

# 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, May 27th:

#### *Bible Classes*

Song Leader  
..... Eddie J. Hammond  
Bible Reading ..... (Num. 3:44-51)  
..... Andrew Gatlin  
Prayer  
..... Rocky Rose

#### *Morning Worship*

Song Leader  
..... Eddie J. Hammond  
Prayer  
..... Ray Tucker  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Phil Pressnell  
Assisting ..... Rocky Rose  
Serving ..... Daniel Clemmons  
..... Ethan Pressnell  
..... Tyler Cox  
..... Andrew Gatlin  
Closing Prayer  
..... Mark McIntyre

#### *Evening Worship*

Song Leader  
..... Mark McIntyre  
Bible Reading ..... (Num. 4:1-10)  
..... Kevin Chancellor  
Prayer  
..... Brad Hammond  
Lord's Supper  
..... Phil Pressnell  
..... Rocky Rose  
Closing Prayer  
..... Brian Blakely

Volume XIV

May 27, 2007

No.21

## *Redemption In The New Testament*

**Randy Harshbarger**

The Apostle Paul gives us perhaps the most comprehensive, concise statement concerning redemption in all the New Testament in Romans 3:21-26. Read his words. *"But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus."* Consider what Paul says.

First, a righteousness has been made known or made manifest apart from the law. Whether this is the law of Moses or any law system, one's salvation is not dependent upon perfect lawkeeping. Paul is speaking of a righteousness that is possible for sinners. That is the condition all men find themselves to be in (Romans 3:10). If a man sought justification on the basis of law, he was obligated to keep the law perfectly; it then became a matter of debt, not grace (Romans 4:4). Paul tells us that this righteousness made possible in Christ was not a new thing; the Old Testament writers anticipated the time when God's Son would come to bring about our salvation. The Jew should not have been surprised, as this is the goal the Old Testament pointed toward.

Second, this righteousness of God is possible through Jesus Christ. That is, Christ is the means or the instrument through which this righteousness is appropriated. Philippians 3:9 is a good commentary on this point. Paul wanted to be "...found in him, not

having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith." By faith would include everything that is needful in accepting who Jesus Christ is. He is our Savior, our great High Priest, our King, our Lord. The good news is that while all have sinned, all men, whether Jew or Gentile, can enjoy the blessings Christ provides. This justification is not upon the basis of law or works.

Third, men are redeemed in Christ. To be redeemed is to be justified, or judged to be righteous. In Christ, you are now free from guilt. This gift is freely bestowed. It is by God's grace. His loving kindness, His favor, His goodwill has been bestowed on each of us. We do not deserve it and we cannot merit the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. The ransom price has been paid. Christ paid with His own precious blood. We are delivered, liberated, released from sin and its effects. God can justify sinners because the price has been paid.

Fourth, Christ is the propitiation for our sins. He makes it possible for the wrath of God to be averted. God's wrath is not capricious or arbitrary. It grows out of His righteousness. He must punish sin and He must reward righteousness. In Christ, God can now justify sinners. At the cross, God did not wink at sin; He forgave sin. Christ is the adequate basis for doing so. Thank God that Jesus paid it all.

-via *Stallings Drive Biulletin*; Nacogdoches, Texas.

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.

## *Who Do You Love?*

**Edwin L. Crozier**

Paul wrote of difficult times in 2 Timothy 3:1-9. Interestingly, he mentions four different loves. There are lovers of self, lovers of money and lovers of pleasure. These are all contrasted with lovers of God.

Which one are we?

Our age is one of selfishness. It is all about getting what we want right now. Look at the rising debt our nation continues to have across the board even with Dave Ramsey doing all that work.

James demonstrated that Christians can be lovers of self even while they think they are being spiritually minded. In James 4:3 he talked to people who prayed. But their prayers were doing them no good because they were selfish.

In Philippians 2:3-4, Paul provides the rule against selfishness. If we are going to be lovers of God, we must put others before ourselves. That means putting our spouses before ourselves, our kids, our parents, our friends, our neighbors, our employers, our employees and even our enemies.

