

Gospel Power



"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation..." (Romans 1:16)

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

**Anderson
church of Christ**
5900 Highway 207
Anderson, Alabama

Visit Us On The Web
Anderson-church.org

Men Priviledged To Serve:
Sunday, November 5th

Bible Classes

Song Leader
..... Kevin Chancellor
Bible Reading (Lev. 8:31-36)
..... Jonathan Keenon
Prayer
..... Larry White

Morning Worship

Song Leader
..... Kevin Chancellor
Prayer
..... Jimmy Glass
Lord's Supper
Presiding Eddie J. Hammond
Assisting Claus Martel
Serving Rodney McCrary
..... Tyler Cox
..... Jacob Rogers
..... Ethan Pressnell
Closing Prayer
..... Mark McIntyre

Evening Worship

Song Leader
..... Jerry Dickey
Bible Reading (Lev. 9:1-6)
..... Andrew Gatlin
Prayer
..... Steve Parker
Lord's Supper
..... Eddie J. Hammond
..... Claus Martel
Closing Prayer
..... Ray Tucker

Volume XIII

November 5, 2006

No. 45

Living Stones...

Carl McMurray

"And coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected by men, but choice and precious in the sight of God, you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house..." (1 Peter 2:4)

Jesus is presented here as a "living stone." He is the cornerstone, for a foundation of apostles and prophets that form the basis for a spiritual building. In that building Christians are also "living stones." A number of reasons come to mind why the Lord chose this particular terminology for His people.

Stones are strong as building materials. Wood warps and rots without proper treatment. The old "soddies" of pioneer days were famous for dropping dirt and insects in the home. Tents and canvases must be constantly repaired and replaced. Stone has always been a preferred building material, and still is (in brick and block) because it resists the storm and the extremes of temperature. No matter what comes along, stones placed with the right mortar just keep doing their job. With all of the Bible's encouragements to be steadfast, I wonder if the Lord intended for us to do our job like stones, living stones. We need to remain strong.

Stones are pretty useless by themselves. Laying out in a field they are in the way. They will turn the ankle of man or horse or even demand that one walk around them if they are large enough. They will tear up plow or disc, depending on what century you happen to live in. In our age, and I suppose every age, there have been those who try to convince themselves and others that they just don't need anyone. They don't need the church and they don't need other

Christians. They claim to have a relationship with the head, but not the body. How foolish. As part of the Lord's team we are able to really develop and find ourselves and our talents. Out in the field by ourselves, we are just in the way and become a problem to all concerned.

Stones are missed, when they are gone. I've watched the construction of a house down the road from me for 30 years, as long as I've been coming to where I now live. The house has been sold to new people and had a pool installed, but it has never been finished. There is one spot, up near the roof on one corner, where the white stones have never been put in and the black material underneath is visible. When stones are missing from a wall, there is a hole there because nothing else will do that job. When Christians are missing they also are missed. No one can take the place of what YOU bring to God's service. God bless His "living stones."

-via *Good News*; Anderson, Indiana



Every Joint Supplies

Paul White

I ran across this piece some months ago, and wish to pass it along to each of you. The author is unknown to me or I would give credit where credit is due. Enjoy and profit. As the story goes, a congregation built a new church building, and people came from far and wide to see it. They admired its beauty! Up on the roof, a little nail heard the people praising everything about the lovely structure--except the nail! No one even knew he was there, and he became angry and jealous. "If I am that insignificant, nobody will miss me if I quit!" So the nail then released its hold, slid down the roof, and fell in the mud.

That night it rained and rained. Soon, the shingle that had no nail blew away, and the roof began to leak. The water streaked the walls and the beautiful murals. The plaster began to fall, the carpet was stained, and the pulpit Bible was ruined by water. All this because a little nail decided to quit!

But what of the nail? While holding the shingle, it was obscure but it was also useful. Buried in the mud it was just as obscure, but now it was useless and would soon be eaten up by rust!

The Moral of The Story – Every member is important to the church! Like the nail, you may feel obscure at times, but just like the nail, your absence is felt. Make sure you're a help and not a hindrance to the future spiritual and numerical growth in this body. Remember:

We Are Members of the Same Body (1 Corinthians 12:12-27). Please never forget, as members of the body of Christ, we belong to each other and we need each other. Each member of the body has a function to perform so that the body as a whole will grow and remain healthy. Each part is needed, and no one part should think it's more important than any other part. Remember, a spiritually healthy church is one in which the various members know their God-given gifts and use them to serve and edify others in that local body.

