

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. ~ Judy Williams' mother **Flossie Kizzire**, continues in a nursing facility in Fayette ~**Jerry Dickey** is continuing to receive cancer treatments. ~ **Frances Resse**, Aric Butler's grandmother, in Brookings, Oregon is very sick with lung cancer. Aric said last week that her condition had improved somewhat. That is good news! ~ **Helen Trousdale**, is home recovering. ~ **Sanda Martel** is still recovering from her injuries. It was good to see her last week at services. ~ **C.L Weathers** is continuing cancer treatments. ~ **Theresa Gatlin** is recovering from the surgery.

Let Us Keep Our Expecting Mothers In Our Prayers: Amy Bassham, Andrea Butler, Laurie Chancellor, Katy Garner,

REJOICE: This last Tuesday evening **Jeffrey and Amy Bassham** were baptized into Christ for the remission of their sins. We rejoice over their good decision to serve God. They also made it known that they would like to work and worship with the church here at Anderson. Note: If you haven't done so already, their directory information is on the information table in the foyer.

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

GOSPEL MEETINGS IN THE AREA: The **Westview** church in Athens will have David McKee speak Sunday Feb 22nd at 3:00 PM and Monday thru Wednesday at 7:00 PM. ~ The **First Street** church in Lawrenceburg, TN is having a Unity Series. Friday Feb 27th there will be a congregational singing. On Saturday Feb 28th Edwin Crozier will speak at 6:00 PM on "One Body", then David Thomley will speak at 7:00 PM on "One God and Father, One Lord, One Spirit." On Sunday March 1st at 9:30 PM Matt Oglesby will speak on "One Faith" at 10:30 AM Nathan Hagood will speak on "One Hope of Your Calling." Then at 3:00 PM Frank Jamerson will speak on "One Baptism."

FOR THE RECORD: (Week of February 8th)

Sunday:

Bible Classes	98
Morning Worship	125
Evening Worship	92

Wednesday:

Bible Classes	79
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Schedule of Services

Sunday
 Bible Classes 9:45 AM
 Morning Worship 10:45 AM
 Evening Worship 6:00 PM
 3rd Sunday Worship (*Singing*)... 3:30 PM

Wednesday
 Bible Classes 7:00 PM

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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Gospel Power



February 22, 2009
Volume XVI No.08

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to 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
www.Anderson-church.org

Men Privileged To Serve This Week:

Sunday Morning Bible Classes
Song Leader – Jim Phillips
Bible Reading – Rodney McCrary
Joshua 5:10-15
Prayer – Brian Blakely

Sunday Morning Worship
Song Leader – Jim Phillips
Prayer – Jimmy Glass
Lord's Supper
Presiding – Scottie Goode
Assisting – Aric Butler
Serving – Daniel Clemmons, Mark McCrary, Corey Goode, Billy Wallen
Closing Prayer – Kevin Chancellor

Sunday Evening Worship
Song Leader – Eddie J. Hammond
Bible Reading – James Adams
Joshua 6:1-5
Prayer – Rocky Rose
Lord's Supper – Scottie Goode, Aric Butler
Closing Prayer – Mark McIntyre

Wednesday Bible Classes
Song Leader – Daniel Clemmons
Prayer – Andrew Gatlin
Bible Reading – Mark McCrary
Joshua 6:6-14
Invitation – Steve Parker
Closing Prayer – Ronnie Phillips

HOW DO YOU DO BUSINESS?

Bill Andrews

Did you ever order anything from the internet or mail order catalog? Suppose you were ordering a suit. What do you do? Do you specify the exact size, color, style and material? Then do you specify all the sizes, colors, styles and materials **not** to send? Would your order sound something like this:

"Please sir, do not send size 32,34,36,38,40 or 42. No red, blue, pink, yellow, purple or green."

All would agree such would be foolish and superfluous. You simply specify what you want and expect the merchant to abide by your specifications.

But look what happens in religion! It is common for the denominational world to throw up a flurry of "**nots**". God did **not** say **not** to:

Celebrate special man made religious days – Christmas, Easter, etc.

Use mechanical instruments of music in worship.

Partake of the Lord's supper on Saturday night.

Take up a collection at every service. Ad infinitum.

The attitude toward such is summed up in: "*if God didn't say not to do it, then it must be alright to do it.*" When people have no conviction for doing exactly what God demands, they invariably try to pull a multitude of religious practices through the "**not-hole**." What these people forget is that God has a few "**not-holes**" of His own that take precedence over theirs.

2 John 9 – "Whosoever transgresseth and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ hath not God, he that abideth in the teaching has both the Father and the Son."

Matt 7:21 – "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven..."

Is your religion a package of substitutions? Are you following His divine specifications? How do you do business with God?

