

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 Privileged To Serve:
Sunday, April 29th:

Bible Classes

Song Leader
..... Phil Pressnell
Bible Reading (Num. 2:1-9)
..... Brian Word
Prayer
..... Steve Parker

Morning Worship

Song Leader
..... Phil Pressnell
Prayer
..... Kevin Chancellor
Lord's Supper
Presiding Andrew Gatlin
Assisting Eddie J. Hammond
Serving Daniel Clemmons
..... Rodney McCrary
..... Brian Blakely
..... Jonathan Keenon
Closing Prayer
..... Ray Tucker

Evening Worship

Song Leader
..... Eddie J. Hammond
Bible Reading (Num. 2:10-17)
..... Brad Hammond
Prayer
..... Larry White
Lord's Supper
..... Andrew Gatlin
..... Scottie Goode
Closing Prayer
..... Jimmy Glass

Volume XIV

April 29, 2007

No.17

Where Are You Going?

Dee Bowman

Everybody's going somewhere. The kids are going to school. Mom's going to the grocery store, Dad's going to work. Uncle Zeke's going to the dentist, Grandma's going to the doctor.

The fullback's going toward the goal, the baseball player's headed for home. The point guard's shooting toward the basket, the tennis star's hitting toward the line.

Everybody's going somewhere. No matter who you are, you're going somewhere.

Where are you going?

Are you going to get better? Christianity is a life of spiritual growth. If you don't grow you stagnate. If you don't grow your body deteriorates. But unlike physical growth, spiritual growth is a matter of choice—you decide to do it, it doesn't come naturally. "Desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby, says Peter (2 Pet. 2:2). And, "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ," he said (2 Pet. 3:18). If you decide to grow, you have to have regular feedings of spiritual sustenance. And please understand, it may not always taste good. Are you going to get better?

Are you going up or down? It's one way or the other. You're either making progress in your spiritual life, or you're defaulting. You can't go to heaven by standing still. You have to make up your mind that whatever is necessary, you are going up. Heaven is always seen as "up." And you can't go up by just sitting around doing nothing or just by standing and watching others go by. Hope is one of the vital considerations in the Christian system and it always looks up toward a desired expectation. "...continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the

gospel” (Colossians 1:23). It’s your choice. You going up or down?

Are you going to try harder? Trying is what Christianity is all about. It’s hard to try harder sometimes. It takes courage, determination, endurance to make the grade, to climb the hill, to make it home. But when the going gets tough—uh, you just have to try harder. “Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith and I have works: show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works” (James 2:18). If you have faith you have to show it by works; you can’t just sit and affirm it, you have to get up and get with it.

Are you going to heaven? Now that may not sound like much of a question—not until you consider that every person who doesn’t go to heaven goes to hell. There’s no in-between room. It’s one or the other. “Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city” (Revelation 22:14) is a great assurance for those who are going there. But listen to the only other side of the story: “And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire” (Revelation 20:14-15) and that’s the same as describing the ungodly such as will “have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death” (Revelation 21:8).

Well, I think you get my point. There’s just not any in-between. You’re either a Christian or you’re not, a disciple or not, a worker or a shirker. How’s it going with you?

-via *Southside Sunday*; Pasadena, Texas.



Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Let The Word Dwell Richly

Mark Mosely

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father” (Colossians 3:15-17).

Twice in this section of Scripture Paul urges us to “let” something take place. Let the peace of Christ rule in your heart and let the word of Christ richly dwell within (your heart). If you do that you will find your heart will be full of thanksgiving to God.

Christ’s peace and Christ’s word live and reign in our hearts because we allow it. We permit it. Those who serve Jesus do so freely and voluntarily.

How does the peace of Christ “rule” in our hearts? By being the final arbiter of any decision that we make. When choices are presented before us, Christians ask the question, “How will this impact my relationship with Jesus?” I will do nothing that destroys the peace of Christ that I enjoy. On the other hand, I will do whatever promotes that peace.

How do I discern between choices? By allowing the word of Christ to dwell within my heart. It is only by following the word of Christ that I can do all things in the name of Christ.

Here’s the challenge of the day – do I allow the word of Christ to dwell in my heart, *richly*?

This isn’t hard to grasp. If a CPA advised, “You need to let money richly dwell within your retirement account”, we would have no problem understanding the implications of that statement. For that to happen we must invest! The

more we invest, the more richly our money will dwell!