We Are Soldiers in the Same Army (Ephesians 6:10-18). The church is an army to fight against Satan, the hosts of darkness, and sin; not to fight each other. And please understand that in the Lord's army each individual soldier (Christian) is expected to wage war and fight. However, our weapons must never be carnal, or our struggle will be useless and eventually deadly. And just as there are leaders in the physical army, there are to be leaders (shepherds, overseers) in the spiritual army. Only when the soldiers are in their proper place and obeying divinely appointed orders, can an army expect to withstand the attacks of the enemy. What I'm

saying is good military strategy depends on teamwork. We need at times to ask God to help us be “big people” and return good for evil, so that what is weak may be healed rather than driven further to despair (Hebrews 12:13). The time is too short, the price is too high. Please remember, spiritual enemies can only be defeated by spiritual means. “Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm” (Ephesians 6:13).

- via *Cedar Park Bulletin*; Cedar Park, Texas



Providence

Charles Hodge

God is at work in our lives! Practicing the presence of God we live in His will. Men want magic, miracles. Christians want God. Having God beats working miracles. Miracles have ceased; God has not. We have a major problem with providence. We think God can perhaps work with others but not us. Can there be anything more exciting than providence? God is in everything working good (Romans 8:28). *And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.* Providence strengthens the mind and probes the heart. God works in a sinful, flawed, tangled world, common man in common life. No fact is a bare fact and no event a bare event. Everything in life has meaning, God meaning. How can society accept miracles yet doubt providence?

God's providence is unfathomable. Jesus came to overcome the world, not explain it (John 16:33). *“These things I have spoken to you, so that*

in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.” Providence involves foresight, purpose, provision. Until a thing happens, most anything can happen. Two great principles affect life: (1) God's transcendence and (2) man's autonomy. Both converge in providence.

- via *New Living*; Brownsburg, Indiana

News and Notes

THE SICK: *Emma Wallen* had surgery on her vocal cords this past Wednesday morning in Huntsville and is doing well... *James Word* is at home recovering from his open heart surgery and is doing well ... *C. L. Weathers* has been diagnosed with a brain tumor and is awaiting an appointment with a specialist... *Carson Crunk* was sick and not able to be at Bible study Wednesday night ... *Virginia Lovell* has not been able to be at services due to her problem with kidney stones ... *Kevin Chancellor father, Derek Chancellor*, is scheduled to have surgery for his blockages on Monday in Tupelo, Mississippi... *Steven Crunk's aunt, Joyce Stutts*, is having tests on her lungs and reports seems good, however, she does have pneumonia... *Angie McCrary's father, Buford Shook*, is now home from the hospital. His arteriogram showed damage to the back of his heart, but there is not anything they can do for it... *Charlotte Hall* continues to have her chemo treatments on Monday mornings and is doing well... *Myrtie Williams* is at home and not able to be out ... *Jack Tucker* is not able to be out ... *Larry Johnson* is confined at home ... *Faye Hammond* is at home ... *Judy Williams' mother, Flossie Kazzaire*, continues in a nursing facility in

Fayette... *Tisha Thomas' grandmother, Nellie Hunter*, is in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *West Rogersville church* in Rogersville is beginning a gospel meeting today. They will have a service this evening at 7:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday services will begin at 7:00 p.m. *Duane Derrick* will be the speaker...The *Jackson Heights church* in Columbia, Tennessee is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. Services will begin on Monday through Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. *Troy Nicholson* will be the speaker...The *South Cullman church* in Cullman is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with services Monday through Friday at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. *Paul Sheehan* will be the speaker in this meeting.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Butlers: Aric, Andrea and Arica* are in Kentucky this weekend... *The Dickeys: Jerry, Charlotte, Justin and Brandon* are in Gatlinburg this week.

THE RECORD: Attendance week of Oct. 29th

Sunday:

Bible Classes 103
 Morning Worship 136
 Evening Worship 97

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 97



What? Young Adult Home Bible Study
When? Tonight after our evening service.
Where? At the home of Daniel & Marla Clemmons
Subject? Searching For Truth About Authority

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.
 Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
 Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

Elders

Michael Clemmons (256) 247-0836
 Scottie Goode (931) 565-3391

Deacons

Jimmy Glass (256) 247-0571
 Mark McIntyre (256) 233-1953
 Phil Pressnell (256) 232-8509
 Rocky Rose (256) 247-0011
 Larry White (256) 247-0988
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