Hand in hand with selfishness is the love of money. We are a money centered society. Power and fame depend on wealth. Just the other day while in a hospital waiting room I saw a magazine entitled Billionaire that is all about the rich people, how they got that way and how we can too.

If you don't think our society loves money, look at the number of lottery tickets sold everywhere. And if you don't think Christians are impacted by this misplaced love, look at the number of Christians who have started defending buying those emblems of covetousness.

When we love God, we will be content with whatever we have (1 Timothy 6:8-10). Further we need to be generous with the blessings God has given us, sharing and storing up our treasures

in heaven (1 Timothy 6:17-18).

Finally, is there any doubt we are pleasure driven people? Everything we do seems to be governed by how fun and enjoyable it is. Drinking, drugs, immoral sex and any number of sins come down to people pleasure hunting. But sadly, even those who do not fall prey to these “major” sins are often driven by pleasure. Isn’t procrastination merely a means of seeking pleasure, putting off the hard while we spend our time on the fun?

Then consider the number of Christians who think the only way to attract folks to Jesus is if it is fun. Entertainment centered “worship” is the rule of the day as folks try to draw in the crowds by pleasing their flesh.

If we are lovers of God, we will mortify the flesh and its lusts, following after the Spirit and His fruit (Romans 8:13).

Who do you love?

-via *Franklin Church Bulletin*; Franklin, Tennessee.



## *Jesus Understands*

**Jason Cicero**

*“Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows...”* (Isaiah 53:4). Jesus understands. Jesus knows how you feel. You’re under the gun at work? Jesus knows how you feel. You’ve got more to do than is humanly possible? So did He. People take more from you than they give? Jesus understands. Your teenagers won’t listen? Your students won’t try? Jesus knows how you feel. *“Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able*

*to aid those who are tempted”* (Hebrews 2:17-18, NKJV).

You are precious to Him. So precious that he became like you so that you would come to Him. When you struggle, He listens. When you yearn, He responds. When you question, He hears. He has been there. *“Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the son of God, Let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way just as we are – yet without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in our time of need”* (Hebrews 4:14-16, NKJV).

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

# *News & Notes*

**THE SICK:** *Amber Hammond* is in the ECM hospital with a deflated lung... *Jonathan Keenon* is in the Huntsville hospital having hernia surgery this morning... *Wynell Ridgeway* is at home after spending several days in the ECM hospital in Florence... *Eddie L. Hammond* is doing better after having surgery on Wednesday to remove his gall bladder... *Dyanne Johnson* continues at home and having to be off of her feet as she recovers from surgery to repair her fractured foot... *Sheila Moore* was able to be back at Bible study Wednesday night after being out recovering from surgery... *Signa Skipworth* is still at having to be in due to her blood clot in her leg... *Myrtie Williams* continues in the Glenwood rehabilitation center in Florence... *Eddie Hammond’s mother, Evelyn Hammond*, is at home after spending a few days in Huntsville Hospital having tests done... *Lisa Word’s*

*mother and father, Austin and Betty Dillinger*, have both received pacemakers this past week in Orlando... *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.

**NEW BABY:** We rejoice with the *Phillips family* in the birth of *Harrison Blake Phillips* on Wednesday morning. Harrison weighed 7 lbs. 14 ozs and was 20 inches long. He is now at home with his parents *Jim and Brooke* and his brother *Sam* and his sister *Molly Kate*. *Ronnie and Lou Ann Phillips* are the proud grandparents.

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

**ELDERS MEETING:** The elders will be meeting this afternoon at the building.

**OUT OF TOWN:** *The Words: Brian, Lisa, Michael, Corey and Olivia* are out of town in Orlando, Florida this week visiting family... *The Keenons: Jonathan and Lawinda* are on vacation this weekend.

**THE RECORD:** Attendance—Week of May 20th

**Sunday:**

Bible Classes ..... 95  
 Morning Worship ..... 115  
 Evening Worship ..... 88

**Wednesday:**

Bible Classes ..... 86

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

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