Here's the thing, Jesus has already granted us everything that pertains to life and godliness through the knowledge of Him. (2 Peter 1:3) The "unfathomable riches" of Christ have been made known in the gospel. (Ephesians 3:8) And Jesus asks us to permit Him to fill up our hearts with this treasure.

If you are living a sad and thankless life (I'm not talking about being ungrateful because you don't acknowledge God, I'm talking about being unable to find a reason to be thankful), have you ever considered that your heart may be empty? If you are living a life full of turmoil and indecision could it be the result of not allowing the peace of Christ to reign in your heart?

If our hearts are empty, if our hearts are impoverished, if our hearts are without direction and discernment - it is certainly not because Christ refuses to supply what we need.

Open the Book and let Him invest His word into your heart richly!

"The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous altogether. They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb." (Psalm 19:8-10).

-via *Hueytown Bulletin*; Hueytown, Alabama



"They Shall Be Comforted"

Jason Cicero

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted" (Matthew 5:4).

The kingdom citizen will be one who mourns over one's own spiritual poverty, one's sinfulness.

We "mourn" when we come to the realization that we have lost fellowship with God as a result of our sins. David demonstrated this spiritual attitude after his adultery with Bathsheba (Psalm 51:3-4). He longed for God to restore the fellowship he once enjoyed (Psalm 51:10-12).

There is a noticeable relationship between these first two characteristics described by Jesus in "the beatitudes." Unless one is first "poor in spirit," one will not "mourn" over their spiritual poverty. We must come to see ourselves as we really are: sinners that need forgiveness that only comes through Jesus Christ. It is when we come to this realization that we can truly be "comforted."

-via *Perry Hill Road Bulletin*; Montgomery, Alabama.

News and **Notes**

THE SICK: *Myrtie Williams* is in the ECM hospital in CCU following her surgery on Friday to repair her broken hip ... *Leota Springer's husband, Bob Springer*, is back in the Veteran's Hospital in Birmingham ... *Callie Grisham* has been unable to be at services this past week following surgery to remove her tonsils and adenoids ... *Corey Word* was sick this past week and was not able to be at services Wednesday night ... *Ava & Taylor Mosley* were able to be back at Bible study Wednesday night after being sick last week... *Cindy Pressnell* was sick and unable to be at Bible study Wednesday night ... *Signa Skipworth & C.L. Weathers' cousin, Hilda Fincher*, suffered a stroke last week and is in the ECM hospital... .. *Jack Tucker* is not able to be out ... *Judy Williams' mother, Flossie Kazzaire*, continues in a nursing facility in Fayette.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Myrtie Williams and all the family* in the passing of Myrtie's nephew, *Clarence Williams*. His funeral was Saturday afternoon.

NEW QUARTER: Today we are beginning our Summer quarter in our Bible classes. We are looking forward to this quarter and the teachers are as follows:

Nursery:

Marissa Gatlin
Sarah Blakely

2 Year old:

Lawinda Keenon

3 Year old:

Shelia Moore

4-5 Year old:

Willodean Hammond

K- 1st Grade:

Marla Clemmons

2nd - 3rd Grade:

Melissa Parker

4th -5th Grade:

Sissy Clemmons

Jr. High School:

Jerry Dickey

High School:

Phil Pressnell(Sunday morning)
Andrew Gatlin(Wednesday night)

Young Adult:

Rocky Rose(Sunday morning)

Adult:

Steve Parker(Sunday morning)
Jimmy Glass(Wednesday night)

NEW BABY: We want to congratulate **Wynell Ridgeway** on the birth of a new grandson, *Benjamin James*, this past Friday night. He weighed 7 lbs. 7 ozs. His proud parents are *Greg and Susan Williams*.

GOSPEL MEETING: The *Ephesus church* in Athens will be engaged in a gospel meeting this week with *Tim Stevens* preaching. Services will begin on Monday through Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

THE RECORD: Attendance—Week of Apr. 22nd

Sunday: Bible Classes 91
Morning Worship 112
Evening Worship 92
Wednesday: Bible Classes 89

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) 729-8316
Phil Pressnell (256) 232-8509
Rocky Rose (256) 247-0011
Larry White (256) 247-0988
Brian Word (931) 565-3799

Evangelist & Editor

David A. Cox (256) 247-1049
Office—(256) 247-5539
E-mail address: dacox@hiwaay.net

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

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

Return Service Requested