

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, May 20th:

Bible Classes

Song Leader
..... Brian Word
Bible Reading (Num. 3:18-26)
..... Ray Tucker
Prayer
..... Michael Clemmons

Morning Worship

Song Leader
..... Brian Word
Prayer
..... Eddie J. Hammond
Lord's Supper
Presiding Steve Parker
Assisting Ronnie Phillips
Serving Aric Butler
..... Mark McCrary
..... Tyler Cox
..... Jim Phillips
Closing Prayer
..... Mark McIntyre

Evening Worship

Song Leader
..... Kevin Chancellor
Bible Reading (Num. 3:27-37)
..... Eddie L. Hammond
Prayer
..... Jonathan Keenon
Lord's Supper
..... Steve Parker
..... Ronnie Phillips
Closing Prayer
..... Brian Blakely

Volume XIV

May 20, 2007

No.20

The Devil and His Hey Day

Dee Bowman

Have you noticed how our society just accepts sin as an ordinary occurrence? It's astounding how television is running commercial announcements that consider single parents as one of the normal things in life, how the sitcoms openly accept homosexuality as common, and how the cartoons depict lying when necessary as a customary action of life.

Seems to me the devil is winning in our culture today. And mostly by default. Nobody much opposes him. Politics plays right into his hands in most instances. Religion has absorbed into its doctrines and worship every kind of compromise imaginable—from rap music to staged productions of mostly false doctrine. Benny Hinn, noted televangelist, recent petitioned his followers to donate funds to make a down-payment on a multi-million dollar aircraft so he can fly to his world-wide events (and the Lord had no place to lay his head?).

The family has been decimated by the devil. He has run roughshod over the husband's role in the family, promoted wives to roles not approved by Scripture, and made children as much controllers as controlled in most households.

And have you noticed how sexual sins have proliferated? Even among small children. I saw a report recently where an 11-year old boy was arrested for molesting young girls (I think we still had flaps on the back of our overalls when I was eleven). A report in the *Houston Chronicle* (December 20, 2006) tells that over 90% of people surveyed had engaged in sexual activity before marriage. And no wonder—television, magazines, and other media accept the fact of promiscuous sex as if it were normal. The devil is having a heyday, folks.

Is there no such thing as immodest apparel in this age? Does anybody even remember what modest means? There seems to me to be no standard for ascertaining what is modest and what is not—except one: if it is acceptable to most of the people, it’s modest. The doctrine of “everybody’s doing it” is flourishing in this age, and with a sort of reckless abandonment of any sort of restraint. How long since you saw somebody blush? A while, I suspect. I tell you, the devil is having a hey-day.

The business world is not immune to the devil’s ploys, either. The business lie is common today—especially if it means a promotion. Advertising is filled with deception. So much so that nobody really believes what it says. Deception is not even restricted to the fine print anymore, it’s just sort of expected. Warrantees don’t mean what they say, products don’t do what they claim, the cost is always more than what is advertised, and when consulted about such matters, the answer is, “well why are you picking on me?” “After all, I have to make a living.”

Even the Lord’s people have succumbed to this tenacious, but subtle invasion by the devil. For instance, the Richland Hills congregation in the Metroplex area has announced recently that they will now have instrumental music in their worship services. In a recent statement to the congregation, the preacher said that while they were not trying to get all churches to follow their examples, their decision might, “inspire many other Churches of Christ to be courageous in their kingdom efforts, and it could help stem the tide of gifted young leaders who are leaving” (Christian Chronicle, Dec. 12, 2006). I noted that not one passage of scripture was cited to justify the instrument in the whole story—not one. And you think the devil is not having a hey-day?

Max Lucado, minister of the Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, now openly states that baptism is not necessary to the salvation of the sinner, but is merely a “demonstration of devotion.” Again, no scripture to show such is forthcoming. What ever happened to “book-chapter-

and-verse” preaching among churches of Christ? Is it not relevant to this age? If not, when was the change authorized, and by whom?

Read Ephesians 5. “Be followers of God,” (Ephesians 5:1), avoid sexual sins (Ephesians 5:2), along with covetousness, and all other kinds of uncleanness. Avoid foolish talk, filthy jesting, (Ephesians 5:3). And look at the judgment on those who engage in such actions (Ephesians 5:5); such a one has no inheritance in the kingdom of God. We can be deceived by empty promises (Ephesians 5:6), and in so doing incur the wrath of God. We are to be lights in a world of darkness (Eph. 5:8), having no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness (Eph. 5:11), but reprove them. We are to prove in our lives what is acceptable to the Lord, being so far removed from them that we dare not even speak of some of the ungodly actions of the devil’s disciples (Ephesians 5:12). We are to walk uprightly, not as fools (Ephesians 5:15), redeeming the time, because the days are evil (Ephesians 5:16).

