



**Anderson  
church of Christ**  
5900 Highway 207  
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The Gospel Power is published in interest of New Testament Christianity and to enhance the work of the Anderson church.

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# 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 03

March 2011

## DEPEND ON THE BIBLE FOR TRUTH

*Cecil F. Cox*

Indifference toward the truth is shocking, even tragic. We hear people saying, "It doesn't make any difference what you believe." We hear "The important thing is that you be honest and sincere."

I would not minimize the necessity of being honest and sincere. These are great traits of character but they do not guarantee that what I believe and practice in religion is acceptable to God. Consider the early life of the Apostle Paul. In Acts 23: 1 he said that he had lived in all good conscience before God. Just because he was honest and sincere when he was persecuting Christians, did not mean that he was doing right and was acceptable to God. Religion or anything else must have some basis or foundation upon which it stands. In being acceptable to God, that foundation is "truth". Truth cannot be "stretched", it

is not elastic". But the modern concept of religion is that it **can** and **must be stretched** to include all the ideas and doctrines of men, some of which are contradictory.

One great failure I see among many religious people today is the failure to recognize the value and necessity of truth. Many today elevate human wisdom to the place of truth. Let us look at some things that show the absolute necessity of truth.

1. Christ came to bear witness unto the truth (John 18:37)

2. The Holy Spirit came to reveal truth (John 16:13).

3. The truth makes one free (John 8:32).

4. Our religion is vain without the truth (Matt. 15:9).

*(Continued on page 7)*



**UPCOMING EVENTS  
AT ANDERSON  
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**“LET’S STUDY THE BIBLE!”  
The Book of James**

**14TH AT 10:00 AM Chapter 3**

**17TH 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*



*“a motivational story full of powerful ideas...”*

**GETTING TO  
DID!**



**HOW TO GET RID OF YOUR BIG BUT  
AND LIVE A LIFE WITHOUT REGRETS**

**EDWIN CROZIER**

**In Home Bible Study**

**17TH AFTER  
GOSPEL SINGING**

Please join us as we discuss what to do when it seems our life is crumbling apart.



**Please read: *The TRAINER* - page 21.**

## FOR THOSE WHO ITCH!!!

*Robert F. Turner*

***"A certain preacher's secretary told my wife—"***

The story often originates with a third party; to sound authentic, and to remove (?) responsibility from the tale-bearer. Nurses, secretaries, the maid, or anyone likely to come upon confidential information will do.

***"You know, he's been out of town a lot lately—"***

Give it an element of truth. Fit it in with a few known facts to make it just plausible enough to swallow.

***"I dislike telling this, but I know it is my Christian duty—"***

By all means, do your duty. The scriptures say, "rebuke before all"-and by taking them one at a time you can have a whole juicy week of it. Clearly, your duty to "tell all" outweighs your duty to (1) check for accuracy; (2) go to the party involved and offer genuine assistance in making correction; (3) consider the effect this publicity will have

on many innocent parties.

***"I just can't stand nastiness—"***

She said, as she wiped the baby's nose with a diaper. Conveniently, the "righteous indignation" you show may cause others to notice your pure, noble character. If this thing gets out of hand, and you have to suffer for it- you have always thought you would look nice in a martyr's robe.

Solomon said, "For lack of wood the fire goeth out; and where there is no whisperer, contention ceaseth" (Prov, 26: 20). Keep it going, by all or any means. Feed the flame, like an arsonist, hungry for the sight and sound of the conflagration, completely unmindful of the destruction done. Give no heed to the "firemen" who work with experience to right the wrong and save the souls involved.

Building Christian character means developing attitudes and tastes in keeping with the teachings of Christ. It is an impure heart that is attracted to

the sordid, unclean things in life. And since, "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Matt. 12:34); the gossip must be suspected of bad taste. For some strange reason (?) those who think on things pure, lovely, and of good report, do not see or hear half of the private evil so well known to others (Phil. 4: 8).

