

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, October 7th:

Bible Classes

Song Leader Jim Phillips
Bible Reading (Num. 16:31-40)
..... Jimmy Glass
Prayer
..... Aric Butler

Morning Worship

Song Leader
..... Jim Phillips
Prayer
..... Ronnie Phillips
Lord's Supper
Presiding Kevin Chancellor
Assisting Brian Word
Serving Hunter Cox
..... Mark McCrary
..... Daniel Clemmons
..... Corey Goode
Closing Prayer
..... Jonathan Keenon

Evening Worship

Song Leader
..... Eddie J. Hammond
Bible Reading (Num. 16:41-50)
..... Rodney McCrary
Prayer
..... Brian Blakely
Lord's Supper
..... Kevin Chancellor
..... Brian Word
Closing Prayer
..... Andrew Gatlin

Volume XIV

October 7, 2007

No. 40

Send The Light

Dee Bowman

How? Did you say, “how?”

Get next to the light. Jesus said, “I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life” (John 8:12). It’s mighty important for the person who wants to let his light shine that he be near the Savior. As long as that proximity is maintained, you won’t walk in darkness. The implication is that when you get away from the light, you walk in darkness and you know what that means, don’t you? It means stumbling around, not knowing where you’re going. And that’s bad, right? The Master said, “he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God” (John 3:21). In other words, “...everyone that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds be reproved” (John 3:20). If you want to be good and do good, you have to get next to the light.

Flip the switch. Jesus also said, “Ye are the light of the world” (Matthew 5:14). But the light you are doesn’t shine until you turn it on. It’s up to you whether or not you shine as a light. “Let your light shine” (Matthew 5:16) indicates there’s a choice involved in the matter. You have to decide to turn it on. And the reason is simple: “that they may see your good works.” The primary purpose of light is to illuminate things so that it’s easy to see. Actually, you can’t see anything when there’s no light. And furthermore, when folks see your light shining, they will be constrained to “glorify your Father which is in heaven” (Matthew 5:16). So, turn in on and let it shine.

Get the light out of the house. Now that’s not meant to say that the light is not important in the house, for the Lord said, “...men do not light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house”

(Matthew 5:15), but it's also so that if the light is going to do any good we have to get it out where it can light stuff up—or as we say, bring things to light. “A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid” (Matthew 5:14) indicates that you need to put it out where it can be seen. No matter how good the light, it's of no benefit to anybody when it's not being used. Actually, it's the purpose of light to shine. No telling how much good we could do if we'd just get our light out where folks can see it.

Don't let the light go out. Paul implores that we “walk as children of light” (Ephesians 5:8), for, says he, “ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord.” And wasn't it the Apostle John who said, “If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another” (1 John 1:7)? In fact, “If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth.” You can't walk in the light and do bad things any more than you can walk in the light and in the dark at the same time. You're either going to keep your light on or let it go out—it's up to you. Jesus said, “the light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light” (Matthew 6:22). You can't shut your eyes to the light and still see where you're going. You have to keep your eyes open and fixed on the goal.

And that's how you send the light.

~via *Southside Sunday*; Pasadena, Texas



The Sin of Rebellion

Randy Harshbarger

“So every man of Israel deserted David, and followed Sheba the son of Bichri. But the men of Judah, from the Jordan as far as Jerusalem, remained loyal to their king” (2 Samuel 20:2). Before the twelve tribes of Israel split into two

different “countries,” there were precursors of the impending rupture. A man named Sheba, a rebel, tried to rally troops against David; Sheba claimed that they had no “inheritance” in David. Maybe Sheba's influence in the matter stemmed from the fact that he was from the tribe of Benjamin, which was also the tribe of Saul. The King James Version in 2 Samuel 20:1 identifies Sheba as a “man of Belial.” He was a worthless man. Not only was he wrong about tribes being excluded in the inheritance of Canaan, but he was rebelling against the Lord. “So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron; and king David made a league with them in Hebron before the LORD: and they anointed David king over Israel” (2 Samuel 5:3). The covenant bound the twelve tribes as one; David was installed as king over all; but the beginning of the eventual division of the tribes had begun. A battle followed and Sheba was defeated. But it was not without cost to the strength and authority of David. Joab flexed his muscles against the king.

The sin of rebellion continues to be played out in the lives of millions of people today. Proudful overstepping of the bounds of God's authority is evident in a modern culture that has become its own “god.” And when people do seek some kind of authority in their lives, they no longer accept the absolute authority of God's word. “Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you” (1 Peter 5:6-7).

