

# NEWS & NOTES

**THE SICK:** *Jack and Onzell Tucker* continue to be confined at home. ~ Buffy Wallen's grandmother and James McConnell's aunt, **Nadine Thompson**, is in the Lauderdale Christian Nursing Home in Killen. ~ Eric White's father, **Jim White**, continues his cancer treatments. ~ Steven Crunk's niece, **Abby Vandiver**, is in Children's Hospital in Birmingham and is seriously sick with a blood disorder. ~ Judy Williams' mother, **Flossie Kazzaire**, continues in a nursing facility in Fayette. ~ **Jerry Dickey** will have begun his cancer treatments. ~ **Frances Resse**, Aric Butler's grandmother, who lives in Brookings, Oregon is very sick with lung cancer. ~ **Erica Crunk** continues her recovery. **Others on the sick list include: James Campbell**, Virginia Lovell's father has been in ECM with breathing problems. ~ **Eveyn Hammond**, Eddie Hammonds mother is recovering from hip surgery in Crestwood. She will be moved to Florence for rehap on Monday. ~ **Margaret Weathers** fell and has broken ribs. ~ **Jerry Best**. There may be others that I am not aware of. Remember all the sick in your prayers.

**COMMUNITATIONS GROUP:** Tonight after our evening service will be the meeting time for "Group B". If you are in this group, be sure to attend this meeting.

**GOSPEL MEETING: Nov 2-5: JACKSON HEIGHTS** with **Edwin Crozier**. Monday thru Wednesday at 7:00 PM.

**Nov 2-6: WEATHERLY HEIGHTS** with **Paul Earnhart**. Monday thru Thursday at 7:00 PM.

**Nov 2-7: SOUTH CULLMAN** with **Ralph Walker**. Sunday singing at 3:00 PM, Worship at 4:00 PM. Monday thru Friday at 7:00 PM.

**Nov 6: HUGHES ROAD** with **Bill Hall**. Thursday series. "What was the issue?". This Thursday – The Fellowship Hall

**FOR THE RECORD:** (Week of October 26<sup>th</sup>)

<b>Sunday:</b>	
Bible Classes	105
Morning Worship	131
Evening Worship	76
<b>Wednesday:</b>	
Bible Classes	73

## 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  
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Return Service Requested

# Gospel Power



"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation..." **Romans 1:16**

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

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**Men Privileged To Serve For the Week of November 2<sup>nd</sup>:**

### Bible Classes

Song Leader.....Mr. E. Hammond  
 Bible Reading.....Brian Blakely  
**Deuteronomy 26:12-19**  
 Prayer.....Andrew Gatlin

### Morning Worship

Song Leader.....Mr. E. Hammond  
 Prayer.....Michael Clemmons  
 Lord's Supper  
 Presiding.....Phil Pressnell  
 Assisting.....Brian Word  
 Serving.....Daniel Clemmons  
 .....Jim Phillips  
 .....Rodney McCrary  
 .....Billy Wallen  
 Closing Prayer.....Kevin Chancellor

### Evening Worship

Song Leader.....Mark McIntyre  
 Bible Reading.....Jimmy Glass  
**Deuteronomy 27:1-10**  
 Prayer.....Scootie Goode  
 Lord's Supper.....Phil Pressnell  
 .....Brian Word  
 Closing Prayer.....Ronnie Phillips

### Wednesday Bible Classes

Song Leader.....Kevin Chancellor  
 Prayer.....Steve Parker  
 Bible Reading.....Brian Word  
**Deuteronomy 27:11-26**  
 Invitation.....Cecil Cox  
 Closing Prayer.....Jimmy Glass

## The Truth Sometimes Hurts

**By Jonathan Perz**

How much do you appreciate the truth? The truth is easy to hear when it is flattering, encouraging and uplifting. However, the truth can sometimes hurt. Do you always desire the truth from those around you, regardless of whether it is favorable or not? Do you always demand the truth from those who preach and teach the gospel of Christ?

The truth pleased the rich young ruler until Jesus told him the one thing he lacked (**Mark 10:17-22**). Some would call such a declaration of truth unloving, but the Spirit called it love (note verse 21). How do we feel when someone courageously and honestly points out our shortcomings (**Prov. 27:6**)?

Most of the Jews who heard Peter on Pentecost appreciated the truth, though it indicted them. They chose repentance and baptism (**Acts 2:36-40**). Whereas, those Jews who heard Stephen speak that same truth hated what was spoken. They responded by stoning Stephen to death (**Acts 7:54-60**). How do we respond to the truth?

The Galatians loved the apostle Paul—so much that at one point they were willing to pluck out their own eyes and give them to Paul. However, in the very next verse, Paul was compelled to ask if he had become their enemy because he told them the truth (**Gal. 4:14-16**). Do we despise those who tell us what we need to hear?

A few reminders should help us to realize the value of truth.

- 1) Jesus is the truth (**John 14:6**).
- 2) God's word is truth (**John 17:17**).
- 3) Knowing and abiding in the truth can set us free (**John 8:31-32**).
- 4) Those who suppress the truth in unrighteousness will face the wrath of God (**Rom. 1:18**).

5) We must always speak the truth in love (**Eph. 4:15**).

6) We should always speak the truth with our neighbors (**Eph. 4:25**).

7) Love rejoices in truth (**1 Cor. 13:6**).

