

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, February 17th:

Bible Classes

Song Leader Jim Phillips
Bible Reading (Num. 32:16-27)
..... Andrew Gatlin
Prayer
..... Brian Word

Morning Worship

Song Leader Jim Phillips
Prayer
..... Kevin Chancellor
Lord's Supper
Presiding Rocky Rose
Assisting Ronnie Phillips
Serving Ethan Pressnell
..... Aric Butler
..... Brian Blakely
..... Mark McCrary
Closing Prayer
..... Phil Pressnell

Evening Worship

Song Leader Daniel Clemmons
Bible Reading (Num. 32:28-32)
..... Rodney McCrary
Prayer
..... Brad Hammond
Lord's Supper
..... Rocky Rose
..... Ronnie Phillips
Closing Prayer
..... Mark McIntyre

Volume XV

February 17, 2008

No. 7

God's Law For Order

Dee Bowman

God's law of order is set forth in 1 Corinthians 11:1-3. It reads: *"Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you. But I would have you know that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God."* His ordinance is simple, direct, and very effective. God's law of order is God, Christ, Man, Woman.

The failure of our culture to take note of that law and make it work has resulted in chaos and confusion about marriage and how it works.

First of all, God is over all. It is by His rule and authority that everything exists. It all starts and ends with Him. He "giveth to all life, and breath, and all things," and "in Him we live, and move, and have our very being" (Acts 17:25;28). It is right and proper that God should be first and over all. In Him is not only our life, but the authority by which it is controlled. After all, our Creator ought to know best how He wanted what He created to be and how He wanted it to act.

If marriage doesn't start with God and His laws, it is likely destined for failure.

Christ is the head of man. Jesus is the Son of God (Matthew 16:17). He is the force by which God, the Father, created all things. "The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made" (John 1:2-3). Furthermore, "He is before all things, and by Him all things consist" (Colossians 1:17). Common sense demands that whatever He says should be of not only interest to us, but of vital concern. He is not only the force of creation, He came and lived as

a man, thus becoming our great example for how man should live. He “was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin” (Hebrews 4:15) and He “suffered for us, leaving us an example that ye should follow his steps, Who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth” (1 Peter 2:21-22). “He the great example is, and pattern for me.”

Marriage is so close to the heart of God that we are told that “husbands should love their wives, even as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for it” (Ephesians 5:25). Marriage and the church are the two great institutions of our God.

Man is next in line. He is said to be “the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church” (Ephesians 5:23). Man is the spiritual head of the wife. While that fact doesn’t set well with today’s society, that in no way alters the reality and necessity of it. As the spiritual head of the family, the man has certain sober responsibilities, one of which is to bring up his children “in the nurture and admonition of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4). Man’s abdication of his role as the spiritual head has been the cause of many marital difficulties, one of which is that the woman, in many instances, is left with duties and responsibilities to which she was not originally suited.

The failure of men to accept the obligations in God’s law of order has done much damage to marriage in this age.

The woman is to be the “help-meet” for the man. She never functions at a better level of love and efficiency than when she is being that for which she was designed—helping man to become all that he can. “Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.” It has always been God’s design: “For in this manner in the old time, the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands” (1 Peter 3:5). The failure of wives to respect this fact and “to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands,” has brought disaster to many

homes in our age. Being a “keeper at home” doesn’t argue that a woman can’t work outside the home (see Proverbs 31:10f), but if she cannot do so and still be a keeper at home, she would do well to quit her job rather than quitting God’s order. Untold amount of damage has been done to homes because of a neglect to follow God’s law of order.

And please let it be carefully observed that it no more demeans the value and praiseworthiness of the woman when she is to be in subjection to the husband than it does for Christ who deliberately placed Himself in subjection to God in God’s law of order.

The home cannot and will not be all that it should be without proper respect for God’s law of order.

-via *Southside Sunday*; Pasadena, Texas.



Enough Already!

Jason Longstreth

In writing to the Christians scattered throughout the entire world, Peter said in 1 Peter 4:2-3 “so as to live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lusts of men, but for the will of God. For the time already past is sufficient for you to have carried out the desire of the Gentiles, having pursued a course of sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousals, drinking parties and abominable idolatries.” Basically, what Peter was saying is, “Enough already! You’ve wasted too much time! Move on!” The same statement can be made to us today.

