

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, February 1st

Bible Classes

Song Leader
..... Ronnie Phillips
Bible Reading (Proverbs 19:15-24)
..... Phil Pressnell
Prayer
..... Michael Clemmons

Morning Worship

Song Leader
..... Ronnie Phillips
Prayer
..... Claus Martel
Lord's Supper Monroe Pressnell
Serving Larry White
..... Jim Phillips
..... Aric Butler
..... Curtis Mosley
..... Daniel Clemmons
Closing Prayer
..... Scottie Goode

Evening Worship

Song Leader
..... Jerry Dickey
Bible Reading .. (Proverbs 20:1-15)
..... Mike Rogers
Prayer
..... Rocky Rose
Lord's Supper
..... Monroe Pressnell
..... Larry White
Closing Prayer
..... Jimmy Glass

Volume XI

February 1, 2004

No. 5

"Salvation In Name of Christ"

Randy Harshbarger

"This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:11-12). Those trained in the building of houses, office buildings, and other edifices, etc., realize the importance of the cornerstone. A failure to set the cornerstone will result in a poor foundation; the strength and proportions of the building will be compromised. But imagine the utter impossibility and foolishness of those who seek salvation apart of Christ, the chief cornerstone! Peter using David's words (from Psalm 118:22), shows that only in the name of Christ, or only to be recognizing Him as the Savior and as one who has all authority, can one be saved. The Jews continued to reject the apostolic witness of Christ's ambassadors.

This was nothing new; Jesus quoted this same passage of David, applying it to the Jews' rejection of the Messiah. Their unbelief continued.

The book of Acts is the record of Christ's apostles seeking to preach the gospel to the whole world. In doing this they were simply obeying the commandment of the Lord (Acts 1:2). As the apostles went forth preaching the gospel, the underlying foundation of their message was Christ and His authority. The same is true today, both in the message proclaimed and the rejection of Christ's authority. There are many sincere, Bible-believing people, who work and play together all week, but cannot worship together on Sunday. Men work together in civic clubs but cannot work together in serving Christ. What is the problem? The problem is one of authority.

The need for authority is recognized by all in many areas of life.

We can see the value of speed limits, stop signs, weights and measurements, and rules for Friday night football games. Even in religion, men will appeal to different sources of authority. Some appeal to the Vicar of Christ on earth (the pope). Yet, scripture says: “For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him” (Colossians 1:16). Some appeal to feelings. Yet, scripture says: “O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in Himself. It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps” (Proverbs. 10:23). Some appeal to additional or latter-day revelations. The scripture says: “Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3). Some follow their parents, some their religious leaders, some the crowd. Jesus says there is but one way to salvation and that is His way. “Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it” (Matthew 7:13-14).

-via *Stallings Drive Bulletin*; Nacogdoches, Texas.



Fruits of Religious Error

S. Scott Richardson

In Matthew 7, as Jesus warns of false teachers, he states, “by their fruits ye shall know them.” Physically, we know what kind of tree bears an apple or peach. We likewise know the results of eating a juicy, ripe apple or peach – pleasure for our senses – and the great discomfort that can come from eating a soured, rotten piece of fruit. False teachers bear fruit that are unpalatable and

dangerous to our spiritual health.

One type of fruit would be the unsubstantiated sense of hope that may be received through the doctrine of “faith only.” This doctrine has been described as “full of comfort” and indeed it is, but deceptively so, since the Bible clearly states that much more is required for salvation. Many live their lives devouring this poison fruit. It can lead to complacency and in extreme instances, even to destruction of the very fiber of morality.

“Once saved, always saved” is a fruit as deadly. Again, it is contrary to the inspired word of God which teaches that one who has known salvation can “fall.” When one believes that he cannot fall, any despicable way of life could be engaged in no dire results would be feared.

Some false teachers would even deny the very authority of the Word of God substituting “traditions of men” as a “religious” fruit. The most alarming aspect of this fruit is that it spreads and fosters the growth of “new traditions.” The plethora of denomination is the world today bears this out.

The sad end of all of these fruits is the same—a final home without God. Many are led astray as they fail to study or accept the Bible as God’s word; they believe they are living lives pleasing in God’s sight without actually doing so. When Jesus warned of false teachers, he also stated, “Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy by thy name, and by thy name cast out demons, and by thy name do many mighty works? And then I will profess unto them, I never knew you depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”

-via *Gospel Guide*; Vol 27 No.12; December 1995.

Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

“If I Die, I Die For A Cause...”

Dennis Carrow

As my son, Zack, struggled with being separated from his family (spiritual and maternal), and the demands of basic training – along with the prospect of being deployed to fight in a war zone — depression quickly became his nearest companion. For three weeks, he desperately fought that silent enemy. Yet, in his last letter, he penned the following words. (Though very personal, I want to share a portion of it that we all might learn something profound).

“I’ve been doing a lot of thinking and a whole lot of praying. I have come to the conclusion that no matter how bad my depression is, I will fight through and be the best soldier that I can be. Even if I have to go to Iraq or whatever, if I die, I die for a cause. In the some breath though, I want you all to be part of my active life as much as possible. So if you would, continue to pray for me.”

How many of us walk through life defeated? For many, when our circumstance becomes difficult, or our comforts are threatened, we simply become introverts, and never rise to the challenges we face in life.

Being faithful to God requires determination and perseverance. The Lord instructed those in Smyrna to be faithful until death (Revelation 2:10). These instructions were for faithfulness to the point of being put to death for their faith. Have you given your *life* for His cause?

Yet many, in the face of adversity — financial, familial, emotional, or physical — allow depression to defeat their faith. Attendance to worship is often sacrificed for the seclusion of lethargy. Depression can be a great spiritual enemy. We must know the weapons of our warfare and use them. And yes, a *whole lot of praying* is a part of that arsenal. Regardless of the challenges we face, we must put on the whole armor of God — praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance (Ephesians 6:10-18).

-via *What Is True*; Little Rock, Arkansas.

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Marla and Lydia Clemmons* have both been sick this past week... *Lakin Hammond* has been sick with pneumonia this week... *Morgan Grisham* has been sick this past week... *Erin Cooper* has been sick this past week with strep throat... *Myrtie Williams* continues at home making slow progress in her recovery... *Willie Ridgeway* is scheduled for some tests on Monday at ECM in Florence... *Jack Tucker* had some test done on Friday and is to return to the doctor this Friday... *Sam Noles* is to have eye surgery this coming Tuesday morning in Florence... *Hoyt Hammond* is at home... *Lacey Smith* has been sick this past week... *Angie McCrary's sister, Janice Hammond*, is at home following her surgery in Birmingham on Monday... 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... *Tisha Thomas' grandmother, Nellie Hunter*, who is in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski... *Janice Glass' grandmother, Emma Ray*, who is staying with family.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Coxes: Kerry, Tyler, Hunter and I* are away this week attending the lectures at Florida College. We appreciate you allowing us to be away to attend the lectures and we looking forward to being back and seeing you again.

BAPTISM: We rejoiced this past Wednesday morning when *Jack Tucker* expressed his desire to be baptized into Christ. We appreciate Jack and his desire to do the Lord's will and we wish for him health and years to serve the Lord.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy *Freda McConnell and the family* in the

passing of Freda's father, *Alton Wray*, this past Tuesday. His funeral was Friday in Loretto.

NEW BABY: This past Monday evening, *James Albert and Freda McConnell* became the proud grandparents of a baby boy, *Kameron Blaze McConnell*. He weighed 5 lb. and 10 ozs. He is now at home with his parents, *Randy and Jennifer* and his big sister, *Brooke*.

PICTURES FOR DIRECTORY: Remember pictures are continuing to be made for the pictorial directory. If you have not have your picture made yet, be sure to do so in the next couple of weeks. *Claus Martel* is taking the pictures and they are being made in the High School classroom after services.

THANKS: I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to *Wiley Deason* for preaching for me this morning and *Rusty Brand* for preaching for me this evening. I know that you will enjoyed hearing them preach. Also, I want to thank *Monroe Pressnell* for teaching my class in my absence.

WEBSITE: The *Anderson church website* has been updated recently with the bulletins from last year. Also sermons are being upload in audio and video formats. I hope that you will take time to visit the website and tell others about it. The address is:

www.Anderson-church.org

COMMUNICATION GROUPS: Tonight will be the time for Communion group one to meet following our evening service. If you are in group one, plan to meet this evening.

THE RECORD: *For The Week of January 25th*
Sunday:

Bible Classes 103
Morning Worship 110
Evening Worship 78

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 72

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

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Scottie Goode (931) 565-3391

Deacons

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