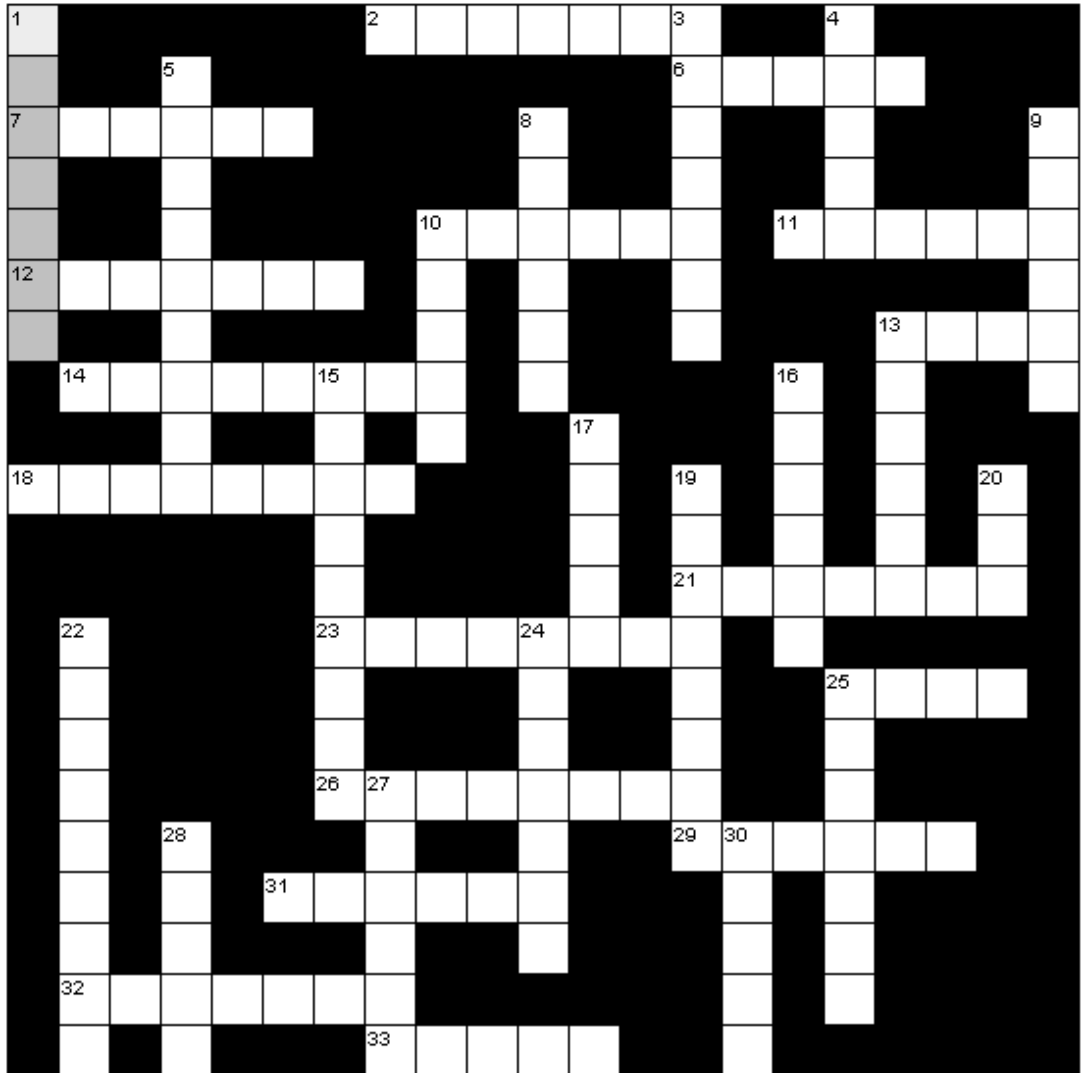
We must control our tongues if we are to escape Hell. "The tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity." James indicates the tongue must be constantly watched-it is never fully tamed. It is a small member, but it may set the course for our eternal destiny. Loose it, and you damn your soul (Jas. 3).

Younger widows are warned about "wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not" (1 Tim. 5: 23). I am persuaded we have broadened the field somewhat since

*(Continued on page 7)*

# BIBLE CROSSWORD

## *Esther*



***Answers will be posted next month.***

**Across**

2. Haman and his sons were brought together here for the last time (9:13-14)
6. Ahasuerus gave this possession of Haman's to Esther (8:2)
7. She refused to leave her party to be ogled by her husbands drunk friends (1:11-12)
10. Yet another thing that Haman's edict had planned for the Jews (3:13)
11. She was the favourite of the king and saviour of her people
12. These men were entrusted with the har-em (2:8)
13. Half horse half donkey (8:10)
14. Esther's relative
18. The kingdom included this group of people also known in our time for their rugs.
21. Haman's plan for the Jews included doing this to them:
23. One of the conspirators discovered by Mordecai (2:21)
25. The month in which the Jews were to be destroyed (3:13)
26. Country that was the westernmost extent of the Medo Persian empire
29. Haman was a real swinger, and he ended up being this:
31. You had to be this to be the kings wife (2:2)
32. Esther's last request concerning Haman was that these also be hanged (9:12-14)
33. This guy used to 'hang' around with the king

**Down**

1. The eunuchs did this to Haman's face when the king accused him (7:8)
3. The capital of the Medo-Persian empire (1:2-3)
4. When he heard Haman's edit, Modecai covered himself with this (4:1)
5. This king loved to party (1:10, 2:23, 2:18, 3:15)
8. Haman's wife (6:13)
9. The king was so angry he went here: (7:7)
10. A time to celebrate for the Jews, a holiday to this day. (9:20-23)
13. Haman planned this for the Jews
15. If Esther hadn't become queen she would have become this:
16. Mordecai forbade Esther from revealing that she was this: (2:20)
17. The eastern border of the empire (1:1)
19. Esther's other name (2:7)
20. The feast of Purim is to express this feeling (9:22)
22. Mordecai's place, before he got Haman's wealth (2:21)
24. Esther became a reluctant one of these when Mordecai convinced her to approach the king (4:16)
25. Haman was a descendant of this group (3:1-2)
27. A conspirator against the king (6:2)
28. These were included in the Jews slated for destruction (3:13)
30. In an effort to overturn Haman's plan, Ahasuerus allowed the Jews to be this:

