

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, December 5th:

Bible Classes

Song Leader

..... Mark McIntyre
Bible Reading (Isaiah 46:1-13)
..... Daniel Clemmons
Prayer
..... Brian Word

Morning Worship

Song Leader

..... Mark McIntyre
Prayer
..... Monroe Pressnell
Lord's Supper
Presiding Rocky Rose
Assisting Andrew Gatlin
Serving Rodney McCrary
..... Mike Rogers
..... Curtis Mosley
..... Jim Phillips
Closing Prayer
..... Eddie J. Hammond

Evening Worship

Song Leader

..... Claus Martel
Bible Reading (Isaiah 47:1-7)
..... Stephen Stewart
Prayer
..... Jerry Dickey
Lord's Supper
..... Rocky Rose
..... Andrew Gatlin
Closing Prayer
..... Scottie Goode

Volume XI

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No. 48

"Do It With All Your Might"

Larry Houchen

The writer of Ecclesiastes, as he discusses how to live life right now, states, "Whatever your hands find to do, verily, do it with all your might..." (9:10). Several observations need to be made from these motivating words of the wise man.

The word "whatever" includes opportunities. The apostle Paul spoke of "making the most of your time" (Ephesians 5:16). The one talent man of Matthew 25 did not use his opportunity to invest his master's money. The five foolish virgins of the same chapter did not take advantage of the opportunity to adequately prepare for the wedding feast. In contrast to them, Paul, while in prison, prayed "that God may open up to us a door for the word" (Colossians 4:3). Are you taking advantage of your opportunities?

The inspired writer also discusses how we're to perform our work and engage in opportunities. Legion are the passages which discuss doing a particular thing with diligence. We're taught to keep the heart with diligence (Proverbs 4:23), love the Lord with all of our heart, soul, and mind (Matthew 22:37), and to be diligent in our studying (2 Timothy 2:15). Someone has said, "Anything worth doing at all is worth doing well" - there is nothing more important than to do the will of God and do it well.

A second chance is not going to be granted to us. The conclusion of the passage is, "for there is no activity or planning or wisdom in Sheol where you are going." As someone has said, "Life is not a dress rehearsal - this is it!" The import of the passage is to do what you can now, while you can.

Use your opportunities, work to your best capabilities and do it now! Life is too short and the work that we are engaged in is too important to do otherwise.. -via **Folsom Point View**, Folsom, California.

Let's Prepare Ourselves For Bible Study

Allen Dvorak

Outside of Shreveport, Louisiana there is currently a billboard which conveys a message supposedly from God. It reads, "What part of 'thou shalt not' didn't you understand?" -- God. Obviously the quotation is an imaginary one, but its point is quite interesting.

The quotation appears to be directed toward someone who has disobeyed some commandment of God. It may be that the quotation is intended as a timely rebuke to someone shortly after he has sinned or perhaps the question anticipates what the divine attitude will be at the final judgment. In either case, the thrust of the question is clear: God's commandments are not difficult to understand.

The opinion that the Bible is nearly impossible to understand is widely held, perhaps partly because of the convoluted rationale which is applied to the study of God's word by many religious people. The plethora of contradictory doctrines preached by various religious groups gives the impression that no one can know what the Bible "says" with any certainty.

It does not help that we have become an impatient people; if we can't figure it out in the time that it takes to get through the drive-through at the local burger joint, we are quick to conclude that it is incomprehensible. The Bible requires diligent study in order to understand some of the more difficult sections and such study takes patience and determination, two character attributes which are becoming scarce in our "instant" society.

Despite the profundity of the Bible, it is an amazing example of simple communication. It was not written for the exclusive use of intellectuals, but rather for the common man. The will of God for us is not so difficult to understand. "Thou shalt not" is incredibly direct and compre-

hensible. Man's disobedience does not stem from any supposed obscurity in the divine revelation, but from his unwillingness to submit to divine authority.

Just about any parent would agree that when a child does not want to obey the parental mandate, he can invent the most detailed arguments to show why disobedience was acceptable, even preferable to obedience. The issue is not usually the clarity of the command; it is the attitude of the one who is being called upon to obey. The most important preparation for Bible study has nothing to do with language studies in Hebrew or Greek or an understanding of cultural peculiarities in ancient Eastern countries. The best prepared student is the one who approaches his study of God's word with the attitude of submission to the truth revealed in it, regardless of lifestyle changes such truth may require.

