



**Anderson  
church of Christ**  
5900 Highway 207  
Anderson, AL 35610

The Gospel Power is published in interest of New Testament Christianity and to enhance the work of the Anderson church.

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- Upcoming Events Page 2
- "I Have Only Quoted the Scriptures" Page 3
- "Daddy I Hate To Go To Church" Page 4
- Just A Little Contamination Page 8

# THE GOSPEL POWER

*"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation..."* **Romans 1:16**

Volume XVIII, Issue 01

January 2011

## AS CHRIST LOVED THE CHURCH

*W. Frank Walton*

***"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her...so husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church" (Eph 5:25, 28 -29).***

The central duty of husbands is to love their wives. Most men who know the Bible intellectually know this. Yet, the model of love's application is staggeringly high in practical demonstration. A husband's love for his wife should mirror the perfect, selfless model of

Jesus Christ. In His boundless love for the church, He willingly suffered to the uttermost to save the church from ruin. Where is such an example of this today?

We are very saddened by the recent tragic, senseless shootings in Tucson, Arizona, which wounded 13, including a U.S. Congress woman, and killed 6. Dorwan Stoddard, age 76, was among the slain and Mavy, his wife, was among the wounded with 2 gunshot in the leg. Both of them were members of the church of Christ in Tucson. I knew them, since they visited the congregation where I preached in Tucson back in the 1990's to

*(Continued on page 6)*



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**AT ANDERSON**

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**3RD AT 10:00 AM**

**“LET’S STUDY THE BIBLE!”**

**Chapter 2**

**The Book of James**

**20TH AT 3:30 PM**

**GOSPEL SINGING**

Join us as we, “speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,”

- *Ephesians 5:19*



***Do you struggle with prayer?***

***Do you find praying to be difficult?***

***How often do you pray?***

Please join us in 2011 as we focus on the Power of Prayer.

On the 3rd Sunday of each month we will discuss prayer and how important it is in our lives and our walk with God.

God.

## “I HAVE ONLY QUOTED THE SCRIPTURES”

*Earl Kimbrough*

In his trial for heresy, held at the Popular Creek Baptist Church in Limestone County, Alabama soon after the Civil War, R.W. Officer was questioned about his teaching on baptism. He was suspected by his fellow Baptist preachers of advocating what they called “Campbellism.” Dr. J.R. Graves, the influential editor of the Tennessee Baptist, had been called in to lead the examination of Officer in an effort to expose the heresy of their unorthodox brother. The part of the trial that involved baptism proceeded as follows:

**Graves:** “...I have been informed that you make baptism a condition of pardon; in other words, you teach water salvation. When is the sinner par-

doned?”

**Officer:** “Paul says the sinner is freed from sin when he obeys from the heart that form of doctrine delivered him. **(Romans 6:17-18)** *‘Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.’* I take it that we rise from the waters of baptism to walk *‘in newness of life.’* **(Romans 6:1-5).**”

**Graves:** “But what will you do with what Paul says in his letter to the Galatians: *‘Ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus?’* **(Galatians 3:26).**”

**Officer:** “I will do with that just what I have done with the rest of the sentence-viz., believe it. It reads: *‘For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.’* **(Galatians 3:27).**”

**Graves:** “But what does that mean?”

**Officer:** “It means just what it says.”

**Graves:** “What do you believe are the conditions of pardon or remission of sins?”

**Officer:** “I believe just what the Bible says on the subject.”

**Graves:** “But what is your interpretation of what the Bible says on the subject?”

**Officer:** “I suppose I have no interpretation of the Bible on any subject.”

**Graves:** “But you have; all denominations have their interpretations of the Bible. We, as Baptists, teach that repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ secures pardon.

*(Continued on page 5)*

## “DADDY I HATE TO GO TO CHURCH”

*Morris D. Norman*

These are the words of a five year old daughter of a couple who are involved deeply in the work of God, and never miss a worship service. How does one cope with such? How is it possible for us to help our small children to enjoy “going to church?” This is a deep concern to those who want their children to learn to love the Lord.

