

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, June 29th

Bible Classes

Song Leader

..... Claus Martel

Bible Reading (Psalm 114)

..... Rodney McCrary

Prayer

..... Ronnie Phillips

Morning Worship

Song Leader

..... Claus Martel

Prayer

..... Brian Word

Presiding Jerry Dickey

Serving Jason White

..... Jimmy Glass

..... Jerry Best

Closing Prayer

..... Micheal Clemmons

Evening Worship

Song Leader

..... Phil Pressnell

Bible Reading (Psalm 115)

..... Ronnie Phillips

Prayer

..... Aric Butler

Lord's Supper

..... Jerry Dickey

Closing Prayer

..... Rocky Rose

Volume X

June 29, 2003

No. 26

You Ought To Be Teachers

Harold Hancock

God has purposed that there be teaching in the church. Paul said Christ "gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ" (Ephesians 4:11-12). Furthermore, Paul told Timothy, "And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also" (2 Timothy 2:2). It is evident that God intends for us to be instructed in His word and to share this knowledge with others. You ought to be teachers!

Teaching is an important part of Christianity. One must be taught about God, Christ, and the will of God before he can become a Christian; he must continue to learn God's word after baptism. This is clearly seen in Jesus' charge to His apostles in the Great Commission, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20). Today, who will teach God's Word to the lost and the "babes in Christ"? You ought to be teachers!

In the early days of the New Testament church, the word of God increased and the number of the disciples multiplied (Acts 6:7). There is almost always a direct correlation between the amount of teaching done and the growth of the church. We must plant and water so that God can give an increase (1 Corinthians 3:8). If you want the church to grow, you ought to be teachers!

Teaching God's Word may include teaching Bible classes when saints assemble to worship. This is important. However, we

also need people who will teach family, friends, neighbors, fellow-workers, and classmates. We must recognize and seize every opportunity given us, and we must pray for more (Colossians 4:3-5). New Testament Christians preached and taught Jesus “daily in the temple and in every house” (Acts 5:42). They went everywhere preaching the word (Acts 8:4). You ought to be teachers!

The writer of Hebrews wrote to some who by reason of time should have been teachers but who were not (Hebrews 5:12). Such slothfulness hinders the work of the church in spreading the gospel and weakens the church spiritually. Time that could be spent teaching those outside of Christ must be spent teaching again those who are “dull of hearing.” And those “unskilled in the word of righteousness” are unable to discern good and evil. You ought to be teachers!

“Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed...” (2 Timothy 2:15). Do not be “dull of hearing” (Hebrews 5:11) or “entangled in the affairs of the world” (2 Timothy 2:2-4). Equip yourself to teach the Word of God!

~via *The Lakeview Lamp*, Hendersonville, Tennessee.



“Though He Slay Me”

Robert F. Turner

Among the many examples of Job’s steadfastness is this: “Behold, He will slay me; I have no hope; nevertheless I will maintain my ways before Him. This also is my salvation, That a godless man shall not come before Him” (Job 13:15-16). The footnote reads: “Though He slay me, yet will I wait for Him.” When the going gets rough, we tend to seek a “scapegoat” – we must put the blame on someone other than ourselves. But why do those who have made such a show of

trusting in God “take it out” on Him? This indicates the shallowness of our faith. Job did not have to enjoy good times to realize the importance of godliness. “Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.” And his reasoning was excellent. “A godless man shall not come before Him,” i.e., there is no future in the opposite course.

Must we “make a deal” with God? IF you will bless and prosper me, I will toss you a few crumbs? When Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were threatened with the fiery furnace should they refuse to worship a pagan god, they replied, “We have no need to answer thee in this matter.” (I.E., Our decision to serve Jehovah has long ago settled any opposite appeal.) “If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace; and he will deliver us out of thy hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.” That is to say, whether God sees fit to save us or not, we will not doubt His power, nor cease to serve Him. Better to die faithful than to trade our souls for a few years.