The devil is winning in far too many cases. Not just winning, but having a hey-day. What about you? Who’s going to win in your life? Well, it’s up to you. You can win or you can lose. It’s up to you.

- *Southside Sunday*, Pasadena, Texas.

The Anderson
church of Christ
website at:

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.

A Mixed-Up World

Frank Jamerson

Human wisdom has rejected the Bible as the word of God and has decided that man evolved from lower animals, therefore they do not want to kill animals, but many of the same people have no respect for human life, therefore advocate unrestricted abortion. It is really a mixed up world!

Some do not want to wear any article of clothing made of fur, or any other kind of animal products, use animals for research or eat meat. According to the doctrine of reincarnation, they may be harming a relative!

What does the Bible say about this? First, if it is a sin to wear animal skins, then God sinned in the garden of Eden, when he “made tunics of skin” and clothed Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:21). When Noah came out of the ark, God said “Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs. But you shall not eat flesh with the life, that is, the blood” (Genesis 9:2,3). God did not know that it was “cruelty to animals” to eat meat. Paul said that one doctrine of those who departed from the truth would be “commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving; for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer” (1 Timothy 4:4,5).

John Clayton commented: “Is nature cruel? Do animals possess a sense of self that makes death a personal tragedy? The evidence suggests that the answer is No! The fact that males will frequently kill their own offspring and that many forms of life will eat a member of their group that has died suggests that there are other forces at work. Predation (preying on other animals) is not a wanton and cruel act...

“If we recognize that living things are not unevolved men but products of a design which ensures survival of the species and are programmed to fit the design, we will be better

equipped to manage our world and also will be able to understand acts in nature that many interpret as blatant unwarranted cruelty” (Does God Exist? Sept/Oct, 1990).

The theory of evolution and the Eastern religion’s doctrine of reincarnation have influenced us more than most may realize. When men reject God’s revelation, they get values confused and even reversed. In short, if vegetarianism is mandatory, the Bible is false!

-via *TheCharlottesville Beacon*; Charlottesville, Virginia

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Dyanne Johnson* is at home following her surgery on Monday for her broken foot. She will need to be off of her feet for a few weeks ...*Sheila Moore* is at home following surgery on Tuesday on her sinuses ...*Signa Skipworth* is at home from the hospital after spending several days in the hospital with a blood clot ...*Amber Hammond* is doing better with her lungs and breathing problems and was able to be at Bible study Wednesday night...*Myrtie Williams* continues in the Glenwood rehabilitation center in Florence ... *Marcia Cooper* was unable to be at Bible study Wednesday night due to having dental work done ...*Signa Skipworth & C.L. Weathers’ cousin, Hilda Fincher*, continues in the ECM hospital...*Jack Tucker* is not able to be out ...*Judy Williams’ mother, Flossie Kazzaire*, continues in a nursing facility in Fayette.

CHILDREN’S BIBLE DRILL: Remember the children’s Bible drill will be this evening at 5:30. I hope that all of our children will be there and as many adults who can be there to encourage our young people.

SONG SERVICE: Tonight is the night for our

song service. **Kevin Chancellor** will be directing the service. I hope everyone will make their plans to be present.

COMMUNICATION GROUPS: Tonight is the night for Communication group three to meet. If you are in group three remember to meet with your group this evening.

OUT OF TOWN: The Roses: Rocky and Donna are out of town in Nashville this weekend... **Trent Thornton** was in Tupelo, Mississippi on Wednesday at a funeral for his great aunt. We extend our deepest sympathies to him.

GOSPEL MEETING: The **Sunny Hill church** in Athens will be engaged in a gospel meeting this week with **Michael White** preaching. Services will begin on Monday through Wednesday at 7:00 p.m...The **Sandlin Road church** in Elkmont is beginning a meeting and it will continue through Friday with services at 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. **Paul Earnhart** will be the speaker in this meeting...The **Valley View church** in Athens is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday with services at 7:00 p.m. **Lee Wildman** will be the speaker in this meeting.

THE RECORD: Attendance—Week of May 13th

Sunday:

- Bible Classes 94
- Morning Worship 107
- Evening Worship 74

Wednesday:

- Bible Classes 85



Vacation Bible School

July 9-13, 2007

Leon Mauldin, Speaking

Anderson church of Christ

Highway 207 South
Anderson, Alabama

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
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