

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

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Men Priviledged To Serve:

Sunday, January 19th

Bible Classes

Song Leader
..... Brian Word
Bible Reading (Psalm 66)
..... Larry White
Prayer
..... Aric Butler

Morning Worship

Song Leader
..... Brian Word
Prayer
..... Michael Clemmons
Lord's Supper/Collection
Presiding Scottie Goode
..... Corey Goode
..... Jim Phillips
..... Daniel Clemmons
Closing Prayer
..... James Word

Evening Worship

Song Leader
..... Jerry Dickey
Bible Reading (Psalm 67)
..... Ethan Pressnell
Prayer
..... Jimmy Glass
Lord's Supper
..... Scottie Goode
Closing Prayer
..... Jerry Best

Volume X

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No. 3

Things Involved In Service

Dee Bowman

Service is serving- sometimes voluntarily, sometime involuntarily. In service one is enslaved to someone or something- sometimes voluntarily, sometimes involuntarily. Slavery is not all bad. For instance, Paul, inspired by the Spirit, said, "being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness" (Romans 6:18). One may be freed from one slavery, but he will inevitably be brought under the control of another slavery. The black people who were made free by The Emancipation Proclamation, were not free to do as they pleased. They ceased being mere chattel for their masters; but they were brought under the laws of the land. If one is free from righteousness, he is the slave of sin; if he is freed from sin, he becomes the servant of God. Everyone serves someone.

Service to God is a deliberate action. It is a choice made. There is no force involved saving for the force of one's own intelligent reaction to the gospel of Jesus Christ. The gospel forces one to this new slavery by imposing upon him a sense of righteousness and judgment and a sorrow for sin. It only forces one to serve because he comes to know and love God. This new yoke (Matthew 11:30) is easy to bear, its burden light compared to the imposing slavery of sin and the yoke it imposes.

Service to God is man's only way to glorify Him. There is no other. Mental assent may bring some satisfaction to the mind, but it brings little glory to God. Even pangs of conscience may well say something about where a man is headed, but it does not, by itself, glorify God. Only service glorifies God. Adopting the attitudes He recommends, bringing oneself deliberately under His control, performing, to the best of ones ability, His requirements and leaving off His prohibitions constitutes service. Without these things in their

proper places, there is only admission, not service. True service brings the whole man into subservience to God.

To serve God one must put himself totally at God's disposal. There must be no room left in the heart for any god of any sort, but Him only. One must sanctify Him, give Him the high place He deserves. That speaks not only to faith, but to trust and confidence as well. It speaks to allowing Him complete control in one's life. Any less is double-minded devotion and such a mental division of affection is not acceptable to Him. Please note that such submission not only brings Him glory, but it brings glory to the person who submits as well. Man never operates at a higher level of efficiency, nor does he ever come closer to the fulfillment of his design for being, than when he is totally disposed to serve his Maker.

Service to God is eminently practical. It makes sense. It is practical because of what it does for man. Man is made better by serving God. His ideals are more substantive, his goals are more sensible, His labors more effective, his hope more lofty. It makes no sense at all to lay up treasures on earth when nature itself teaches that the earth eventually claims its patrons, leaving them penniless and powerless. It makes good sense to lay up treasures in heaven where God has assured that the investment will pay dividends so rich that our finite minds fail to accurately comprehend them. Such rewards are the result of service to God. Notice, I said the "result," of such service. These rewards are provided by the grace of God; but they are for those who choose to serve Him. There will be no such rewards for those who deliberately choose a life of service to the mundane.

In its purest sense, service is an offering. Service is a sacrifice of oneself to God. Paul indicates such in Romans 12:1, when he says, "present your bodies a living sacrifice to God." He speaks of such as "your reasonable service." It is reasonable because it makes sense; it makes sense because it is reasonable. This offering is a

presentation- one presents himself to God to be used as He sees fit. "Here am I Lord, send me" is the mantra of the true servant. You give your life, you give your heart, you give your being to Him. He is yours and you are His. Beside Him there is no other. It is this giving in service that makes it a "living" sacrifice; it is alive, active.

Service is a measurement of one's love for God. If you serve Him faithfully, you love Him dearly. If you serve Him sporadically, you love Him sporadically. You must measure your love yourself; and you measure your love by appraising your service to Him. Is it total? Is it unrestrained, unrestricted, unlimited?

Choose you this day whom you will serve.
-via *Southside Reminder*, Pasadena, Texas.



