

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 Priviledged To Serve:
Sunday, November 23rd

Bible Classes

Song Leader

..... Mark McIntyre

Bible Reading (Proverbs 2)

..... Mark McCrary

Prayer

..... Brian Word

Morning Worship

Song Leader

..... Mark McIntyre

Prayer

..... Jimmy Glass

Lord's Supper Larry White

Serving Rocky Rose

..... Rodney McCrary

..... Jerry Dickey

..... Daniel Clemmons

..... Chase Williams

Closing Prayer

..... Ray Tucker

Evening Worship

Song Leader

..... Daniel Clemmons

Bible Reading (Proverbs 3)

..... Mike Rogers

Prayer

..... Scottie Goode

Lord's Supper

..... Larry White

..... Rocky Rose

Closing Prayer

..... James Word

Volume X

November 23, 2003

No. 47

The New Auditorium

David A. Cox

This morning we are meeting in our new auditorium for the first time on Sunday. It has been something that we have long awaited for. We are blessed to have the new facility which will be a big help in our crowding problems that we have been experiencing. We appreciate all that have worked, planned and given input concerning the new building. However, as we move into our new building we need to remind ourselves of some things that we must not forget:

1. Our focus should not be on the building, but what we do when we meet together to worship God and the great sacrifice made for us to be able to be called children of God.

2. The new auditorium was not built to be an impressive structure, but a larger place for us to gather to worship and to teach the gospel of Christ. It is not intended to be a marvelous beauty to behold, although an attractive structure we can be proud of. I have been asked if there will be a "grand opening" or an "open house" and there will not be either one. We will gather for our regularly scheduled assemblies for Bible study and worship and other planned services. The decision to build the new building was for the sole purpose of helping us to have the necessary facilities to enhance the spreading of New Testament Christianity.

3. As we gather to worship in the new building, let us be reminded that God will be present with us as we give ourselves wholly to Him and "worship Him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). Remember the lesson of Judah of old who when they had built the temple for worshipping God, forgot their focus. The temple was eventually destroyed by the Babylonians. Let us not forget our focus as we move into our new building, but use this blessing from God to His honor and glory.

Otherworldliness

Dee Bowman

The Christian is in constant conflict with his culture. He has to endure a constant bombardment of suggestions, ideas, promotions, temptations calculated to bring him into line with what is considered acceptable in society. That problem never goes away.

This problem comes in different garbs and is called by different names. Some call it “peer pressure,” some call it “political correctness,” some call it “social acceptability,” and still others refer to it as being “in style.” But it all comes down to about the same thing—an attachment to this world—worldliness.

The problem affects every area of life: it affects how we speak, the terms we use; it affects our dress, what we wear and how we wear it; it affects what we buy, as well as where we buy it; it affects where we live, even where we go to school.

“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever” (1 John 2:15-17). This passage identifies the various areas of enticement by the world and puts them into three basic categories: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the vainglory of life. Each of these areas has its own appeal. Each of them is displayed beautifully, arranged in a way that is very appealing. And each of them is equally deadly. Some people have more trouble with one than the other, but we all have some trouble with all of them.

I want to call to your attention several things the Bible says about these devilish productions and how we can combat them.

We are in the world, but not of it. Jesus tells

us “My kingdom is not of this world...” (John 18:36). We cannot be part of His kingdom and serve the kingdom of this world at the same time. We serve the one or the other. “Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your minds” (Romans 12:2), we are told. We cannot be conformed and transformed at the same time, folks. We have to make a choice. Furthermore, we have an assurance that “he that is in you is greater than he that is in the world” (1 John 4:4), so we have God to help us overcome the appeals of the world’s brilliant marquee and appealing advances.

Our weapons for fighting against the devilish delights of the society around us are not carnal, but spiritual. Placards and parades, demonstrations and social demands may be effective in some ways, but the greatest deterrent to worldliness is a knowledge of the word of God. There is no substitute for using the armaments God has provided—the breastplate of righteousness, the sword of the spirit, the helmet of salvation. The reason is simple: “For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places” (Ephesians 6:11).

