

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, July 13th:

Bible Classes

Song Leader

..... Daniel Clemmons

Bible Reading (Deut. 11:18-25)

..... Brian Word

Prayer

..... Cecil Cox

Morning Worship

Song Leader

..... Daniel Clemmons

Prayer

..... Rocky Rose

Lord's Supper

Presiding Kevin Chancellor

Assisting Eddie J. Hammond

Serving Jim Phillips

..... Ethan Pressnell

..... Tyler Cox

..... Mark McCrary

Closing Prayer

..... Mark McIntyre

Evening Worship

Song Leader

..... Ronnie Phillips

Bible Reading (Deut. 11:26-32)

..... Rodney McCrary

Prayer

..... Jerry Dickey

Lord's Supper

..... Kevin Chancellor

..... Eddie J. Hammond

Closing Prayer

..... Steve Parker

Volume XV

July 13, 2008

No. 28

Join us This Week As we Study
"Walking in Son Light"

Vacation Bible School

July 14-18 – 10:00 a.m.

There will be classes for ages:
Nursery through Adult.

Adult Class

"A Study of Restoration History"

Frank Richey, Speaking

Sunday, July 13th

9:45 a.m.; 10:45 a.m. & 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 16th

7:00 p.m.

Frank Richey, Speaking

Anderson church of Christ

Highway 207 South
Anderson, Alabama

Zephaniah: The Lord Will Be Terrible

John Kilgore

It had been many long, dark years since Zephaniah's great-great-grandfather, Hezekiah (715-686B.C.), had ruled in righteousness over Judah. During those years, the nation had sunk to its lowest level ever, especially under the reign of Hezekiah's son, Manasseh. Now, Hezekiah's great-grandson, Josiah, was king with a will to reform.

Josiah had become king at the age of 8, and at the age of 16 began to seek the God of David, purging Judah and Jerusalem of idolatry (2 Chronicles 34:3). At age 26, he began repairing the Temple, and during the repairs, the book of the Law was discovered. When it was read to Josiah, he tore his clothes and said, *"Go inquire of the Lord for me and the people...for great is the wrath of the Lord that burns against us, because our fathers have not listened to the words of this book..."* (2 Kings 22:13). Zephaniah was chosen to deliver the message of *"the day of the Lord's wrath"* (Zephaniah 1:18) which was *"near and coming very quickly"* (Zephaniah 1:14).

A Day of Destruction. The day of the Lord is revealed by Zephaniah as being a day of destruction as punishment for sin. "The day of the Lord" is described as a day of sacrifice when God invites Judah's enemies to be His guests as He offers up Judah (1:7f); a day of wrath, trouble, distress, destruction, desolation, darkness (1:15); a day of trumpet and battle cry when God comes against the fortified cities and high corner towers (1:16); and a day when the Lord rises up to the prey to pour out His indignation, burning anger and fiery zeal (3:8). Judah and Jerusalem are to be judged along with nations near - Philistia, Moab, and Ammon; and nations far - Ethiopia (Egypt) and Assyria. The judgment will be carried out by Babylonia and other allied nations. Zephaniah lists various reasons for the judgment. In general, *"they have sinned against the Lord"*. At the root of all their sins was the sin of prideful self-sufficiency. They would *"not do good nor evil"* (1:12); therefore, there was

no need to seek or inquire of Him (1:6).

A Day of Deliverance. Zephaniah also reveals that the day of the Lord will be a day of deliverance for the remnant of Israel. (3:12-13). This day of deliverance will be experienced as a day of repentance (2:1-3), purification and forgiveness (3:9, 11, 13, 15), refuge from and victory over their enemies, worship, restoration of lost fortunes, and a day of joy and praise. All this will be accomplished *because "the Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior"* (3:17) and, unlike the thunderous fury of His wrath upon the wicked, *"He will be quiet in His love, He will rejoice over you with shouts of joy"* (3:17).

A Day for Us. How practical is Zephaniah's message? Today, God's wrath and judgment are as unknown and unpopular as Zephaniah is obscure. The day of the Lord has happened, is happening, and will happen. We are doomed to failure if we miss the prophets' key to understanding history - past, present and future. Let us, therefore, *"Seek the Lord, all you humble of the earth who have carried out His ordinances; seek righteousness, seek humility. Perhaps you will be hidden in the day of the Lord's anger"* (2:3).