The Power of An Endless Life

Jim Jonas

Humanity has been served at times by great men, men who by earthly standards have achieved great things by wisdom, courage, vision and self-sacrifice. Names like Washington, Edison, Churchill and Salk have altered the course of modern history. But there is one thing all the illustrious warriors, politicians, scientists and other men of influence have in common: they all died, and they have contributed nothing to the welfare of humanity from the "other side."

Above all of these names stands the name Jesus. Jesus was the greatest figure in the history of the human family because He came to us from heaven. Thus, when He died according to God's plan, that death had significance beyond the death of any other human being. It was an atoning death, a divinely supplied offering for sin that brings spiritual cleansing and forgiveness to all who desire it (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews

9:14, 26).

But in addition to this sacrificial death on our behalf, the New Testament declares that Jesus continues to serve and help man via his life after death. In reference to His heavenly priesthood after the order of Melchizedek, Jesus serves “not according to the law of a fleshly commandment, but according to the power of an endless life” (Hebrews 7:16).

Further, “He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He ever lives to make intercession for them” (Hebrews 7:24-25). Jesus’ atoning blood at the cross is what cleanses from sin, but His ongoing intercession on behalf of His people continues to benefit us as well.

The term “intercession” is from the Gk. *entunchano*, of which Vine says, “‘to make petition,’ especially ‘to make intercession, plead with a person,’ either for or against others” (Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words, p. 330). The idea is that Jesus appears in the presence of God on our behalf, by His own blood appealing to the Father for our forgiveness. And not just “our” forgiveness, as if speaking of some amorphous, impersonal mass of humanity, but “my” forgiveness. Atonement is not a “class action suit”; it is every man and woman’s personal petition through the Lord for mercy and pardon.

In spite of the grisly and public death of Jesus – His body nailed to a Roman cross for all of Jerusalem and the Passover crowds to gawk at – the apostles less than two months later began vigorously preaching that He was alive in heaven and working for the benefit of saved people: “He poured out this which you now see and hear” (Acts 2:33).

“Let it be known to you all...that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by

Him this man stands before you whole” (Acts 4:10).

When people lose loved ones, they often visualize them watching over them from heaven, helping and inspiring them to achieve things or warning of danger. This notion brings comfort to the living, but there is not one shred of Biblical evidence that it is anything other than wishful thinking.

We may desperately miss our loved ones, but the One we need helping us from the “other side” is Jesus. Jesus reigns over the whole universe to help me get to heaven. Praise God!

-via *Hueytown Church Bulletin*, Hueytown, Alabama



Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

News and Notes

THE SICK: *Onzell Tucker* is at home now after spending several days in the hospital this past week. She will be scheduling surgery this week to remove a spot on her lung... *C. L. and Maragret Weathers* have both been sick this past week and have been unable to be services... *Jean Ray* is doing better and hopes to be at services this week... *Scottie Goode's father, Hubert Goode*, had the growth in his throat trimmed this past Monday... *Freda McConnell's father, Alton Wray*, came home this week from the nursing

home ...*Shelia Goode* is feeling better after being sick and unable to be at Bible study Wednesday night ...*Faye Hammond* continues at home and is going for rehabilitation during the week...*Luke McIntyre* has been sick this past week and unable to be at services...*Jim Phillips* was sick and unable to be at Bible study Wednesday night... *Amber Hammond* is feeling better and was able to be back at Bible Study Wednesday night after being sick the last couple of weeks ...*Janice Glass' uncle, Fred Masonia*, continues in ECM in Florence in room 255 and will have surgery tomorrow... *Eddie Hammond's cousin, Ricky Davis*, has cancer and is being treated... Remember *Mattie Blanche Word* continues at home...*Aldeen Noles* and *Marcia Cooper's and Brian Word's uncle, Paul McCafferty* who are at the SunBridge Nursing Home in Lawrenceburg...*Mary Best's nephew, Shannon Johnson*, who is at home ... *Tisha Thomas' grandmother, Nellie Hunter*, who is in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski.

GRANDBABY: *James and Freda McConnell* are the proud grandparents of a baby boy born last Monday evening. His name is *Riley Jackson*. He weighed 7 lbs. 15 ozs. He is now at home with his parents *Mark and Karen McConnell*. We rejoice with this family.

SONG PRACTICE: This afternoon at 4:15 we will be having our song practice. Our young boys will each be leading a song and we will be working on learning some songs that we are unfamiliar with. I hope everyone will make their plans to be present to encourage our young in their development if possible.



Remember our song service this afternoon at 5:00 p.m. Jerry Dickey will be directing the service. I hope all of us will make our plans to attend as we sing songs of praise to God.

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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