Men Ought To Worship God

Johnnie Edwards

The world's philosophy tells us that we can worship as we please and whom we desire. This is true legally, but to please God, our worship must be on God's terms. When Satan tempted Jesus to fall down and worship him, Jesus responded, "Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve" (Matt. 4:10). God is a jealous God and He made it very clear to Israel of old when He said, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou, shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I am a jealous God. . ." (Exod. 20:3-5).

God - The Object Of Our Worship

In today's society, men worship about everything but God. They worship men, angels, false gods, and even Satan. When Cornelius fell down at the feet of Peter to worship him, Peter said, "Stand up; I myself ship God! also am a man" (Acts 10:26). He would not allow Cornelius to worship him. Jesus sharply rebuked Satan when he tried to get Jesus to worship him (Matt. 4:8-10). John was told, "See thou do it not" when he fell down to worship an angel, and was quickly told to "worship God" (Rev. 22:8-9). The Samaritan woman told Jesus that "Our fathers worshiped in this mountain (Mt. Gerizim); and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (Jn. 4:20-24). Once and for all Jesus

settled the issue that men ought to worship God!

Man's Response

Man's response to God's desire for worship has gone from faithful worship by many to no worship at all. Men have responded sometimes by:

(1) Worshiping God in vain. Jesus accused the scribes and Pharisees, "But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" (Matt. 15:9). You see, our teaching can be of such nature that it even renders our worship vain. These people were worshiping God, but it was to no avail. How sad it is when men go through a form of worship and it all be for nought!

(2) Worshiping to please self. Paul referred to "will worship" as he wrote the Colossians (Col. 2:23). Many respond to the plea of worshiping God by doing as they please in worship. Often it is said, "We like it this way" or "it sounds good" and the list goes on. When folks say things like that, it is pretty evident that they have no desire to please God in their worship! It might be well just here to remind you, "For even Christ pleased not himself . . ." (Rom. 15:3).

(3) Mockery. Man have been known to just make fun of the Lord in their worship. In the past, the Jews worshiped in mockery. "And they worship has gone from faithful worship by many to no worship at all. and did spit upon him, and bowing their knees worshiped him. And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple from him, and put his own clothes on him, and led him out to crucify him" (Mk. 15:18-19). There is no way that worship of this nature could be sincere; but they were merely having a good time - this the Lord will not accept.

(4) In spirit and in truth. The only kind of response that God will accept is the kind of worship Jesus referred to as He talked with the woman at the well. He said, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (Jn. 4:24). Worship is to be of a spiritual nature. To

worship in spirit is to worship from the heart. It involves understanding, meaning and feeling. To worship in truth is to worship by the teachings of the truth, the Word of God (Jno. 17:17). The Word of God must be the standard by which we worship. Early Christians followed this rule when "they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2:42). They also sang praises from the heart (Eph. 5:19).

Some Reasons Why We Should Want To Worship God

We should feel a response of love toward God and want to honor Him in our worship. We need to want to worship God, not out of a fear of going to hell if we don't, but rather from a desire to please God in our worship. Let's take a look at some reasons why men ought to worship God.

(1) God Made Us. We should worship God for He made us. That which is made needs to adore the maker. In the very beginning God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them" (Gen. 1:26-27). Man is superior to everything God made and God put him in a position of dominion over the rest of His creation.

(2) God Provides For Us. God cares about His creation. From the feeding and watering of Israel of old, Paul told the Athenians, "For in him we live, and move and have our being..." (Acts 17:28). Since it is in God that we even live and move, surely we ought to give Him the praise and adoration of our hearts in worship. Jesus said in the sermon on the mount, "Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you. . ." (Matt. 6:30).

(3) God Loves Us. There is no love like the love that God has demonstrated for His creation. The highlight of God's love can be seen in the golden text of the Bible. "For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (Jn. 3:16). Paul told the Romans, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8). When we ponder the fact that God gave His only son to die for our sins, surely we should be motivated to worship Him.

(4) There Is No Other. We ought to worship God for there is no other God to worship. As the people in the Old Testament were told, "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else" (Isa. 45:22). If we don't worship God, it is like Peter said one time about Jesus, "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life" (Jn. 6:68). There is only "one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all" (Eph. 4:6). It is either we worship God or we don't really worship!

(5) Heaven Will Be a Place of Worship. Heaven will be an extension of our worship after our earth life. People who don't like to worship God while here will be most uncomfortable in heaven! As the book of Revelation closes, God's people are pictured as they worship God. John reported that "they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvelous are thy works, Lord God Almighty, just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints ...for all nations shall come and worship before thee" (Rev. 15:3-4).

Have you checked your worship lately? - *Guardian of Truth XXIX: 3, pp. 65, 86. February 7, 1985*

Thoughts To Ponder
Eve, with all the fruits of Eden blest, Save only one, rather than leave that one unknown, Lost all the rest