Paul asked God to remove a “thorn” from his flesh (2 Corinthians 12:7-9) but accepted, without wavering, the answer: “My grace is sufficient for thee.” And Peter got to the heart of matters when asked if he would “go away”; he replied, “Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life.”

“The trying of your faith worketh patience...” (James 1:3-f), if there be genuine faith to try. “If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small” (Proverbs 24:10). Are they not shortsighted who forsake the kingdom because of tribulations? (Acts 14:22).

~via *Plain Talk*, Burnet, Texas

Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Weightier Matters

Chuck Bartlett

“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye have done, and not leave the other undone” (Matthew 23:23).

Jesus, the master teacher, always made the truth perfectly clear. Telling things like it is, is exactly what Christians need to do today. The lesson to learn from Christ is that all truth is to be made known.

It seems easier to tolerate sinfulness in others as long as they dress nice, never miss assembly and be friendly towards you. Is it possible to find ourselves setting our own standard of faithfulness? Could Christians be found stressing the need to adhere to certain doctrines of Christ, yet omit other requirements of Christ’s law? Not only is this possible, but probable.

In the first century, saints succumbed to leniency in certain areas of the Lord’s commands, and at the same time placed importance in keeping other laws. In 1 Corinthians 5, Paul rebuked the church of tolerating immorality (vv. 1,2). Even though the brethren at Corinth did not cease assembling themselves together (vv. 4,7), overlooking a sin was unacceptable.

It is not only easy to consider certain laws more important than others, it is also dangerous. That line of thinking may find churches wanting preaching that is “positive,” and think that lessons which “warn” are unnecessary. Not only that, preachers may find themselves harping on certain topics, over and over, and not deal with other important issues.

When Paul exhorted Timothy to preach the word (2 Timothy 4:2), all the word was implied. What is common among almost every religious group, past, present and future, is

having some truths emphasized. The consequences of omitting any of the gospel of Christ puts every person and group in the same spiritual state.

Subjects like faith, repentance, confession, baptism, love, and attendance are just as important as topics like divorce and remarriage, immodest apparel, fornication, fellowship, and authority, etc.

When it comes to the weightier matters of the law of Christ, John wrote, “Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, hath both the Father and the Son” (2 John 9). This means that we are to abide in “all” of the teachings of Christ. Let us learn from the rebuke Christ gave to the scribes and Pharisees. May we resist the urge to set our own standards and teach some things while overlooking other things.

~via *The Gospel Observer*, Ashland, Kentucky

News and Notes

THE SICK: *Shelia Goode and Lou Ann Phillips’ mother, Shirley Slaton*, is now at her home and not doing well... *Eddie Hammond’s father, Berl Hammond*, is in the ECM hospital in Florence, room 680 ... *Mary Best* has continued to be able to be out... *Billy Haraway* continues at home... *Hubert Goode* continues at home ... *Eddie Hammond’s cousin, Ricky Davis*, has cancer and is being treated ... 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 ... *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 ...*Freda McConnell's father, Alton Wray*, who is at home...*Janice Glass' grandmother, Emma Ray*, who is at home.

CONSTRUCTION: The construction on our new auditorium is progressing. The brick started going on this week and the parking lot is in some disarray with the construction that is going on. Please be careful and we hope to have the parking back to normal soon.

CONFESSIONS: Last Sunday morning, *Billy and Madia Haraway* came forward asking for prayers of the church and on Wednesday, *Sam Noles* came asking for prayers. We appreciate Billy, Madia and Sam and their desire to be pleasing to God. May the Lord bless them and may we encourage them as they encourage us in our journey through this life.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to the *Hall and Hartsell families* in the passing of *Bruce Hall* this past week. Bruce, B.J. and their children moved to Canada about a year ago when Bruce began preaching for the East End church in Toronto, Ontario.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Midway church* in Greenhill is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The meeting will begin each evening at 7:30 p.m. *L. A. Stauffer of Fenton, Missouri* will be the speaker.



Gospel Meeting

Sept. 29 - Oct. 2

Jeff May, Speaker

Anderson church of Christ
Highway 207
Anderson, Alabama

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.

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Deacons

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