

# 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 28th:

### *Bible Classes*

Song Leader ..... Brian Word  
Bible Reading ..... (Num. 20:1-6)  
..... Rocky Rose  
Prayer  
..... Jonathan Keenon

### *Morning Worship*

Song Leader ..... Brian Word  
Prayer  
..... Eddie J. Hammond  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Phil Pressnell  
Assisting ..... Jimmy Glass  
Serving ..... Jim Phillips  
..... Tyler Cox  
..... Michael Word  
..... Rodney McCrary  
Closing Prayer  
..... James Word

### *Evening Worship*

Song Leader ..... Mark McIntyre  
Bible Reading ..... (Num. 20:7-13)  
..... Brian Blakely  
Prayer  
..... Kevin Chancellor  
Lord's Supper  
..... Phil Pressnell  
..... Jimmy Glass  
Closing Prayer  
..... Brad Hammond

Volume XIV

October 28, 2007

No. 43

## *Waiting For A Sign*

**Edwin L. Crozier**

Sadly some folks walk through life oblivious of God. Many claim they would believe in God if they could only see a sign of His existence. Instead of waiting around for a sign, we need to look around us. The signs of God's existence surround us.

Romans 1:19-20 says: "For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made" (ESV).

If you need a sign of God's existence, wake up early and watch the sun rise. Pull out your telescope and examine the stars. Take a walk through a forest and watch the diversity of life. Dip your feet in the chilly mountain stream. Stroll along a beach and watch the powerful waves crash against their shoreline boundary. Pull out a microscope and examine a cell that comes from your own skin. God's signs are all around us.

Psalms 19:1-2 says: "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech and night to night reveals knowledge" (ESV).

The psalm goes on to describe the circuit of the sun established by God. Have you ever wondered how it is that the earth has such a perfect orbit around the sun? How does the moon have such a perfect orbit around the earth? Why is it our days, months and seasons all work with such precision that we can set our watches by them? When we see watches or calendars, we know someone made them? Why on earth would we think the instrument by which we set our watches and calendars happened by accident? That is simply illogical.

God is. The signs are everywhere. You do not have to wait for a miracle, be amazed at the miracle of creation. Recognize what it means about God and His love for you. He created a world perfectly suited for your existence. He provided you with air to breathe, food to eat, space to roam, beauty to enjoy. Is there any doubt God has plans for you?

However, you must never confuse the creation for the Creator. Our God is all powerful. He is divine. He is eternal. He is immutable. He is not a derivative of some animal or man we see down here. He is not a super-powered man. Let us never exchange the “glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things” (Romans 1:23, ESV). God is the Creator, He is not remotely one of the creatures.

God is God. He is there. The signs are all around us. Bask in them. Enjoy them. Proclaim them. Then get to know God through His Word.

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



## *Behind Enemy Lines*

**Will Dilbeck**

There is indeed a war going on. It has been a costly war that has lasted for a long time. In fact, the enemy claims more victims every day. This war is also personal. The enemy is attacking our very foundation. These statements could certainly describe the war in Iraq. However, I am not talking about that war. I am talking about a spiritual war. This war has some differences from the Iraq war. The Iraqi conflict is a fight against terrorism which makes pinpointing the enemies drastically more difficult. The spiritual war has an easily identifiable enemy: Satan. His purpose

is also easily identified. He wants people to stop following Jesus Christ. Doubt is his strongest tool. If Satan can coax someone into disbelieving in the eternal consequences of their actions, that person will give in to temptation and thus sin against God. This can progress to a state in which the person believes very little of what they had believed.

Satan has employed the media in his army of disbelief. When the media sees controversy, they flock as if it is the only story on earth. People have pushed the envelope for years and finally they are pushing envelopes that could have more eternal consequences than they could imagine. So far this year, we have a “fictional” book and movie that openly contradicts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus. The media have absolutely absorbed their outlets with this blasphemy. A “lost” gospel has been found which is drastically different than the traditional gospels. Once again, the media couldn’t seem to get enough of this “gospel.” There are certain musical performers that have implemented blasphemous acts into their shows. Satan has not only employed the media, but he has also employed the celebrities that participate in the controversy.