We realize the difficulty of a five year old sitting still for over an hour and liking it. For that matter, there are a lot of adults that have the problem. There are those who have “gone to church” all their lives and still do not enjoy it. They are bored all of the time they “have to” be there, complaining about the songs and the

preaching and the “over time” and almost everything else. Then they will wonder why they have a time with their children, or that they grow up and “quit the church.” Religion has been a burden to their parents, and it has become such for the children.

We all need to learn that there can be great joy and pleasure in worshipping God. *“I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord” (Psalm 122:1). “Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing” (Psalm 100:1-2). “This is the day which the Lord hath made: we will rejoice and be glad in it.” (Psalm 118:24).* If we thrill at the worship and ser-

vice of our God and Savior, this pleasure will come through to our children.

Make worship enjoyable, in or out of the assembly. Sing religious songs as you ride along in the car; let the child start his or her favorite. Have “fun drills” on Bible characters. Let them tell you their favorite Bible story. Speak positively about your relationship with other Christians. Let you and their best friends be among the saints and their children. Don’t have “the elders and preacher for dinner” –that is, talk disparagingly about them around the dinner table. This tells the child that you have a negative attitude and it will be transferred to the child. Talk

*(Continued on page 7)*

(Continued from page 3)

What do you think about that?"

**Officer:** "The Bible says: 'Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.' (John 3:5). 'He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.' (Mark 16:16). To believers, Peter said: 'Repent, and be baptized...for the remission of sins.' (Acts 2:38)."

**Graves:** "We all believe the Bible as strong as you do. Tell us what your interpretation of the texts you have quoted is. That is what we want to get at."

**Officer:** "My interpretation is exactly what I have quoted; in other words, I have no interpretation of it. I simply believe it, just as it is written."

**Graves:** "Do we understand you to say that all

who are not baptized will go to hell, are eternally lost?"

**Officer:** "I did not say so."

**Graves:** "But the quotations you have made lead us to believe that is your opinion."

**Officer:** "I have only quoted the scriptures."

**Graves:** "But do you or do you not believe that the unbaptized will all be lost in hell forever? ...Do you believe these pious unbaptized people (Methodists and Presbyterians, E.K.) will all go to hell? Answer yes or no."

**Officer:** "Yes or no."

**Graves:** "Which do you say? Let us not have any foolishness about it. Do you believe the unbaptized will go to hell?"

**Officer:** "My faith is not in the direction of hell. I am not well posted on that end of the road."

**Graves:** "The brethren want

to know where you stand"

**Officer:** "Faith, repentance, and baptism are conditions which belong to time and look to the remission of sins of the past. Love that never fails is the eternal condition which looks to the new life and everlasting salvation and happiness."

**Graves:** "Then you do not believe that baptism is a condition in order to salvation?"

**Officer:** "'He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved,'" looks to salvation from sins of the past, doesn't it? If it were salvation in heaven, all would rise from the waters of baptism into heaven, and enjoy eternal life."

(F.D. Srygley, *Biographies and Sermons*, pp. 323-325.)

It was not uncommon

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 1)

see Mavy's sister. Yet, we see a wonderful lesson here, of the sacrificial example of Christ-like love in that Dorwan died shielding his wife from gunfire. The Arizona Republic reported that members of their home congregation "described Mavy as a woman who knew every minute how much her husband loved her."

I hope all husbands reading this would gladly die

shielding their beloved wife from harm, as Christ did the church. Yet, what are doing on a daily basis to sacrificially show our love for our wives, as Christ selflessly loved the church? Or, are we basically selfish, uncaring or indifferent to our wife's emotional, physical or spiritual needs?

We may never have the rare opportunity to take a bullet to save our wife, but we husbands have the daily duty to show our wives, in deed and word, that we truly cherish them and that we

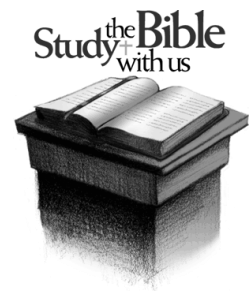
would gladly sacrifice anything for their welfare, as Christ did for the church. Husbands, remember: "love is patient, love is kind; love...does not seek its own...love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things; love never fails" (1 Cor. 13:4-8).

God bless you, Mavy, in your recovery. We are indebted to Dorwan's marvelous example for husbands of Christ-like love toward their wives. (From Focus Magazine.)