# GREAT WORK - GREAT CAUSE

*Robert Jackson*

One cannot but notice as he reads the Bible that a definite reason is given for the sacrifices made by great men in their service and devotion to God. There are many scriptures that would bear this out, but take note of the following: "And the house which I build is great: for great is our God above all gods" (2 Chron. 2: 5). This statement was made by Solomon as he was speaking of building the temple. Let us observe the following from this passage.

**First of all, it was to be a great house.** It is rather difficult for one to describe just how great this house really was. The cost of this house would shock most people. It was no second-rate job by any means. If you will read a few verses in this chapter, you will note that gold, silver, and other precious things were used in this great building. It is no wonder that the people in the days of Ezra cried when they saw the temple then, as compared to the one that

Solomon built (Ezra 3: 12).

**Why was it to be such a great house?** Let us observe what motivated this man to build such a great house. It was his view of GOD! Our God is *above* all other gods. Thus, he was building a house, not just for the beauty for man to see, but because God told him to do it. It was to be the house of God; and since God is great, the house should be great!

**There are some lessons for us to learn from this Old Testament example:**

**A. A little conception of God means a little service.**

This is exactly what is wrong with many members of the church of Christ. They do very little service. They make very few sacrifices, if any. This is due to the fact that they have the wrong view of God. They fail to see that OUR GOD is great! If one has a small concept of God, why would he have a desire to pray to HIM, give to HIM, or work for HIM? Some churches seem to be proud that they are small in numbers, and are in a small building. However, if they have

no plans and no desire to increase, they have the wrong concept of serving God.

**B. Great concept of God will produce great works.** Show me a church today that is doing great works, and I will show you one with the concept that God is great. We find some who are willing to give much of their time, money, and talents - for they truly believe that OUR GOD is great.

I fear that some seem to think and act that God's people today should go "second class." I think we should have the best teachers, best literature, etc., because we are engaged in a great work.

Let us not forget that our God is great. Let us do great things for his cause. Truly, then we can sing to God, **"HOW GREAT THOU ART."** (From *With All Boldness*, Volume 1, Number 1. January 1975)

*(Continued from page 1)*

Many others could be given but this should be sufficient to simulate our thinking. Let us learn that in religion we must not wander from the truth. A vital question that each person must ask himself: Can I believe what I believe and practice what I practice in religion and still be found walking in the truth? Read 3 John 3.

You may ask, "What is truth?" To some it is what some loved one or family

member believed and practiced. But this cannot be a valid conclusion. Look at all the contradictory things this would include. Truth is not contradictory. To some it is what theologians have handed down through the councils of men. To others it is what is contained in their respective denominations.

What is truth? Jesus speaking to His Father said, "Thy word is truth." (John 17: 17). Let us accept Jesus' word. The simple conclusion to which we arrive is this: if a

doctrine or practice is not taught in God's word, the Bible, it is not the truth. Remember 2 John 9, "*Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.*"

I urge you to take your stand upon the Bible, the word of God ... not the Bible and the doctrines and commandments of men, just the Bible and the Bible only. "*If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God.*" (1 Peter 4:11). **(END)**

*(Continued from page 3)*

Paul's time-adding a few grass widows, disgruntled married people, and some nosey preachers. Aren't you just itching to know why I wrote this article? SEE HEADING! (From the Preceptor, Volume 16, Number 5. March 1967)

- 1) C - Nun (Joshua 1:1)
- 2) A - The priests (Joshua 3:13)
- 3) A - set up 12 stones (Joshua 4:9)
- 4) C - Harlot (Joshua 6:25)
- 5) C - Under stalks of flax (Joshua 2:6)
- 6) D - Hung a cord (Joshua 2:21)
- 7) C - 13 (Joshua 6:3-4)
- 8) B - Achor (Joshua 7:24-26)
- 9) B - Passover (Joshua 5:11-12)
- 10) B - They were strong and tall (Joshua 11:21, Deut 9:2)
- 11) A - with large hailstones (Joshua 10:11)
- 12) D - about a whole day (Joshua 10:13)
- 13) A - Gibeonites (Joshua 9:3,4)
- 14) B - 6 (Joshua 20:7-9)
- 15) B - Be strong and courageous (Joshua 1:9)
- 16) C - Shechem (Joshua 24:32)
- 17) A - The Lord Saves
- 18) B - 40 (Joshua 14:7)
- 19) A - Hebron (Joshua 14:13)
- 20) D - 110 (Joshua 24:29)

## **Last month... BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS Joshua**

## 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

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**Matthew 6:26-27** "Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? **27** "Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?"

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