

# 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, August 27th

### *Bible Classes*

Song Leader

..... Jerry Dickey

Bible Reading ..... (Exo. 39:22-29)

..... Jonathan Keennon

Prayer

..... Aric Butler

### *Morning Worship*

Song Leader

..... Jerry Dickey

Prayer

..... Ray Tucker

Lord's Supper

Presiding ..... Kevin Chancellor

Assisting ..... Claus Martel

Serving ..... Ethan Pressnell

..... Mark McCrary

..... Michael Word

..... Daniel Clemmons

Closing Prayer

..... Ray Tucker

### *Evening Worship*

Song Leader

..... Brian Word

Bible Reading ..... (Exo. 39:30-43)

..... Rodney McCrary

Prayer

..... Rocky Rose

Lord's Supper

..... Kevin Chancellor

..... Claus Martel

Closing Prayer

..... Larry White

Volume XIII

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## *Things Necessary For Salvation*

**Dee Bowman**

Salvation is the theme of the Bible. Even before the world began and man was created, God, knowing that man would sin, devised a plan for his salvation (Ephesians 3:9-11). The death of Christ was the plan by which He purposed to accomplish that salvation (Isaiah 53). He died for our transgressions and thereby is the progenitor of our salvation.

Salvation is just that, salvation—being saved from sin. Sin is man's main malady. It will cause his soul to rot in hell if it is not taken out of the way (Ezekiel 18:20; Galatians 6:8).

I want to make a few statements about salvation from a biblical perspective.

*Faith is necessary to salvation* (Hebrews 11:6). But faith is more than just one admission that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. James 2:22 says that “faith without works is dead, being alone.” James further states that “...as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead, being alone.” Faith is the foundation for all obedience; but it is only that, the foundation. There must be actions based upon that faith.

*Repentance is necessary, but it is more than just a decision to turn and serve God.* It must result in activity. In 2 Corinthians 7:8, we are told, “For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal...” Repentance is not a staid decision that sits still. It causes the turn to something better, or it isn't true

repentance (see Acts 2:42).

*Confession is necessary, but it is more than and admission that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.* That's important, certainly; but there's more to it than that. Romans 10:9 says, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." That's pretty clear, isn't it? If you don't confess there is no salvation; that's what it says. But is that the end of the matter? Confession is a pledge of allegiance, one where Jesus is affirmed to be the captain of one's soul; but it produces in the believer the desire to do something. "What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and hath not works, can faith save him" (James 2:14)?

*Baptism is necessary, but it is more than just "getting saved."* While it is absolutely biblical to affirm that baptism saves (1 Peter 3:21), just being baptized no more insures salvation than does a faith that does not work. Some of my brethren need to learn that fact. Baptism alone is no better than faith alone. "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God" (Colossians 3:1). To be risen with Christ is to be baptized into Him. Once one has been baptized, he is to start seeking things above. He is to worship, teach, learn, grow. He is to put off the bad and put on the good. In verse 17 of this same context, Paul admonishes that "whatsoever ye do in world or deed, do all in the name of the Lord..." There's stuff to do once you've been baptized. You have to grow up after you've been born.

Just attending the services does not guarantee salvation. There is more to do than what is done in the meeting house. That is not intended to minimize the importance of the assembly; but it is to say that just meeting on the Lord's Day is not tantamount to faithfulness. "As we therefore have opportunity, let us do good unto all men..." (Galatians 6:10). "Pure religion and undefiled is

this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction and keep oneself unspotted from the world" (James 1:27). Christianity is a daily living process, one where you present your body "a living sacrifice" (Romans 12:1).

Salvation is our most vital concern. We should consider it carefully and long. And we should be aware that to be saved, we have to follow the Master. And that takes work.

-via *Southside Sunday*, Pasadena, Texas



## ***Have You Ever Wondered Why?***

**Larry W. Rouse**

A Readers Digest article titled: "Ever Wonder why?" contained some interesting facts. For instance, have you ever wondered why: "Men's clothes have buttons on the right while women's are on the left? It's easier for right-handed people, the majority, to push buttons on the right through holes on the left, and so men's buttons are on the right. When first used, buttons were expensive and worn primarily by the well-to-do. Women in that class were usually dressed by servants. Since a maid would face the woman she was dressing, dressmakers put the buttons on the maid's right the woman's left where they've remained."

Is it not remarkable that such a practice would remain in spite of the practical problems with these "backwards" buttons? Today no one I know has servants to put their clothes on, but still the practice remains.

The same is true in religion. Today churches of men have adopted practices based on their personal convenience and on the decisions of men in the past rather than in the scriptures. Few ask the important question: "Why do we do that?" Jesus said in Matthew 15:8-9: "These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

Please do not think that mindless service to God will do any good. Consider a few questions to ask today:

1. Why do men sprinkle babies today and call it baptism? (Romans 6:3-4)
2. Why do churches not take the Lord's Supper on the first day of every week? (Acts 20:7).
3. Why do churches have church creeds and conventions to tell their members what to believe? (2 Timothy 3:16-17; Colossians 2:18-22)

If we call Jesus Lord then should we not show it by keeping His word over what men desire? (Lk. 6:46) You may be surprised at the vicious opposition you will receive when you question the long held traditions of men. Paul warns each of us to choose the cross of Christ over the favor of men. Consider how Paul answered these questions:

1. Who is a real servant of Christ? "For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ" (Galatians 1:10).
2. What if I give in to men for the sake of "peace?" "As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ" (Galatians 6:12).

3. If I really know Jesus, will I allow the demands of this world to take priority over the sacrifices Christ expects of me? "But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our

Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world" (Galatians 6:14).

Let each of us go beyond "wondering why" we do things in service to God and begin today to search the scriptures and know why! Be ready for the surprise of learning that many things that are commonly accepted by the masses that are not found in God's word. Also be ready to stand against the intimidating pressures of men. God will bless you richly, only if you are willing to follow Him (Luke 14:33).

- via *The Beacon*; Charlottesville, Virginia.



## Gospel Meeting

September 24-28

Bill Hall, Speaking

**Anderson church of Christ**

Highway 207 South  
Anderson, Alabama

# News and Notes

**THE SICK:** *Jimmie Lovell* received a goodreport from his arteriogram done this past Thursday ... *Virginia Lovell* is still sick at home and is to go Monday for a colonoscopy ... *Mike Rogers* had surgery on his right thumb this past

Monday ... *Myrtie Williams* is in the Glenwood rehabilitation center in Florence ... *Rodney McCrary's nephew, Chris Roden*, is in the ECM hospital in Florence in ICU and is not doing well ... *Ronnie Phillips and Sissy Clemmons' mother, Lois Ann Corum*, is in Glenwood rehabilitation in Florence ... *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.

**COMMUNICATION GROUPS:** Tonight will be the time for Communication Groups four to meet. They will be meeting this evening after our service.

**NEW DIRECTORY:** The new directories are on the table in the vestibule. Be sure to get your copy today.

**SYMPATHY:** We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Doris Newton and all the family* in the passing of Doris' brother, *Preston Dean*. His funeral was Friday in Green Hill.

**THE RECORD:** Attendance week of Aug. 20th  
**Sunday:**

Bible Classes ..... 100  
 Morning Worship ..... 122  
 Evening Worship ..... 93

**Wednesday:**

Bible Classes ..... 91



**Remember:**

- What?** Young Adult Home Bible Study
- When?** Next Sunday, Sept. 3rd, after our evening service
- Where?** At the home of Cori Williams
- Subject?** Searching For Truth

**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  
 Brian Word ..... (931) 565-3799

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