

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, November 25th:

Bible Classes

Song Leader
..... Daniel Clemmons
Bible Reading (Num. 22:31-41)
..... Brian Word
Prayer
..... Andrew Gatlin

Morning Worship

Song Leader
..... Daniel Clemmons
Prayer
..... Ray Tucker
Lord's Supper
Presiding Michael Clemmons
Assisting Aric Butler
Serving Tyler Cox
..... Jonathan Keenon
..... Brad Hammond
..... James McConnell
Closing Prayer
..... Jimmy Glass

Evening Worship

Song Leader
..... Eddie J. Hammond
Bible Reading (Num. 23:1-12)
..... Rodney McCrary
Prayer
..... Kevin Chancellor
Lord's Supper
..... Michael Clemmons
..... Aric Butler
Closing Prayer
..... Phil Pressnell

Volume XIV

November 25, 2007

No. 47

Should The Gospel Be Changed?

David A. Cox

We live in a day and age in which everything seems to be changing constantly. Because of this, some claim that the gospel must change to keep in step with the times. They say, “Time does not wait for anybody. It leaves behind those who do not keep step.” Is this true? Should the gospel be changed; can it be changed and still be the gospel?

All will admit that we live in a society in which things change constantly. But I will hasten to add that everything does not change with time. Man’s need for food, clothing and shelter are the same, in that he still needs such to survive. Also, sin has not changed. Eve sinned when she transgressed the law of God (Genesis 3:1-6). Today, men sin when they transgress God’s law (1 John 3:4).

Now if sin is still the same, why should the remedy (the gospel) be changed? The fact of the matter is that the gospel should not be changed. Paul said, “But though we, or an angel from heaven preach any other gospel unto to you than that which we have preached unto you let him be accursed” (Galatians 1:8). Paul makes it clear to the Galatians that the gospel could not be changed and still be the gospel. Paul spoke of the preaching of “another gospel which is not another” (Galatians 1:6-7). Jude, writing concerning the common salvation that came by the way of the gospel, exhorted the brethren to “earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3). Jude speaks of the faith which comes from the preaching of the gospel (Romans 10:17) and says that it was *once* delivered. The gospel is complete and needs no changes. It gives all things that pertain unto life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3). It furnishes man completely with the spiritual diet unto every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

The gospel is the “power of God unto salvation” (Romans 1:16). It is the word of God that we will be judged by (John 12:48). Since the gospel will save and it is that by which we will be judged, then why would we want to change it? All we must do is recognize the gospel for what it is –The Truth (Colossians 1:5); Obey it or be lost (1 Thessalonians 1:8; Romans 1:16).



True Compassion

Edwin L. Crozier

In Matthew 14:10 Herod beheaded John the Baptist. In vs. 13, “When Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself” (ESV). Jesus’ cousin, friend and forerunner had died. Naturally, though Jesus knew John was in a better place, He was saddened. He wanted to withdraw, no doubt to meditate and pray. Certainly, the martyrdom of John caused Jesus to look ahead to His own coming execution. For whatever reason, Jesus wanted to withdraw and be by Himself.

However, the crowds had different plans. Instead of letting Jesus retreat for some alone time, they followed Him on foot. When He arrived at the shore of what was supposed to be a desolate place, He found a great crowd.

What would we have done?

Would we have gotten back in the boat? Would we have commanded the crowds to disperse? Would we have simply asked them to leave and give us a day alone? After all, we have to look out for number one. If we go too far in this service thing, we could burn ourselves out.

That, however, is not what Jesus did. Matthew 14:14 says Jesus had compassion on the crowd. He healed the sick among them. No doubt He talked with them and taught them. Then at the end of the day, He fed them.

Only after bestowing compassion on the crowds did Jesus finally dismiss them and go up on the mountain to have His alone time (Matthew 14:23).

That is so not me. I get home from the office. I’m tired, mentally exhausted, sometimes stressed, almost always upset because I am behind on some project or other (usually the Fall Focus or Bible class material). I just want to retreat into my cocoon for some down time. I want to go into my man cave, watch TV, read a book, take a nap or whatever. I want everyone to leave me alone.

However, Marita and the kids usually have other plans. The kids want to wrestle, play a game or tell me a million stories about what they did that day. Marita wants some adult conversation, help with something or just wants me to get the kids out of her hair.

What do I do? Will I be like Jesus? Will I have compassion on my family and seek to meet their needs before I retreat to be alone? Or will I selfishly put them off as I seek ways to mentally justify my self-centeredness?