The controversy indicates a significant sociological shift. The media, who relate stories that will interest the world as a whole, has lowered its standards to reporting and even encouraging a relaxed attitude toward blasphemy. It is quite possible that the media’s shift in standard will result in a societal change as whole because of the media’s far reaching influence. A logical question could be, “What could possibly be the next shift?” It may be the persecution of those who object to blasphemy. Our society already displays an attitude of toleration toward sinful behavior. If someone objects to “tolerance” of blasphemy, persecution could indeed be the result. Paul said it would happen, “All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted” (2 Timothy 3:12). Jesus said that if we are hated, it is because the world hates Him (John 15:18).

The coming years could bring forth tribula-

tions for those that love Jesus. This shift in society will no doubt claim the souls of some, if not many. We must not follow the many. Jesus repeatedly said that few would be faithful (Matthew 22:14). Jesus set very clear battle lines. We are either with Jesus or we are against Him (Matthew 12:30). Society seems to be on the side that is against Jesus. A time might come when we will have to proclaim our allegiance.

Obviously, there is nothing at all wrong with movies, books and even musical acts. However, Satan has transformed innocent, peaceful instruments into outlets to attack Jesus and His followers. The prophet Joel prophesied of a judgment upon those who attacked God's people and the prophet told the enemies to prepare for war and to use peaceful instruments as weapons "Prepare for war, rouse the mighty men! Let all the soldiers draw near let them come up! Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears (Joel 3:9-10). This was a war that the enemies could not win. "And I will avenge their blood which I have not avenged, for the Lord dwells in Zion" (Joel 3:21). If God protected His people in the prophet Joel's day, He will protect His people today.

-via *News & Notes*; Madison, Alabama.

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## *Who Are Christians?*

**Billy Norris**

The descendants of Abraham were the chosen of God. God chose them because of His promise to Abraham and His love for them (Deuteronomy 7:7,8). But because of long and determined disobedience God gave them up. Now Christians are "a chosen generation." They are Abraham's spiritual seed. "And if you [are]

Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Galatians 3:29).

Further, Christians are a "royal priesthood," a "holy nation," God's "own special people." They are all of this because they have obeyed the gospel, and have been called "out of darkness into God's marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9) Though Christ was the Son of God (established by insurmountable proof), there was an evil element who without justifiable reason considered Him an imposter worthy of death. There is a similar evil element today who look with contempt on those who highly value godly conduct. It will turn out that "God's special people," are the ones who will stand in the final judgment. "As I live says the Lord. Every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to God.' So then each of us shall give account to God" (Romans 14:11,12).

-via *Gospel Guide*; Vol. 34 No. 7; July 2005.

# *News & Notes*

**THE SICK:** *Savannah Sledge* is home and is doing better after spending a few days in the hospital in Athens ...*Ashley Goode's step-father, Thomas McCoy*, continues in the Huntsville hospital ...*Lawinda Keenon* was sick and not able to be at Bible study Wednesday night ...*Daniel & Marla Clemmons* were both sick last week, but are doing better ...*Myrtie Williams* continues in Glenwood Convalescent Center in Florence ...*Signa Skipworth and Catherine Parker's sister, Anna Jean Luffman*

had heart by-pass surgery in North Carolina. Catherine is up there helping her ...*Signa Skipworth, Catherine Parker & C.L. Weather's cousin, Hilda Fincher,* is now at her home... *Jack & Onzell Tucker* are confined at home ...*Judy Williams' mother, Flossie Kazzaire,* continues in a nursing facility in Fayette.

**COMMUNICATION GROUPS:** Tonight will be Communication group A's night to meet. If you are in group A remember to meet with your group tonight.

**CHILDREN TO SING AT EL REPOSO:** This afternoon we will be meeting at building at 2:00 to take the children's bible drill group to sing at El Reposo Nursing home near Green Hill. If you need more information, let me know.

**NEW QUARTER IN BIBLE CLASSES:** We are beginning a new quarter this morning in our Bible classes. I hope that everyone will do all they can to be present at these periods of Bible studies. I appreciate the diligence and work that all of our teachers do.

**GOSPEL MEETING:** There will be a gospel meeting beginning Friday and continuing through next Sunday at the *Weatherly Heights church* in Huntsville with *Phil Robertson* preaching.

**OUT OF TOWN:** *Jerry Best* is back home after being away on vacation ... *Catherine Parker* is in North Carolina helping her sister following her heart surgery.

**THE RECORD:** Attendance—Week of Oct. 21st  
*Sunday:*

Bible Classes ..... 110  
Morning Worship ..... 137  
Evening Worship ..... 100

*Wednesday:*

Bible Classes ..... 92

**Remember Our Bible Class Periods**

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.  
Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

**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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