

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.

Volume XIV

July 8, 2007

No. 27

**Anderson
church of Christ**
5900 Highway 207
Anderson, Alabama

Visit Us On The Web
Anderson-church.org

Men Priviledged To Serve:

Sunday, July 8th:

Bible Classes

Song Leader
..... Daniel Clemmons
Bible Reading (Num. 7:66-77)
..... Brad Hammond
Prayer
..... Mark McIntyre

Morning Worship

Song Leader
..... Daniel Clemmons
Prayer
..... Ray Tucker
Lord's Supper
Presiding Kevin Chancellor
Assisting Brian Word
Serving Rodney McCrary
..... Curtis Mosley
..... Ethan Pressnell
..... Mark McCary
Closing Prayer
..... Steve Parker

Evening Worship

Song Leader
..... Phil Pressnell
Bible Reading (Num. 7:78-83)
..... Jonathan Keenon
Prayer
..... Jimmy Glass
Lord's Supper
..... Kevin Chancellor
..... Brian Word
Closing Prayer
..... Brain Blakely

Beginning This Week

"Neighbors For Jesus"

Vacation Bible School

July 9-13 – 10:00 a.m.

There will be classes for ages:
Nursery through Adult.

Adult Class

"Bible History and Geography"

Leon Mauldin, Speaking

Sunday, July 8th

9:45 a.m.; 10:45 a.m. & 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 11th

7:00 p.m.

"In The Steps of Paul"

Leon Mauldin, Speaking

Anderson church of Christ

Highway 207 South
Anderson, Alabama

Sincerely Yours

Dee Bowman

Our word “sincere” has an interesting history. Etymologists tell us that in Ancient Rome, men who made statues, sculptors, and other artistic endeavors used wax to cover up their mistakes. They became so proficient about it that only the most trained eye could spot the charade. The pretense looked good until the sun came out on a hot summer day or the wear and tear of weather came to bear. Then the wax melted and the pretender was unveiled.

The professional people, who would not stoop to such pretensions, came up with a warranty word of sorts to protect their art or product. They would say it is *sine cera*, without wax. This was later adopted into English and became our word “sincere.”

Sincerity is a great need today. Pretensions are everywhere. Never are they more abundant than in our advertising. Promises are made and guarantees are given that are absolutely worthless. And yet, when they are done with some dulcet-toned announcer or some beautiful young starlet, all doubt is removed. The wax is applied. And what about politics? Charades are everywhere in political circles. Some well-known individual runs for office with promises abundant. The wax is applied. By the time he gets elected, the promises have been forgotten—covered up with some hastily applied excuse.

The Scriptures are filled with admonitions about integrity, honesty, reliability. “Lord, who shall dwell in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in the holy hill,” asks David (Psalm 15), “he that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.” The secret to true sincerity is personal integrity, speaking the truth in one’s heart. All sincerity begin there. There is no external wax on the character that speaks truth in his heart.

Philippian 1:9-10—“And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; that ye may

approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ.” Here, Paul prays for a sincerity as people approve the more excellent life. Approval of that life is seen in a sincere and dedicated effort to follow Christ. Sincerity breeds a good life.

Peter, in his first epistle, chapter 2, verse 2, enjoins that we “desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.” The “sincere” milk of the word is the word without any admixture, the word in all its purity. The New International Version renders this “crave pure spiritual milk.” The religious world is filled today with a compounded gospel, one appended with men’s ideas and decisions. In many religious circles today, the gospel used is one filled with the wax of human opinion.

Paul closes his letter to the Ephesians saying, “Grace be with them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity.” There must not be any duplicity in our love for Christ. It has to be a sincere love, one with true dedication, evidenced by our total dedication to His word, His gospel, His assurances. Sincere love is devoid of any false mixture; it is pure devotion to Him.

Hypocrisy is the opposite of sincerity. Jesus saved his most harsh rebukes for those who practiced religion with a mask on their faces. Matthew 23 tells of their masking their true hearts with a kind of external cloak. They covered up the real person with external rituals, facades of various sorts.

It’s interesting to me that etymologists have a simple way to measure whether or not an affirmation about a word is true. Michael Quinion, the English word expert, says, “The better they sound, the more circumstantial and detailed the background, the neater the conclusion, the less likely they are to be true. Conversely, if a story (about a word, db) is mundane and boring, it is likely to be correct.” That’s true about most truth. It is seldom complex and difficult to understand, but simple and direct—even sometimes boring to some of the religious “experts.”

~via *Southside Sunday*; Pasadena, Texas.

Working For The Lord

Leonard White

One day a man was walking through the office where he worked. As he passed the desk of a young woman, he noticed she was “snowed under” with work.