(Continued from page 5)

during the past century for denominational preachers like Office to study their way out of denominationalism. Their honesty in preaching what they found in the Bible without regard to human creeds brought them into conflict with their

orthodox brethren. But a young man of limited education who took the Bible as his only guide as this excerpt from Officer's heresy trial indicates, could hold his own with the most astute advocates of sectarianism. (*The Sower, Volume 2, Number 8. August 1976*)



**Sunday's at 9:45 AM**  
**Wednesday's**  
**at 7:00 PM**

*(Continued from page 4)*

positively, recall the good points of the Bible classes and the sermon. Ask the child what they learned and how they can apply it. Talk about how each family member can contribute to the improvement for the worship and our relationship to others.

When something comes up that is in conflict with the assembly do you find yourself saying, *"We have to go to services?"* Such a statement indicates that *"going to church"* cuts into our pleasure. Wouldn't it be much better to have a positive attitude? Why not say, *"No, you can't go to Jimmie's, but why not ask Jimmie to go to services with us? We might be able to get him and his family interested?"* See the difference? One statement is negative, the other is positive. How

our children feel about a thing can well depend on our attitude that comes through to the child.

It is hard for the child to sit quietly for over an hour while mother and daddy worship God. But that can be a training period for the child. He learns to respect God by seeing the reference that his parents have for God. If there are regular periods of worship and prayer in the home, then it will not be a strange thing for them in the assembly. If they know that there is general respect on the part of the parents toward God, they will adjust quickly to this.

Prepare the child for this period of worship by having quiet times at home. It can be good discipline for the child to learn to be quiet and still, for a period. There will be other times when it will be necessary for the child to

adjust to quiet periods. It will be so in school. If the child is too young to sit and take part in the service, bring something that the child can do quietly, like a story book or workbook about the Bible. There are many such books available.

Just a little imagination, and planning, along with some positive discipline, can prepare your children positively for worship. Teach them to be quiet so as to not disturb the worship of others. That teaches them respect for the rights of others. Teach them to join in the singing. They can learn the same songs you learn, the ones you can sing with them in the car and at home. Make worship of God an enjoyable time for them, too. *(From Perspectives, Vol. V11, No. 4. April 1981)*

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### SUNDAY

Bible Class 9:45 AM  
AM Worship 10:45 AM  
PM Worship 6:00 PM  
3rd Sunday 3:30 PM  
Worship

### WEDNESDAY

Bible Classes 7:00 PM

### ELDERS

Michael Clemmons  
(256) 247-0836

Scottie Goode  
(931) 565-3391

Cecil Cox (256) 627-5349

### DEACONS

Jimmy Glass  
(256) 247-0571

Eddie J. Hammond  
(256) 247-3038

Mark McIntyre  
(256) 729-8316

Steve Parker  
(256) 247-7843

Phil Pressnell  
(256) 232-8509

Rocky Rose  
(256) 247-0011

Brian Word  
(931) 565-3799

### EVANGELIST/EDITOR

Aaron C. Andrews  
(256) 247-5068

Office: (256) 247-5539

aaronandrews@me.com

**Anderson church of Christ**  
P.O. Box 66  
Anderson, Alabama 35610

U.S. Postage  
Paid Bulk Rate  
Anderson, Alabama  
Non-Profit  
Permit #6

«AddressBlock»

**Return Service Requested**

## JUST A LITTLE CONTAMINATION

*Unknown*

One day a mother was scraping vegetables for a salad as her daughter came in to ask permission to go to an "R" rated movie.

*"But all the kids are going," She said, "And their folks don't think it will hurt them."*

As she talked, she saw her mother pick up a handful of peelings and put them in the salad. Rather startled, she shouted, *"Mother, you are putting the garbage in the salad!"*

*"I know," her mother replied, "but I thought if you didn't mind garbage in your heart and in your mind that you wouldn't care about a little in your stomach."*

Thoughtfully, the girl picked the peelings from the salad and then smiled at her mother. *"I guess I'll just tell them I'm staying at home tonight,"* she said as she went through the kitchen door. **(END)**

**Check us out on the web at: [www.anderson-church.org](http://www.anderson-church.org)**