

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, Janaury 14th:

Bible Classes

Song Leader
..... Daniel Clemmons
Bible Reading (Lev. 16:20-28)
..... Larry White
Prayer
..... Scottie Goode

Morning Worship

Song Leader
..... Daniel Clemmons
Prayer
..... Ray Tucker
Lord's Supper
Presiding Jimmy Glass
Assisting Ronnie Phillips
Serving Trent Thornton
..... Rodney McCrary
..... Ethan Pressnell
..... Jim Phillips
Closing Prayer
..... James Word

Evening Worship

Song Leader
..... Brian Word
Bible Reading (Lev. 16:29-34)
..... Jonathan Keenon
Prayer
..... Mark McIntyre
Lord's Supper
..... Jimmy Glass
..... Ronnie Phillips
Closing Prayer
..... Jerry Dickey

Volume XIV

January 14, 2007

No. 2

Afraid of the Unknown

Mike Thomley

I remember a teacher whose mere presence, at one time, invoked fear and trembling in the hearts of children. When I was in the second and third grades, I was “scared to death” of Mrs. Corbitt, one of the fourth grade teachers.

I distinctly remember my eight-year-old conception of her. She was old, wore funny glasses, had a large nose and was obsessed with details. She had no fear or reservations about reprimanding students, even if they were not in her class.

My only actual confrontation with her came after school one day in my third-grade year. A couple of my friends and I went into the school building after classes were over for the day (a practice that was unquestionably against the rules). We wanted to use the restroom and get some water. The restrooms and water fountain were directly across the hallway from her classroom. It was inevitable—we were caught!

She lined us up against the wall (for what we thought would be our execution) and severely lectured us. We would never be so bold as to break that rule again.

One of the strongest wishes and prayers of my young life was that I not be assigned to Mrs. Corbitt’s class when I entered the fourth grade. But as childhood often seems to go, I saw my worst nightmare come true. My name was down near the bottom of the list innocently taped to the door of her classroom. It was my death sentence. “I’ll never survive,” I thought, “I’ll never live to be 9-years-old.

Strangely enough, however, once the class began and as time

progressed, I found Mrs. Corbitt to be one of the grandest women I have ever known. As a teacher she ranks among the very best.

Her “old School” approach to education proved to be a well-seasoned, experienced learning method. She encouraged us to be creative, to write, to think on our own. It was in her classroom that I wrote my first newspaper article (which was later published in the state teacher’s association journal). Through her I was introduced to timeless characters of literature like Tom Sawyer, Huck Finn, Old Yeller and a host of others. She wielded our attention with her personal account of Dec. 7, 1941.

Mrs. Corbitt has remained in my heart and memory as one of the best teachers I have had.

It is amazing to me how the unknown and the partially known can be misleading and frightening to almost everyone. But when we gain a fuller understanding, what once was frightening becomes wonderful.

This principle is true regarding God and His word. To someone who knows little or nothing about God, He becomes a great mystery, a vociferous listing of dos and don’ts governed by an unseen, cold and dictatorial being who uses us as nothing more than human chess pieces. God is nothing more than a powerful ogre waiting to strike down any man who dares to disobey Him.

And to others, God and His word become an impotent, useless antique for man to place on a shelf and admire for historical value, but certainly not for any power, authority or respect He might possess or deserve. To many, God is a literary classic with strong ties in ancient civilizations, but He has little influence in our modern society.

If we take the time to get to know God and His word, we will find that neither of these extremes is true.

Our God, the God of the Bible, is a God of wrath, vengeance and justice (Hebrews 10:26-

31), but His is also a God of love, grace and mercy (Ephesians 2:1-10). God, the creator is also God, the destroyer (2 Peter 3:10); and He is God, the savior as well (2 Corinthians 6:2).

What we believe about God is based upon what we know about Him. We gain knowledge from studying His revealed word. Our lack of belief, our fear of the unknown stems from a lack of knowledge of God and His word.

We don’t have to live in fear (trembling apprehension) about an ambiguous, unloving being who exercises total control over us. We can come to know a loving, caring, merciful God, who warns us of the consequences of disobedience, yet allows us to make the choice ourselves. God should not remain unknown, or a mystery in our lives. We should be able to affirm as Paul did, “...For I know Him whom I have believed, and I am persuaded that He is able to guard that which I have committed unto Him against that day,” (2 Timothy 1:12).

“...for in Him we live, and move, and have our being... for we are His offspring.... The times of ignorance, therefore God overlooked; but now he commandeth men that they should all everywhere repent; inasmuch as He hath appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by the man whom He hath ordained; whereof He hath give assurance unto all men in that he hath raised Him from the dead” (Acts 17:28, 30, 31).

