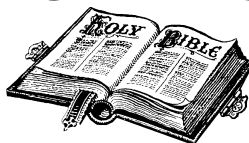


Gospel Power



"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, August 31st

Bible Classes

Song Leader

..... Claus Martel

Bible Reading (Psalm 121)

..... Jimmy Glass

Prayer

..... Ray Tucker

Morning Worship

Song Leader

..... Claus Martel

Prayer

..... Monroe Pressnell

Presiding Larry White

Serving James Albert McConnell

..... Mike Rogers

..... Aric Butler

Closing Prayer

..... James Word

Evening Worship

Song Leader

..... Jim Phillips

Bible Reading (Psalm 122)

..... Jerry Dickey

Prayer

..... Mark McIntyre

Lord's Supper

..... Larry White

Closing Prayer

..... Rocky Rose

Volume X

August 31, 2003

No. 35

What Makes The Difference?

Aaron Beard

The "amen" has been said and the services have been let out. As you make your way to the door, talking to people along the way, you begin to reflect upon that morning's worship service. This particular worship service seemed much more powerful to you than the last few. It is not that you do not want every service to have the same impact, but for some reason there are some worship services that seem to be "just another service," while others leave you in awe of the power of the Lord and what He has done for you. If you are like I am you have felt this and have wondered what it is that makes the difference.

The Location of Our Hearts

Sometimes it is real hard to make the transition between our secular lives and getting ready to worship God; however, when we assemble to worship God we must set aside our secular worries and focus on worshipping the Lord. We do not have to be focused on the "cares of this world" during worship to have a misplaced heart. It is possible to go through the motions of worship and yet the heart not be in it because our worship has simply become habitual. How can someone expect to get the most out of the worship service if their heart is not even in what they are doing? Quoting from Isaiah, Jesus said, "This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me" (Mark 7:6). While this is specifically dealing with their binding the traditions of men, the application can be made to attempting to worship God while your heart is focused elsewhere. David exhibited the proper attitude by saying, "Praise the Lord! I will praise the Lord with my whole heart. In the assembly of the upright and in the congregation" (Psalms 111:1). There are many things you

can do to help get your heart in the right place: Sit down five minutes before services start and meditate on the greatness of God, start preparing for worship services the night before, or read a passage or two from the book of Psalms that deal with worship.

The Realization Of Who The Focus Of Our Worship Is

Have you ever stopped and spent time contemplating about the focus of our worship and the God whose presence we are in? I am afraid that we may not spend enough time doing just this. In picturing those that surround the throne of God John writes, "...They do not rest day or night, saying: 'Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come...' 'You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created'" (Rev. 4:8-11). When we worship God we need to realize that He is not some distant being, but rather is in our midst. After reflecting upon the greatness of God, David wrote, "Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him." If the greatness of God does not have a awesome impact on us I do not know what will!

Whole Hearted-Participation

John T. Lewis is quoted as having often said, "The ones who say they didn't get much out of the worship service must not have brought their bucket." Sometimes when it seems we do not get as much out of a service or feel it lacked the impact of other services, it may be because we did not bring as much to the service. Usually, the times we get the most out of the services are the times when we pray with more focus, listen more attentively, and sing out to the best of our ability and with all our might. Our worship is a sacrifice and when we do not give our best we are offering up a "sick" sacrifice. Malachi wrote, "When you offer the blind as a sacrifice, is it not evil? And when you offer the lame and the sick, is it not evil? Offer it then to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you favor-

ably?" (Malachi. 1:8). We also must keep in mind that part of our coming together is also to edify one another. Colossians 3:16 says, "...teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." If we are not giving our best in worship how can we be effectively doing this?

These are just a few of the things that can have an influence on the impact of the worship service. While these are focused on individuals; however, since the church is made up of individuals, these things can also affect the assembly as a whole. If every person was doing their best in each of these areas, the group as a whole would experience a worship that would leave it thinking, "What a mighty God we serve!"

-via Perry Hill Road Bulletin Bulletin, Montgomery, Ala.



Gospel Meeting

Sept. 28 – Oct. 1

Jeff May, Speaking

Schedule of Services

Sunday – 9:45 a.m. 10:45 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Monday through Wednesday – 7:30 p.m.

Anderson church of Christ

Highway 207 South
Anderson, Alabama

Come join us as we study God's Word.

Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

The Sin of Jealousy

J. C. Choate

Jealousy has been called a green-eyed monster. This is because of the many marriages it has destroyed, and many homes it has wrecked. When a husband or wife becomes suspicious of the other, always wondering about each other, naturally no good is going to come from it.

Not only is this sin prevalent in relation to the institution of the home, but it can be found in the church itself. Congregations over the brotherhood have been known to compete with one another for recognition and power. Various elders and leaders have been plagued with it. Many preachers are so jealous of one another that they would do almost anything to make the other look bad. Teachers refuse to associate with one another. And members of the church puff up and refuse to speak. All of this is very deplorable but true.

Look again. It was because of a jealous heart that Cain slew his brother Abel (Genesis 4). Christ was crucified because of envious men (Matthew 27). Jealousy can separate friends. It can make enemies, and it can lead an individual on from one sin to another (James 1:14-15).

If jealousy will do all of this, then the important thing is to find a cure. Is there one? yes. Have a little more faith in those with whom you are dealing. Don't jump to conclusions but stick to honest facts. Be yourself regardless of what the other fellow does. You can be as big as you want to be by being calm and doing right. If you want

to be little, just stoop to low tactics.

Remember, a jealous heart is a dead heart to all that is good and right. "...jealousy is cruel as the grave: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a vehement flame" (Song of Solomon 8:6).

-via *Truth Magazine*; Vol 3 No. 6; March 1959



Remember:

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

Come join us as we study God's Word.

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Mary Best* continues at home ... *Hubert Goode* continues at home ... *Myrtie Williams* continues her recovery from surgery at home and is not doing well ... *Jean Ray* is doing better, but still not completely recovered from her recent bout with infection ... *Billy Haraway* is at home ... *Wanda Tucker's father, Billy Letson*, continues about the same ... *Taylor Mosley* was sick and not able to be at Bible study on Wednesday ... *Aric Butler* was not feeling well not able to be at Bible study on Wednesday night ... *Eddie Hammond's cousin, Ricky*

Davis, is continuing his treatments for his cancer ... 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... *Mary 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*, is staying with family.

OUT OF TOWN: *James Word* has been out of town in Georgia working on his son's house... *Claus Martel* has been out of town this week with his work.

CONFESSION: Last Sunday morning, *Mandy Griffin* came forward and confessed that she had not been faithful in her service to God. We appreciate Mandy for her good heart and her desire to be a good influence for those around her. May we all encourage her as she will encourage us as well.

BUSINESS MEETING: The elders have scheduled a business meeting for all the men next Sunday evening, September 7th, following our evening service. I hope all the men will make their plans to be present at this meeting.

NEW DIRECTORY: I am updating and compiling a new directory. If you know of any changes that need to be made to what is in the old directory, please let me know. I would especially like to make sure I have your e-mail addresses if they are not in the old directory. I hope to get the new one out in the next few weeks.

THE RECORD: *For the Week of August 24th*

Sunday:

Bible Classes 84
 Morning Worship 106
 Evening Worship 65

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 78

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

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

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