The younger Elihu joined Job's older detractors by positing sin as the reason for Job's misfortune. Job 34:37 says: “For he addeth rebellion unto his sin, he clappeth his hands among us, and multiplieth his words against God.” The charge was not true, but it spoke to the presence of rebellion among men. “An evil man seeketh only rebellion: therefore a cruel messenger shall be sent against him” (Proverbs 17:11). Israel was plagued with rebellion. “But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it” (Isaiah 1:20). “Harden not your hearts, as in

the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness” (Hebrews 3:8).

The list of rebellious is unending. That is, until the end. There is coming a day when all who resist the King will answer for their rebellion. That day will be a day of demarcation. All will appear to give an account before the one they rebelled against. Loyalty to David was important for Israel. That mirrors our need to willingly, lovingly, and completely submit to the ultimate King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

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



What To Wear

Frank Himmel

When you are in your closet tomorrow deciding what to put on, consider these admonitions.

“And put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth” (Ephesians 4:24).

“So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity” (Colossians 3:12-14).

“Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel

of peace; in addition to all taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God (Ephesians 6:11-17).

“But put on the Lord Jesus Christ...” (Romans 13:14).

These are truly “all occasion”, “one size fits all” garments. You’ll look good in them.

-via *The Manslick Road Speaker*; Louisville, Kentucky.

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Wynell Ridgeway* has been sick this past week with shingles ... *Lawinda Keenon* has been sick this past week, but is doing better now ... *Erica Crunk* has been sick this past week and has not been able to be at services ... *Sanda Martel* has been sick this past week and has not been able to be at services ... *Ashley Goode’s step-father, Thomas McCoy*, continues in the Huntsville hospital ... *Myrtie Williams* continues in Glenwood Convalescent Center in Florence ... *Helen Trousdale* is at home from rehab ... *Signa Skipworth, Catherine Parker & C.L. Weathers’ cousin, Hilda Fincher*, is in Glenwood in Florence ... *Jack & Onzell Tucker* are confined at home ... *Judy Williams’ mother, Flossie Kazzaire*, continues in a nursing facility in Fayette.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Market Steet church* in Athens is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Tuesday. Services will be Monday and Tuesday evening at 7:00.. *David Cox* will be the speaker in this meeting... The *Sardis Springs church* in Athens is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with services at 7:00 p.m.. *David Banning* will be the speaker in this meeting... The *Northside church* in Lexington is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through

Thursday with services at 7:00 p.m.. *Billy Randolph* will be the speaker in this meeting ...The **Carriger church** in Limestone county is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday with services at 7:00 p.m.. *Allen Dvorak* will be the speaker in this meeting...The **Posey church** in Franklin county is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday with services at 7:00 p.m. *Guy McDaniel* will be the speaker in this meeting.

OUR MEETING: It was a great week this past week as we gathered together to study lessons preached by **Dee Bowman**. It was good to have Dee and Norma with us this past week and all who came were built up and strengthened spiritually. Dee did an excellent job in the lessons on the topic of *"The Christians In Today's World"*. We are thankful for the week we had and wish the very best for Dee and Norma.

PREACHING TODAY: In my absence today, **Steve Parker** will be preaching this morning and **Mark McIntyre** will be preaching this evening. I know that you will enjoy hearing them and I appreciate them filling in for me while I am away.

OUT OF TOWN: **The Whites:** *Mark and April* are in Birmingham today visiting... **The Chancellors:** *Laurie and Abby* are in Louisiana visiting with Laurie's family... **The Roses:** *Rocky and Donna* are back home after being in Montana last week ... **The Phillips:** *Ronnie and Lou Ann* are also back home after being in Montana... **The Gatlins:** *Steve and Theresa* are on vacation... **The Coxes:** *Kerry, Tyler, Hunter and I* are in Athens with the Market Street church where I am beginning a meeting today.

COMMUNICATION GROUPS: Tonight Communication Group A will be meeting. If you are in group A, remember to meet with your group.

THE RECORD: *Attendance-Week of Sept. 30th*

Sunday: Bible Classes 106
Morning Worship 122
Evening Worship 120
Wednesday: Bible Classes 102

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
Eddie J. Hammond (256) 247-3038
Mark McIntyre (256) 729-8316
Steve Parker (256) 247-7843
Phil Pressnell (256) 232-8509
Rocky Rose (256) 247-0011
Brian Word (931) 565-3799

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