Simply stated, unless we have a love of the truth, we will never appreciate the truths that hurt (**2 Thess. 2:10-12**). Unless we are willing to accept painful truths, we cannot know the sanctifying power of truth (**John 17:17**). Unless we obey the truth, we will be condemned (**Rom. 2:8**).

How much do you appreciate truth? The answer is painfully obvious when we are confronted with agonizing truths that require change in our lives. Change hurts, but the truth saves. How will you respond the next time you are confronted with the truth? – *from Charlottesville Beacon, November 6, 2005*

## Will God Cast A Ballot? *Charlie Andrews*

In just a couple of days, citizens of the United States will engage in that process by which the next leader of the free world is elected. Regardless of whom we may select to lead us, as citizens of this country we have been given the privilege of free elections. A privilege that is not often afforded to other citizens of other countries. We can go to the voting booth on Tuesday, November 4, 2008 and choose the next President of the United States of America. That is an awesome responsibility and a duty our country places upon her citizenship. As New Testament saints, what should be our view of this process?

In Philippians 3:20 the apostle Paul reminds us that, "our citizenship is in heaven." And the Hebrew writer informs us that we are in "the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem" (Hebrews 12:20). In that great song, This World Is

Not My Home, written by Albert E. Brumley, the first verse says, "This world is not my home, I'm just passing through. My treasures are laid up somewhere beyond the blue. The angels beckon me from Heaven's open door and I can't feel at home in this world anymore."

Decades ago, in a discussion on the politics of the day, William W. Andrews reminded this writer of these sentiments. Complaining to him regarding the shenanigans of the scoundrels in Washington he reminded me that regardless of that form of government under which a Christian may live, our home is not here, we are, "just passing through." Although we live in the greatest country to ever exist in the history of the world, and we enjoy unparallel freedoms, it is still a government whose boundaries are determined by God Himself. Paul, speaking about God and the rising and fall of nations told the Greek philosophers that "He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings," (Acts 17:26). The lesson is simple; God is in control!

We have our part to play, of course, but in the final analysis, God is the one who has, "determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings." God says how long a nation will continue to exist and the extent of its influence. When God chooses to bring up a nation no man or group of men, or whole population can stifle His choice. The British learned that hard fought lesson some 233 years ago. And conversely, when God chooses to destroy a nation, humans are helpless to prevent that occurrence. It was none other than King Nebuchadnezzar himself who came to an understanding of this principle. After spending an entire year grazing in the backyard of his palace his understanding returned to him and in praising the God of Heaven he declared that, "All the

inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, "What have You done?" (Daniel 4:35).

Yes indeed, who can question the wisdom of God? Nebuchadnezzar realized that as mighty as he was, the first worldwide empire, his reign was determined, not by himself, but by the God of Heaven. In the same vein we also must realize that regardless of our choices, regardless for whom we cast our ballot, it is God who will determine the course of this nation. God will determine the length of time that this great experiment remains on the earth, and the boundaries of its influence. Can we change God's course? Who are we to, "restrain His hand?"

We return to our main question, what should our view be towards this process of electing a leader? We do our duty. As citizens of the U.S. we vote. And as citizens of a Heavenly Kingdom, we pray. And beyond that, there is very little that we can do. Will God listen? Yes He will. Will God change His mind? Only if it is His Will to do so. The best that we can do is our duty, and understand the limits that have been placed upon us by our Creator. We are His servants.

## Ever Grab a Dog's Ears? *Mark Roberts*

*He who passes by and meddles in a quarrel not his own Is like one who takes a dog by the ears. Prov. 26:17.*

I am a huge fan of dogs. Big ones, small ones, tall ones, fat ones. I love dogs. They are friendly, loyal, fun, loyal, hard working, loyal, furry and loyal (not necessarily in that order). I once heard an old story that when God threw Adam and Eve part of the punishment was a huge divide between them and the animal kingdom. In the last second

before the divide opened, the story went, the dog jumped across to forever stand with humans. While that story certainly isn't biblical it sounds pretty good to me because it reminds me of most of the dogs I've ever known. But as friendly and obedient as dogs can be only a complete idiot would try to pick up a dog by his ears. That's a vivid image, isn't it? Care to hold a Doberman by those short little ears? What about swinging a full-sized Lab by his big floppy ears? We instinctively know better. To grab a dog by his ears is to guarantee pain and injury — and not to the dog! Solomon plays off this easy-to-see picture to forcefully remind us to mind our own business. Fooling with someone else's problems, butting into other's arguments, meddling in other's affairs is just not smart. In fact, it's just about as smart as grabbing a dog by his ears. When I see some folks in a big wrangle and I'm tempted to step in and get everyone straightened out I just need to think about those canine ears. Then I will be reminded how my interference is not wanted or needed. That is a pretty neat proverb, isn't it? I am amazed at the number of people who think the Bible is some outdated book that says nothing about life today. I expect those folks have never cracked Proverbs! It is just brimming with good ideas, wisdom, funny word pictures and more - all designed to help us see the best way to live. It is an enormously practical book that doesn't take a Ph.D. to understand. Did you understand about the dog's ears? Then you are ready to read Proverbs. Give it a try. You'll be dazzled with the simple wisdom of God's word, and your life will be better for following it. Trust God's wisdom! Try some of Proverbs today. *\*Abundant Life – March 2003*