However, the thing that really caught his attention was the bright smile on her face. “All this extra work doesn’t seem to be getting you down,” he commented. “Not since I learned a secret,” she said. Then she pointed to a tiny card she had pasted on her desk. It read: “All that I do today, I do for you, Lord.”

That thought strikes me as one that every Christian should ponder. The apostle Paul wrote, “Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eye service, as men pleasers, but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men” (Ephesians 6:5-7).

We often lose sight of the fact that our everyday activities, though they may involve working for some company or for some other person, are in reality a part of our total lives of service to our heavenly Master. If we are slothful, indifferent, dishonest or in any way remiss in performing our duties toward others, we are at the same time failing to serve the Lord as we should.

Living each day of our lives with the consciousness of this principle can have a wonderful effect upon our outlook toward the tasks we are required to do. Things which otherwise seem like meaningless drudgery take on real significance when we see them as a part of our service rendered to the Lord. An unpleasant chore, done to the best of our ability, even though it may not be recognized by others around us, does not go unnoticed by the all-seeing eye of God above.

How thrilling, how challenging to face each new day with the thought: “All I do today, I do for you, Lord!”

-via *The North Jasper Seeker*; Jasper, Alabama.

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Tanya Hammond's father G. W. Long*, is scheduled for surgery on Monday... *Helen Trousdale's son-in-law, Wayne Kent*, will be going to Birmingham for heart surgery ... *Charles Glass* has had the shingles this past week and has not been able to be at services ... *Dyanne Johnson* is doing much better as she recovers from her foot surgery ... *Myrtie Williams* continues in the Glenwood rehabilitation center in Florence ... *Lisa Word's father, Austin Dillinger*, continues in rehab in Florida ... *Signa Skipworth & C.L. Weathers' cousin, Hilda Fincher*, continues in a Birmingham hospital... *Jack Tucker* is confined at home ... *Judy Williams' mother, Flossie Kazzaire*, continues in a nursing facility in Fayette.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Rocky Rose and all the family* in the passing of Rocky's grandmother, *Ethel Rose*, this past Thursday morning. Her funeral was Saturday morning in Athens.

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

PREACHING TODAY: *Leon Mauldin* will be preaching three times today at our services. He will speak to a combined class period this morning at 9:45 and then at the worship hour at 10:45 a.m. He will preach again at 4:00 p.m. During these times periods plus Wednesday night at 7:00 Leon will be doing a series called “In The Steps of Paul.” Leon will be speaking to the adult class during the Vacation Bible School. He will be doing a study of “Bible History and Geography.” We are looking forward to the lessons and are glad to have Leon with us this week.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Tomorrow morning at 10:00 a.m. we will begin our 2007 VBS. The classes are prepared and the teachers and others have worked diligently in preparing. I hope that we have all worked hard on getting invitations into the hands of people to come and join us for our studies. The theme this

year is “Neighbors for Jesus” and I believe that it will be a good series for our children and others to learn from the lessons that will be taught. Remember to work and do all you can to make this VBS a great success. Remember if at all possible attend this series of studies. They will do us good.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Words:* Brian, Lisa, Michael, Corey and Olivia have been in Georgia visiting family this week...*The Coxes:* Kerry, Tyler, Hunter and I have been out of town this week at Rustic Youth Camp in Belgreen...*The Coopers:* Curtis, Marcia and Erin have been visiting in Georgia...*James Word* has also been in Georgia visiting with Tim and Donna.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: *The Westview church* in Athens is beginning gospel meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. *Harold Carswell, Jr. of Troy, Alabama* will be the speaker in this meeting...*The Bethel church* in Bethel, Tennessee is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The services Monday through Friday will be at 7:00 p.m. The speakers in the meeting are as follows:*Sunday morning – David Harwell; Sunday afternoon – Everett Conn; Monday – Randall Hammock; Tuesday – David Cox; Wednesday – Kasey Harbin; Thursday – Dan Binkley; Friday – Bill Hall...* *The Eastside church* in Red Bay is beginning meeting and it will continue through Friday with *Ken McDaniel* preaching...*Corinth church* in Athens is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with *Don Truex of Tampa, Florida* speaking ...*Brookhill church* in Killen is beginning a VBS Thursday and it will continue through Saturday. The speakers will be as follows: Thursday, 7:00 p.m. – *Frank Jamerson*; Friday, 7:00 p.m. – *Grant Caldwell*; Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – *Joel Holt*; Saturday 11:00 a.m. – *Justin Roberson*.

THE RECORD: Attendance—Week of June 24th
Sunday:

Bible Classes 104
Morning Worship 120
Evening Worship 72

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 53

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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