It’s all a matter of emphasis, what’s important to us. It’s a matter of understanding what is really significant, what logically deserves our special and regular attention. “For our citizenship is in heaven, from whence also we look for a Savior, who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself” (Philippians 3:20-21). We are not native to this land—nor any other. We belong to a greater community, one in heaven. We are “strangers and pilgrims,” aliens in a strange land. It is our duty to obey the laws of this land, to do all we can to make it a better place to live, to submit to its rulers, and give honor to whom honor is due while we live here. We are only sojourners, pilgrims who are passing through here to a better place (1 Peter 2:9-17). The problem is,

we sometimes don't act like it.

It may well be that the most effective tool the devil has concocted since the Garden of Paradise is worldliness—especially in this age when we have so much, and life offers us more all the time. To deny the appeal of the world is to deny the obvious. It constantly promises us new things, new pleasures, new leisure, new attractive pursuits. But it promises what it cannot deliver. What we have—what we have taken such pleasure in—is in a state of deterioration and decay. Every single one of us is growing older, getting ever nearer to the inevitable judgment. Everything around us is falling down; and you can't do much about it. It behooves us to look past this world to the next one, to be otherworldly in our minds. It makes no sense, folks, to spend all our time and energy on what is impermanent, fleeting, transitory, and very little time on what is permanent, lasting, and incorruptible.

It doesn't make any difference what you become or how successful you are or who knows your name, if you miss heaven, you've just missed all.

-via *Southside Sunday*, Pasadena, Texas.



Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Come join us as we study God's Word.



Remember:

- What?** Young Adult Home Bible Study
When? Tonight following our evening service.
Where? At the home of David & Kerry Cox
Subject? Building Strong Homes

Come join us as we study together.

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Amber Hammond* continues in the ECM hospital in Florence ... *Myrtie Williams* fell this past Monday morning and was taken to the hospital, She was dismissed and is at home ... *Mike Rogers* was sick this past week and was not able to be at Bible study Wednesday night, but is now better ... *Scottie Goode* continues to have pain in his arm and shoulder... *Jean Ray* continues to be sick and is at home, but not able to be out... *Claus Martel* was sick and unable to be at Bible study Wednesday night... *Hubert Goode* continues at home and is not doing well ... *Eddie Hammond's cousin, Ricky Davis*, is not doing well at all in Ohio ... Remember *Mattie Blanche Word* continues at home ... *Marcia Cooper's and Brian Word's uncle, Paul McCafferty* who is at the SunBridge Nursing Home in Lawrenceburg ... *James McConnell's mother, Della Mae McConnell*, continues at

home... *Jerry Best's nephew, Shannon Johnson*, continues at home ... *Faye Hammond* continues at home ... *Tisha Thomas' grandmother, Nellie Hunter*, who is in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski ... *Freda McConnell's father, Alton Wray*, who is at home... *Janice Glass' grandmother, Emma Ray*, who is staying with family.

OUT OF TOWN: *The McConnells: James Albert and Freda* have been in Florida this past week.

CONSTRUCTION: We have moved into the new auditorium today, but the construction work continues in the old auditorium in converting it into classrooms and office space. If you have children please make sure that they do not wander into the construction area due to the danger of sharp metal, etc. that could hurt them. Hopefully, the construction in the old auditorium will not take long and we will be able to get everything straightened out soon. Also, we are in the progress of concreting the new parking area. We hope to get this completed as the weather allows. Please pardon the inconvenience.

COMMUNICATION GROUPS: Tonight is the night for communication group four to meet following our evening service. If you are in group four plan to meet this evening.

TAPES/CD's & DVD's: Beginning today the church here will be making video recordings of all the sermons preached here. You can receive a DVD of any sermon that you wish. The cassette tapes and CD's are still available as well if any one would like a copy.

THE RECORD: *For The Week of November 16th*
Sunday:

Bible Classes 88
 Morning Worship 114
 Evening Worship 76

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 78

Remember Our Evening Service at 5:00.

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.
 Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
 Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

Elders

Michael Clemmons (256) 247-0836
 Scottie Goode (931) 565-3391

Deacons

Phil Pressnell (256) 232-8509
 Rocky Rose (256) 247-0011
 Larry White (256) 247-0988

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