

# 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](http://Anderson-church.org)

## **Men Privileged To Serve:**

Sunday, January 13th:

### *Bible Classes*

Song Leader  
..... Mark McIntyre  
Bible Reading ..... (Num. 29:7-11)  
..... Andrew Gatlin  
Prayer  
..... Aric Butler

### *Morning Worship*

Song Leader  
..... Mark McIntyre  
Prayer  
..... Jimmy Glass  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Michael Clemmons  
Assisting ..... Steve Parker  
Serving ..... Jim Phillips  
..... Rodney McCrary  
..... Tyler Cox  
..... Corey Goode  
Closing Prayer  
..... Brian Blakely

### *Evening Worship*

Song Leader  
..... Ronnie Phillips  
Bible Reading .... (Num. 29:12-19)  
..... Jerry Dickey  
Prayer  
..... James Word  
Lord's Supper  
..... Michael Clemmons  
..... Steve Parker  
Closing Prayer  
..... Jonathan Keenon

Volume XV

January 13, 2008

No. 2

## *Let's Get Ready To Grumble*

**Jason Longstreth**

When we talk about the various sins that we must work hard to avoid, it seems that we spend a lot of time discussing the tongue. Too often, we sin when we speak. As James 3:8 says, "But no one can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison." How true! Also, when we discuss the various sins that we can commit with our speech, we often focus on lying, cursing, or gossip. And these sins definitely deserve our attention. However, today I would like to discuss another sin. A sin that I don't think we discuss very often, but it is just as dangerous as any other. Let's take a few moments to consider the sin of grumbling or murmuring.

Now, when I first mention grumbling or murmuring, I'm sure many of us would not consider these things a sin. Grumbling is really just the same thing as complaining. Surely complaining is not a sin, is it? Based on our own actions you would not think it was. We complain all the time (myself included). However, I want you to consider a passage of scripture taken from 1 Corinthians 10:6-11. "Now these things happened as examples for us, that we should not crave evil things, as they also craved. And do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink, and stood up to play.' Nor let us act immorally, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day. Nor let us try the Lord, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the serpents. Nor grumble, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come."

Think about this passage. It is a record of Israel's history in the wilderness. It is worth noting that although they were God's

chosen people and He had rescued them out of the land of Egypt, they did not all reach the Promised Land. In fact, only two reached that land. The rest sinned against God and fell in the wilderness. Twice in this passage we are told that these things happened to them as an example for us. Therefore, we had better learn from that example. Israel sinned. They craved evil things. They were idolaters. They acted immorally. They tried the Lord. And they grumbled. That's right, grumbling was listed along with all these terrible sins. In fact, their grumbling resulted in many of the Israelites losing their lives. Let's go back and remember this history.

As we examine this period of Israel's history, it does not take long for us to come across examples of their grumbling. It seems that they did it all the time. Therefore, it is somewhat difficult to trace the mention of "grumbling" in 1 Corinthians to one specific instance in the Old Testament. However, there is at least one incident that does specifically mention grumbling and resulted in many deaths. It is tied to Korah's rebellion in Numbers 16. Korah and his followers grumbled against the leadership of Moses and Aaron. They complained because of the way Moses and Aaron led the people. In fact, they tried to take over the congregation of Israel. As a result, God took the lives of Korah and his followers. However, even after that happened, the people grumbled again. This time because of the death of Korah. Therefore, God took the lives of 14,700 people. All of this happened because of grumbling. If you don't believe me, read Numbers 16.

But how does this apply to us today? God still considers grumbling a sin. Israel grumbled against its leadership and many people died. We are constantly in danger of doing the same thing. It is a sin to grumble against God or grumble against our leaders.

Consider Hebrews 13:17, "Obey your leaders, and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls, as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you." In this passage, we are instructed to obey our leaders or those

who have rule over us. In this context, I believe it is talking about elders. We must remember that elders receive their position from God. As Paul said in Acts 20:28, "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."

What does this mean? It means that we must submit to the authority of the elders. And it means something else - we must not grumble. Now, you might say "But we don't have elders!" That's true. But I pray that we will have them again one day. And I pray that day will come soon! But it is still a sin to grumble about the decisions we make as a congregation. If we were to constantly complain about the decisions made by our congregation, would we be any different from those Israelites who complained about the leadership of Moses and Aaron? I don't think so. We all have different opinions on some things and we would all make different choices in certain circumstances, but we cannot grumble about the decisions that are made. Grumbling is a sin. Nearly fifteen thousand people lost their lives at one time because of it. This is written as an example for us. Let's learn from that example and decide not to grumble.

