we can be ready. Heaven Bound!

What do you have to do this day to prepare, to get ready for eternity? God loved you so much that he took on an earthly robe and lived, suffered and died that we could have a home in Heaven with Him. He has gone to prepare a place for us (John 14:1-3). Are you and I preparing to go inhabit that home?

Giving Godly Values to Our Children

The teen reaches that place in life when he/she begins making decisions (perhaps unknown to a parent) which involve right and wrong. How those decisions are made are based on the system of values that child has learned and embraced. It is imperative that we understand the place and source of values on which decisions are made.

Every teen has values. How does a teen decide what to do when making decisions? He first looks at the choices before him, checks each against his values and then acts based upon those values.

Some teens value instant gratification above all other matters. They assume that whatever feels right at the moment is what should be done. Nothing in the past or future should be considered. This value can be expressed in these words. "I have the right to be happy, so I define happiness as that which brings me joy at this moment, and this is what I will do." This value says that nothing in life is more important than myself. My "happiness" is all that matters!

Some teens value peer pressure and social acceptance above all other matters. The importance of being accepted by others is a powerful force. It is difficult to stand firm about matters when hardly anyone else has the values a teen was taught. It is reflected in the dress, the language, the respect of authority, the honor given to teachers and parents, and in moral decisions about drinking and where to draw the line in sexual matters. Right or wrong, which might be considered at first, become secondary to being accepted by others.

Every teen has only two sources of values. The first psalm speaks of the counsel of the ungodly, the paths chosen by sinners and sharing the attitude of the scornful. The word scornful indicates those who mock, deride and treat sacred things with contempt. The other source is that which comes from godly individuals who abhor sin and have the highest regard for sacred matters. Parents, remember that if you fail to create this second category of values, the world will fill the heart and soul of your child with scorn and contempt.

Every child must have his own values. Values are far more than *rules* you give your child to obey. This works well when they are very young, but fails when they consider themselves as adults. Peter speaks of the *reason* for our hope. Teens create their own righteous values when they learn to honor and love God and to fear Him. Make sure that your child grows up realizing the *evidence* that God is and the *proof* that Jesus is His son. Teach them early the *reason* why Jesus is the Lord who loves us and who will judge us someday. These truths become the basis for values needed by every teen!

~ Dan Jenkins

Books of the Bible Brain Teaser

There are the names of 22 books of the Bible in this paragraph. See how many you can find...

One man from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Roy Clark studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Vicks mentioned it in her column once. One woman judges the job to be so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help calm her nerves. There will be more names that are really easy to spot—that's a fact. Some people will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. The truth is, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have. Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation may help, books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. And punctuation or spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete. Remember, there are 22 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph.

PRAYER LIST



Brian Carpenter is recovering from pleurisy and continues to struggle with pain associated with rheumatoid arthritis.

Kathy Dye got good results from her test on Monday.

Mitchel Barton uncle of Alyce Jennings has double pneumonia. Once that's clear he will go to a rehab center for dialysis and blood sugar stabilization.

Continue to Remember:

Kathy Clayton, Audrey Clement, Shane Crotts, Prebble Foster, Eleta Grimmett, Madison Hardy, Caleb Jennings, Jason Jennings, Luke Jennings, Gloria Jones, Sue Marques, Nancy Petrowski, Olivia Pounders, Susie Robertson, Bobby Sweat, Ansley Thompson, Lake Tremble, Charles Ulmer, Donald Wilson, Donnie Wilson, William Wilson, Sarah Grace Wise, Clarence Wood

Shut-Ins:

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

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Helen DePriest, Joe Downs, Lucille Gibson, Bill Lyon

Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley, Chase Seals



THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,

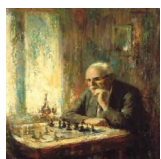
Thank you so much for the beautiful quilt you gave me last Sunday, and for all your kind words. It was truly a pleasure to serve as your secretary.

Love you all,

Kathy

I've Learned

A minute of thought is worth more than an hour of talk.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



May 19.....Bobby Marques

May 22.....Lea Anne Clark

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

May 20..... Bill & Karen Botts



SYMPATHY

We express our deepest sympathy to *Helen DePriest* and family in the death of **Bill DePriest**, who passed away Monday, May 10. Bill had been a faithful member of the New Albany Congregation, serving as a deacon and an elder. He will be greatly missed. Arrangements are incomplete at the time of this printing.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

- **May 12th** NAYPE (New Albany Youth Prayer & Evangelism) after Wed. night service
- **May 15th** Golf outing at the Ole Miss Course
- **May 16th** Elders/Ministers meeting at 8:15
- **May 16th** Recognition of Seniors after morning service
- **May 23rd** Youth Devo-Joe & Bonnie Owen will host.
- **June 13th—16th** Vacation Bible School

SENIOR RECOGNITION

We will be honoring our high school seniors, Parker Formsma, Clay Jennings, Jodi Parks and Mason Simmons, Sunday, May 16th after the morning service. Please bring finger foods. Each graduate will have a table set up at the fellowship building to display their accomplishments.

PEW PACKERS

Parents, please remember our 1:15 p.m. Pew Packers time for the children. Everyone is encouraged to be here to participate, to interact with the children and to be ready for our afternoon service immediately following.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School..... 9:30
Morning Worship.....10:30
Pew Packers/Afternoon Worship
.....1:15
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
Shane Crotts.....266-0195
Jason Jennings.....801-3260
Mark Jennings...731-609-3309
Randy Wall.....316-9255

TO SERVE

Communion.....Shane Crotts
Scripture.....Dean Dillard
A.M. Prayer.....Dane Coggin
Closing.....Shane Crotts
P.M. Prayer.....Joe Owen
Closing.....Troy Robertson
Greeters.....S & L Todd
Lock.....Mark Jennings
UsherRandy Wall
SecurityJoe Owen
Wed. Open 19th Phillip Young
Wed. Close 19th... Phil Young

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....109
Sunday A.M.....132
Sunday P.M.....75
Wednesday.....86
Contribution.....\$4,811.00
Budget.....\$4,219.62

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together with their families

Blaine and Audrey Anna

*request the pleasure of your company
at their wedding*

SATURDAY, MAY 29TH, 2021 ♦ 4:00 pm

1597 County Road 478 ~ New Albany, MS 38652

Reception to follow

Please RSVP to

(731) 487-4770 or (662) 538-8007