I do not believe that God is testing our ability to understand language. Through His commandments, He is testing our hearts to see if we are willing to submit to the will of our Creator. Despite the failure of so many whose names fill the pages of secular and Biblical history to achieve this objective, each of us receives our own opportunity to make the grade..

-via News & Notes; Madison, Alabama.



Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.



The Anderson
church of Christ
website at:

[www. Anderson-church.org](http://www.Anderson-church.org)

On the Site You Will Find:

1. Information about the church at Anderson
2. The **Gospel Power** in .pdf format uploaded each Sunday.
3. Sermons preached at Anderson in Real Audio.

Please Visit Our Site Regularly.

Was It An Exaggeration?

Chuck Bartlett

The last verse of the last chapter in John, we can find these words, "And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written" (John 21:25).

Think about all that is recorded in Matthew through John, concerning the life of Christ. In the span of about three and one half years, the personal ministry of Jesus took place. When I study what was written, I see a very busy Savior spending His time actively doing the will of His Father (John 17:4). This meant teaching, praying, and demonstrating who He was and that what He taught was truth, through miracles.

Yet, John tells us that there were so many things that Jesus did, he supposed the world itself could not contain the books, if they were recorded. Is that true? The apostle was inspired, and if anyone was aware of much of what the

Lord did, while He walked with man, John would know.

This causes me to stop and wonder, just how much could be written about us, relating to what we do for the Lord? Would it be a short book? Would it contain observations of an active person or an inactive person? Would books written about us reveal gaps between being active and not? Would your biography, so to speak, be a help to other Christians, or not?

We are to let our light shine for Christ (Matthew 5:13-16). We are to be active for the cause of Christ. Jesus made use of His three and one half years. What have you done in the same amount of time? Make use of your time knowing that some day we will give an account for what we did in this body (2 Corinthians 5:10).

Are you learning from Jesus? Let's be found busy when our time is over.

-via The New Georgia Bulletin, Rogersville, Alabama.

News and Notes

THE SICK: *Angie McCrary's father, Buford Shook*, is in rehabilitation at Glenwood in Florence... *Willie Ridgeway* continues at home ... *Myrtie Williams* continues to recover at home from her recent fall ... *My mother, Jackie Cox*, is now at home following her rehabilitation from back surgery ... *Cindy Pressnell* has been sick this past week and unable to be at services... *John & Virginia Lovell* have both been sick this past week... *Cheyene Griffin* has been sick this past week and unable to be at services... *Lou Helms' son-in-law, Tim Thornton*, received a good report, but will be going to another doctor in the coming days...

Tisha Thomas' mother, Shelia Johnson, is taking oral chemo ... *Leota Springer's husband, Bob Springer*, is at home, but is continuing to take kidney dialysis ... *Helen Stewart's grandson, Adam Stewart*, is at home now, but is awaiting a kidney transplant ... *Curtis Cooper* ended his radiation treatments this past week, but is continuing chemo ... *Mattie Blanche Word* is at home now after spending a few days in the hospital this past week... Remember *Kathy Smith's sister-in-law, Sue Gilliam*, is undergoing chemo and radiation treatments... *Marcia Cooper's and Brian Word's uncle, Paul McCafferty* is in the Countryside Nursing Home in Lawrenceburg ... *James McConnell's mother, Della Mae McConnell*, continues at home... *Jerry Best's nephew, Shannon Johnson*, continues at home ... *Tisha Thomas' grandmother, Nellie Hunter*, is in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Angie McCrary* in the passing of her aunt, *Jessie Harlan*, this past Monday. Her funeral was Wednesday.

COMMUNICATION GROUPS: Tonight is the night for Communication group one to meet. If you are in group one, remember to meet with your group this evening after our service.

NEXT SUNDAY: *Wiley Deason* will be here next Sunday evening preaching for us. We will be helping with Wiley's support during his seven month stay in Mariupol, Ukraine. I know that you will enjoy hearing him.

THE RECORD: *Averages for November*

Sunday:

Bible Classes 94
 Morning Worship 114
 Evening Worship 85

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 88

Remember Our Evening Service at 6:00.

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
 Monroe Pressnell (256) 232-0780

Deacons

Jimmy Glass (256) 247-0571
 Mark McIntyre (256) 233-1953
 Phil Pressnell (256) 232-8509
 Rocky Rose (256) 247-0011
 Larry White (256) 247-0988
 Brian Word (256) 229-5823

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