One more thing - do you know what the very next verse in 1 Corinthians 10 says? "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall."

-via *The Beacon*; Bowling Green, Kentucky.

## Gospel Meeting

March 30-April 4, 2008

(Sunday - Friday)

Frank Jamerson, Speaking

**Anderson church of Christ**

Highway 207 South  
Anderson, Alabama

# *Complete In Christ*

**Randy Harshbarger**

When we find someone who is searching for something meaningful in religion we should be able to declare clearly that all man's needs can be found in Jesus Christ. This is what Paul taught in Colossians 2. While people put faith in religious leaders of this age, Paul declared that all men can be "made full" in Christ. Jesus asked the Pharisees: "What think ye of Christ?" That is still the crucial question. Old Testament prophecy declared that the Messiah would come. He did come; He did not fail in any respect; He died for all; all can be complete in Christ.

Complete means "lacking no part, finished, thorough." The true nature of Christ is the fundamental premise that gives us assurance of having every spiritual need supplied. He can make all men complete. As "the image of the invisible God," Jesus reveals God's true nature. He is God's ideal of man and man's ideal of God! Jesus Christ is Creator and Sustainer of the universe (Colossians 1:16, 17; Hebrews 1:3). He is "the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead..." (Colossians 1:18). The church is comprised of the saved — people who are in subjection to Christ (Acts 2:47). As Head of His church Christ directs the movement of His body; members of the body follow the direction of the Head.

Sometimes men of this world have different ideas about what their needs are. Some think they need great wealth; others want prominence. Whatever their desires, none match the spiritual blessings found in Christ. In Christ, and only in Him, do we find the needed wisdom to make the right choices and decisions in this life. With wisdom from Christ we can make discriminating choices.

Colossians 1:14 tells us that in Christ we find redemption from sin. The binding, damning, nature of sin shows our need for Christ. "Redeem" signifies "the buying of a slave out of

slavery." The price paid to buy us out of slavery was the blood of God's Son. It was the blood of Christ that paid the awful price to redeem all men. Associated with redemption is the truth of forgiveness. This is how the guilt of sin is removed. While there are many unhappy people in the world, the New Testament pictures people who have been forgiven of their sins as people of great joy (Acts 8:9, 39; 16:34). These people have the "peace of Christ" that rules in their hearts. Real, lasting peace is not subject to the things of this world. Paul and Silas were beaten and thrown in jail; still, at midnight they were able to worship God in song. From a Roman prison Paul wrote about true, lasting peace (Philippians 4:6, 7). In Christ we have hope. In Christ we have a feeling of self-worth. In Christ our everyday relationships take on added meaning and significance. We live in hope of eternal life. We live as God's "elect." We are able to be at peace with all men.

You may be complete in Christ by obeying His will and then faithfully serving Him. Have you done that?

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

## *News & Notes*

**THE SICK:** *Marcia Cooper* is in NHC Scott Center in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee for her rehabilitation. She is in room 133... *Jonathan Keenon's father, Glen Keenon*, was admitted yesterday to Huntsville Hospital due to the collection of fluid on his lungs ... *C. L. Weathers* was able to be back with us Wednesday night after being out sick with terrible headaches the last couple of weeks ... *Laura Clemmons* was able to be at services after having been out sick... *Harrison Phillips* was able to be at services Wednesday night after being sick recently ... *Angie McCrary's uncle, Royce Newton*, is in the Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville after suffering severe burns recently... *Myrtie Williams* continues in Glenwood Convalescent Center in Florence ... *Brooke Phillips' grandfather, Bill*

*Maner*, is at home and not doing well...*Myrtie Williams* continues in Glenwood Convalescent Center in Florence ...*Jack and Onzell Tucker* continue to be confined at home ...*Eric White's father, Jim White*, is continuing his cancer treatments ...*Steven Crunk's niece, Abby Vandiver*, is in Children's Hospital in Birmingham and is seriously sick with a blood disorder ...*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.

**GWANDA, ZIMBABWE:** Remember we are still collecting food and other items to send to the brethren in the church at Gwanda, Zimbabwe. We will be making another shipment in a couple of weeks. Let us remember this effort.

**OUT OF TOWN:** *Judy Williams* left for Jamaica on Thursday...*The Hammonds: Eddie and Willodean* are on vacation in Florida.

**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.

**THE RECORD:** *Attendance week of Jan. 6th Sunday:*

Bible Classes ..... 97  
 Morning Worship ..... 113  
 Evening Worship ..... 79

**Wednesday:**

Bible Classes ..... 102

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 Windows Media Player.

**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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