Peter was writing to people who used to live as sinners. They pursued a course of sensuality and carried out the desire of the Gentiles. In essence, they lived worldly lives among men and sought happiness where man seeks such things. Some of them may have lived this type of life for many years. Some of them may have lived this

way for only a short period of time. Whichever the case, Peter makes an interesting comment. He says that no matter how much time you spent living this way, it was enough. In fact, surely it was too much!

Sometimes, we think that we have to live a certain percentage of our life in sin. It is almost like there is a requirement that we totally ruin our life before we can fix it. I think this is especially true with young people. I cannot tell you how many times I have heard of young men and women who have been taught the truth running off and becoming a part of the world. What is more surprising to me is the attitude of many parents or adults. "They are just sowing their wild oats," they say. "Once they are a little bit older, they will settle down." This is amazing!

"Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near when you will say, 'I have no delight in them';" (Ecclesiastes 12:1). Even young people are supposed to remember their Creator. Our youth and our strength should be spent on the Lord, not squandered away on worldly pursuits. Too many people want to "enjoy" their youth and "live life to the fullest" with the idea in mind that they will find time for God later, once they cannot do anything else. Is this any way to live? Paul commanded Timothy to "flee from youthful lusts" in 2 Timothy 2:22. He did not tell him, "Go ahead, enjoy life! Just make sure you leave some time for God at the end of your journey." This is foolishness.

The types of things the world participates in are to be avoided at all costs. It is a waste of time! I don't care if you have spent 70 years practicing sin or 1 minute - you've wasted enough time. There is no benefit in sin. None. Not even the supposed benefit of having tried it once so that you know you don't like it. Many people have been trapped by just such reasoning. The Bible tells us what the end result of sin is - it is death. It tells us that those who practice sin are not truly happy, and anyone who has sinned one time can confirm that fact. The life of a sinner is a life of misery. Why would anyone want to continue on in sin? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ

our Lord that we have been freed from this body of death!

If we are not supposed to pursue worldly things anymore, what shall we do with our time? We should live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lusts of men, but for the will of God. God has prepared works for us to do. It does not matter if we are young or old, there are still things that we can do and we need to use every last minute we have serving God. We will never be able to make up the time we have wasted in our lives, but let us devote ourselves to making the most of the time we have left. We've wasted enough time - let us repent of our sins and serve God with our entire being, thanking Him for the salvation we have through Jesus Christ.

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

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Marcia Cooper* continues in NHC Scott Center in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee for her rehabilitation. She is in room 111... *Lisa Word's father, Austin Dillinger*, is not doing well at his home in Orlando, Florida... *Hannah White* has been sick this past week and has not been able to be out... *Rodney McCrary* had cataracts remove from his eyes this past Tuesday... *Morgan Grisham* was sick and unable to be at services last week... *Charles Glass* has not been able to be with us this week due to not feeling well... *Harrison Phillips* was able to be back at services on Sunday... *Scottie Goode* was able to be at services Wednesday night after being sick over the weekend... *Molly Kate Phillips* was sick this past week and has not been at services... *Billy Wallen's grandmother, Alvis Hooie*, is in the ECM hospital with pneumonia and is suffering with lung cancer... *Cindy Pressnell's mother, Nancy Hagood*, is now home following her rehabilitation for her knee replacement... *Buffy Wallen's grandmother and James McConnell's aunt*

has been suffering mini strokes and is at home...**Brooke Phillips' grandfather, Bill Maner,** is at home and not doing well...**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,** continues chemo treatments for her blood disorder ...**Signa Skipworth, Catherine Parker & C.L. Weathers' cousin, Hilda Fincher,** continues at her home ...**Judy Williams' mother, Flossie Kazzaire,** continues in a nursing facility in Fayette.

GWANDA, ZIMBABWE: Remember we are continuing to collect food and other items to send to the brethren in the church at Gwanda, Zimbabwe. Let us remember this effort.

GOSPEL MEETING: The **Oakland church** in Limestone County is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening with services at 7:00 p.m. **Greg Chandler** will be the speaker in this meeting...The **Eastside church** in Red Bay is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening with services at 7:00 p.m. **Sewell Hall** is the speaker in this meeting.

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

OUT OF TOWN: **The Words:** *Lisa and Olivia* are in Florida with Lisa's parents this week ... **The Hammonds:** *Eddie and Willodean* are in Florida on vacation...**Judy Williams** left for Jamaica on Saturday...**Kevin Chancellor** has been working in Jackson, Mississippi this week.

THE RECORD: Attendance – week of Feb. 10th

Sunday: Bible Classes 89
Morning Worship 100
Evening Worship 74
Wednesday: Bible Classes 72

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
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