~via *Southside Sunday*; Pasadena, Texas.

Remember...



- What?** Young Adult Home Bible Study
When? Tonight after our evening service.
Where? At the home of
Andrew & Marissa Gatlin
Subject? Searching For Truth
About The House of God

Recognizing Jesus

Edwin L. Crozier

It was a Sunday afternoon when the two men walked the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus. All hope had been shattered on Friday. The one they thought was the Messiah had died. But some women had told them the tomb was empty and angels had said He was alive.

As they walked a man joined them. Luke 24:15-16 says, "Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him" (ESV).

This reminded me of a couple of conversations I have had online. In one, I was told how every generation reads the Bible to justify their worldview and outlook on life. In another, I was told Jesus was far more post-modern than I seemed to believe. I remembered it wasn't too many years ago I was told Jesus was the quintessential modernist—light years ahead of His time.

It really is true. We easily see Jesus as being just one of us. We can read the New Testament to see Jesus in just about any light we want. To some He was the quintessential Renaissance man. To our grandparents' generation He was the example of hard work and industry. To our parents' generation He was the iconoclast rebel. To some He was a philosopher of philosophers. To others He was the first feminist. He was a modernist before there was modernism. And now He is post-modern pre-post-modernism. To some He is all inclusive. To others He is elitist. Each race pictures Him as one of their own. And every group is convinced they have finally seen the real Jesus.

Jesus was right beside these travelers and they didn't recognize Him. I worry about us. With all the pictures of Jesus out there, do we recognize Him when He is standing right in front of us?

Romans 10:6-8 points out we do not have to ascend into heaven to bring Christ down or into the abyss to raise Christ from the dead. Rather, the word is near us. We can meet Jesus in the Word.

Sadly, we too often want to meet the Jesus who will fit in today instead of the Jesus who stood out 2000 years ago. We have to make sure our eyes are not blinded to the real Jesus who stands out in front of us through the Word. I imagine He won't be a philosopher, an iconoclast, a modernist, feminist or post-modernist. He is going to be just Jesus.

I know that is not as spectacular and shocking. Many people won't have any use for Him, thinking He is boring and downright foolish. However, to those who believe on Him, He will be the power of God unto salvation.

Don't take my word about the real Jesus. Meet Him for yourself. Get in the Bible. Take off your societal glasses and get to know Jesus. Why not start today?

-via Franklin church Bulletin; Franklin, Tennessee

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Laura Clemmons* has continued to be sick and has been unable to be at services... *Jonathan & Lawinda Keenon* were sick and unable to be services on Sunday, Lawinda was better and able to be Bible study Wednesday night... *Olivia Word* was sick and unable to be at Bible study Wednesday night ...*Dana & Callie Grisham* have been sick and not able to be at services... *Monroe Pressnell* continues his treatments for his cancer...*Shelia Goode and Lou Ann Phillips' brother-in-law, Michael Olive*, began his radiation treatments this week ... *Myrtie Williams* is at home and not able to be out ...*Jack Tucker* is not able to be out

...*Faye Hammond* is at home ...*Judy Williams' mother, Flossie Kazzaire*, continues in a nursing facility in Fayette... *Tisha Thomas' grandmother, Nellie Hunter*, continues in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski.

ELDERS & DEACONS MEETING The elders and deacons will be meeting this afternoon at the building.

COMMUNICATION GROUPS: Tonight will be the night for Communication group two to meet. If you are in group two, remember to meet with your group this evening.

CONFESSIONS: Last Sunday night, we rejoiced as *Deidra Williams* confessed unfaithfulness and asked for prayers... On Wednesday evening we rejoiced as *Curtis Mosley* came forward asking for prayers for sins he had committed. We appreciate Deidra and Curtis for their desire to please the Lord. May we encourage them as they will encourage us in our lives as children of God.

OUT OF TOWN: *Scottie Goode* has been in New Orleans, Louisiana this week.

THE RECORD: Attendance for Week of Jan. 1st

Sunday: Bible Classes 107
 Morning Worship 129
 Evening Worship 83
Wednesday: Bible Classes 89

The Anderson
 church of Christ
 website at:
[www. Anderson-church.org](http://www.Anderson-church.org)

On the Site You Will Find:

1. Information about the church at Anderson
2. The **Gospel Power** in .pdf format uploaded each Sunday.
3. Sermons preached at Anderson in Windows Media Player.

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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