

# THE FLORAL HEIGHTS INFORMER

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## **Our Elders:**

**Mike Chancellor  
(322 – 6374)**  
**Tom Witherspoon  
(766 – 5368)**

## **Our Deacons:**

**Joe Cronin**  
**Jim Hall**  
**David Witherspoon**

## **Our Evangelist:**

**John C. Robertson**

## **The Master Teacher**

No teacher has ever paralleled Jesus for mastery over a given subject. The Lord was indeed the master teacher as deity in the flesh. The message Jesus taught was “*repentance*” (Matt. 4:17) and the “*gospel of the kingdom*” (Matt. 4:23). Jesus’ teaching caused men to think about their interpretation of Old Testament scriptures in ways that they had never considered (Matt. 22:22, 46). When the people heard Jesus preach they were amazed at his command of the scriptures (Jn. 7:15) and presence of authority (Matt. 7:28-29; 12:23).

There were several times when the Pharisees, Sadducees, scribes, chief priests, and elders of the people thought that they had ensnared (Matt. 22:15) Jesus as they put him to the test (Matt. 16:1; 19:3; 22:35; Jn. 8:6). Their objective was to “*accuse*” (Matt. 12:10), “*destroy*” (Matt. 12:14), “*lay hold on*” (Matt. 21:46, and even “*kill*” Jesus (Matt. 21:38).

The Pharisees described Jesus as one who preached without fear or favor of men (Matt. 22:16). Jesus proved their assessment of him to be true as he again and again turned the ill willed Jew’s testing ground into a battlefield of self assessment. Often times the Pharisees and others would hold secret meetings to discuss how they might bring Jesus down in conversation yet the Lord prevailed over them in every case (cf. Matt. 12:14; 22:15; 26:4; 27:1).

On one occasion, Jesus was asked by the chief priests and elders about his authority. Jesus replied to their question with a question of his own. The Lord told the chief priests and elders that if they would tell him the source of John’s teaching on baptism then he would tell them by what authority he teaches. Was John’s baptism from “*heaven or men?*” (Matt. 21:25). The elders and chief priest knew that no matter which answer they gave they would loose. If they said that John’s baptism was from heaven then they convicted themselves of

## Local News:

**Welcome to all our visitors.** We pray that you will be edified by our service and that you will ask questions if things are not as you are accustomed to seeing. Please come back at your every opportunity.

**Pat Robertson** received a favorable report on the biopsy that she had done this past Monday. The mass was found to be benign. Thanks for all your prayers.

**We welcome Tony and Rachael (Michael and Katy) Bender** to our number. Their address is: 207 B. Thor Shepherd AFB, Tx. 76311

**Last Sunday of the month Singing** is tonight! Be sure to get with one of the song leaders and make your request early.

**Continue to pray for our shut-ins:**

**Stella Davidson**  
696-1030 (Home)

**Calvin York**  
692-0489 (Home).

**Bessie Murphy**  
4600 Taft Blvd, Apt. 538

error because they did not obey. If they said from men then the people would be against them because they counted John as a prophet. Jesus had them in conversational check mate. The chief priests and elders decide to not give any answer.

On another occasion, the Pharisees treacherously flatter Jesus and then bring the testing question. They asks, "*Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not?*" (Matt. 22:17). If Jesus answered yes then the people who believed in the ever ruling government of God's kingdom would disassociate with Jesus. If Jesus answered, "no, do not give the Roman government their tax money," he would find himself in trouble with Rome. Jesus, once again, puts these malicious men in their place. The Lord's answer was, "*Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's*" (Matt. 22:21). With a few statements the Lord illustrated the spiritual nature of the kingdom of God as opposed to the physical nature of the Roman kingdom they were under. The source of their currency evidenced their subjugation to the existing government and they had no choice but to render the Roman's dues. The kingdom of God; however, was spiritual and demanded their like obedience. One, therefore, can and must be subservient to both a physical and spiritual kingdom.

Again, Jesus was asked, "*Which is the great commandment in the law?*" (Matt. 22:36). Like the questions before, this one was designed to ensnare and prove Jesus inconsistent or irreverent toward the Mosaic Law. Jesus' answer encompassed the entire law with two pointed answers. Let us love God with all our heart, mind, and soul and secondly let us love our neighbor as ourselves. The Lord's answer placed responsibility upon the individual to nurture a lawful relationship with both God and man.

Truly Jesus was and is the master teacher. There are times that we all wish that we could be so sharp as to give such clear and pointed answers. Let us all be encouraged and motivated by the Lord's answers to study deeper into God's laws that we may give ready answers to the lost for the faith that is within (cf. I Pet. 3:15). Learned men and women shall give answers to the religious world that will leave them speechless and without excuse. They can either be left in silence or

contemplate their error and change.  
Robertson

John C.