No doubt there are more applications we can make of this story. This is merely the one that hit me the strongest. Let’s think twice before putting off someone else’s needs in favor of our own. Let’s put on the mind of Christ and put others first (Philippians 2:3-4).

-via Franklin Church Bulletin; Franklin, Tennessee.

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 Real Audio.

A Reason To Run

Phil Robertson

In Kenya it is not uncommon for children to walk many miles to school. However, most do not lollygag around: They run! Why? Well, a reporter at the Sydney Olympics may have inadvertently stumbled upon the answer as he questioned Kenyan marathoner Kip Lagat. He wanted to know how Kenya kept producing so many great distance runners. Did it have something to do with their training? Lagat replied, "It's the road signs, 'Beware of lions!'"

Imagine passing a sign that warns of hostile predators on your way to work or school. It would certainly give you a reason to keep your arms and legs inside the vehicle at all times. But, if you are on foot, it means RUN!

My mom used to warn me about strangers. Do you think a Kenyan mother tells her children as she hands them their lunch pail, "Have fun at school today and watch out for the lions." If she loves them she does.

Frankly, this is sound Biblical advice. Peter warns all of us of a lion that roams every neighborhood in the world. "*Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour*" (2 Peter 5:8). We sometimes forget this great danger and fail to heed the warning signs in God's Word. In Genesis, Satan took the form of a serpent when he tempted man. Today, he does not look quite that suspicious, yet his bite remains like that of lion ripping apart its prey.

So what do you do when you find yourself in lion country? You run just like Kenyan children until you're safely home. Along the way, just like great marathoners, we become great spiritual runners who will one day wear an everlasting crown! (1 Corinthians 9:25)

-via *Hueytown Bulletin*; Hueytown, Alabama.

Remember Our Service Tonight at 6:00.

"Honest _____"

Stacy Crim

Being honest is so important. If people can not depend on your words, then they will learn to not depend on you.

We all dislike being deceived by those who are dishonest. We grow frustrated, and are often indecisive when we cannot determine the truth. Can you trust a person who has lied to you before? Of course you can, but not without reservation.

The Christian is to be honest. Not some of the time, but all of the time. Romans 12:17 "...Provide things honest in the sight of all men." When the first congregation of the Lord's church needed help in solving a problem within, they sought out "seven men of honest report" Acts 6:3. Why? Because it needed to be done right and it needed to be those who could be trusted and depended upon.

"Honest Abe" was the nickname given to Abraham Lincoln. Hundreds of documented examples of his honesty and decency during the days the he practice law. "Honest _____", does your name fit there?

Our actions follow our thoughts, therefore, "whatsoever...things are honest... if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." Philippians 4:8 What Christian doesn't want to be an excellent one? If we are not honest, then we fall short of all that God would have us to be. Honestly!

-via *The Cornerstone*; Richmond, Virginia.

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Amber Hammond* was able to be at Bible study Wednesday night following her surgery last week. . . . *Brooke Blakely* was able to be at Bible study Wednesday night after being sick for a few weeks. . . *Samuel, Molly Kate, and*

Harrison Phillips have all been sick this past week... *Jimmy and Charles Glass's sister, Janice Moody*, fell this past Wednesday morning and suffered a broken hip. She had surgery on Wednesday morning... *Myrtie Williams* continues in Glenwood Convalescent Center in Florence... *Onzell Tucker* has been diagnosed with compression fractures in her spine which is causing severe pain. She and Jack are confined at home... *Jim White, Eric White's father*, is undergoing cancer treatments... *Signa Skipworth and Catherine Parker's sister, Anna Jean Luffman* continues her recovery from her recent heart surgery... *Signa Skipworth, Catherine Parker & C.L. Weathers' cousin, Hilda Fincher*, is now at her home... *Judy Williams' mother, Flossie Kazzaire*, continues in a nursing facility in Fayette.

OUT OF TOWN: *The McConnells: James and Freda* have been in Florida on vacation... *The Clemmons: Michael and Sissy* are in the mountains this week on vacation.

COMMUNICATION GROUPS: This evening will be the time for Communication Group B to meet. If you are in group B remember to meet with your group this evening.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Glenda Phillips and all the family* in the passing of her aunt, *Verna Green*. She passed away this past Monday and her funeral was yesterday in Greenhill.

THE RECORD: Attendance—Week of Nov. 18th
Sunday:

Bible Classes 94
 Morning Worship 112
 Evening Worship 83

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 91



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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