-via *Perry Heights Weekly Bulletin*; Nashville, Tennessee.



*Join Us As We
Sing Songs of
Praise*

Congregational Singing

Friday, August 22, 2008

7:00 p.m.

Anderson church of Christ

Highway 207 South
Anderson, Alabama

No Christian Left Behind

Shane Carrington

There is a theory of education, adopted by the United States and put into practice in 2002, called, “No Child Left Behind.” It is based upon the idea that having high expectations and setting goals will improve the education of all students. Some students fail to reach their goals; others fall through the cracks. So this legislation was enacted as an effort to improve education for all. These are certainly noble goals. God has a “No Christian Left Behind Policy,” to which we should give great heed. Consider.

One of the reasons God designed the local church was to prevent Christians from being left behind. God has lofty goals for how the church should be in our efforts to help each other spiritually: *“that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love”* (Ephesians 4:14-16).

God wants us spiritually strong, and we must do our part to look after each other. Do you know a fellow-Christian who is struggling to live for God? Then invite him over for dinner. Get to know him better. Spend time together studying God’s word. Ask him to go with you to visit someone who is sick ...or even another person who is struggling spiritually. It is amazing how spending time together and working together can strengthen us all.

God also put elders in the local church to watch out for our souls. *“Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you”* (Hebrews 13:17). Elders

need to pay close attention to how each member of the congregation is doing spiritually. Elders need to be proactive — moving — in a positive direction to lead others closer to God. Being simply reactive — waiting until a problem arises, then trying to solve it — is disastrous. Shepherds do not wait until the sheep run out of food or water before looking desperately for more; they constantly plan ahead to insure sheep stay well nourished. May we cooperate with our elders in order to be sure no one gets left behind.

As a local church, we are a spiritual family. And we should work hard to be there to strengthen each other. But if it becomes obvious you are working way harder than the person you are trying to strengthen — if they are resisting all your efforts, and you are unable to make a difference — move on to someone else. Others need your help too...and will be thrilled to have it.

May we each do our part to insure no Christian gets left behind. May we strengthen each other to meet the Lord’s high expectations.

-via *Market Street Bulletin*; Athens, Alabama

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Jerry Best* has been sick and not able to be at services this past week... *Margaret Weathers* was able to be with us Sunday after not feeling well the week before... *Suzette McIntyre* has been sick and has not been able to be at services ... *Abby Chancellor* was sick and not able to be at Bible study Wednesday night ... *Monroe Pressnell, Phil’s father*, is taking treatments once a month for his cancer... *Jack and Onzell Tucker* continue to be confined at home... *Jackie Varnell’s father, Alvie Putman*, is in the ECM hospital in Florence ... *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.

GWANDA, ZIMBABWE: Remember the work we are involved in helping our brethren in the church at Gwanda, Zimbabwe.

COMMUNICATION GROUPS: Tonight will be the night for Communication group A to meet. If you are in group A remember to meet with your group this evening.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY: There are copies of the pictorial directory in the vestibule. There are enough for each family to have one. Please get your directory this morning.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Gatlins: Andrew and Marissa* are home after being out of town last week ...*The Words: Lisa, Corey and Olivia* continue to be out of town in Orlando, Florida visitng with Lisa's mother.

OUR VBS: This week is the week for our Vacation Bible School. This year the children's classes will be studying "*Walking In Son Light*". The adults will be studying "*Restoration Church History*" with *Frank Richey* conducting the class. I know that the teachers and helpers have worked very hard in preparing for this week. I trust that everyone, who possibly can, will make their plans to be at every service possible.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *East Florence church* in Florence is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening with services at 7:00 p.m.. *Bobby Graham* will be the speaker in this meeting ...The *Phil Campbell church* in Phil Campbell is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening with services at 7:30 p.m *Steve Tidwell* will be the speaker in this meeting.

THE RECORD: Attendance: Week of July 6th

Sunday: Bible Classes 107
 Morning Worship 118
 Evening Worship 80
Wednesday: Bible Classes 76

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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