

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 15th

Bible Classes

Song Leader
..... Brian Word
Bible Reading (Proverbs 22:17-29)
..... Larry White
Prayer
..... Jimmy Glass

Morning Worship

Song Leader
..... Brian Word
Prayer
..... Rocky Rose
Lord's Supper Scottie Goode
Serving Jerry Dickey
..... Ethan Pressnell
..... Aric Butler
..... Eddie Hammond
..... Jim Phillips
Closing Prayer
..... Monroe Pressnell

Evening Worship

Song Leader
..... Mark McIntyre
Bible Reading .. (Proverbs 23:1-16)
..... Jimmy Glass
Prayer
..... Aric Butler
Lord's Supper
..... Rocky Rose
..... Jerry Dickey
Closing Prayer
..... Michael Clemmons

Volume XI

February 15, 2004

No. 7

"Hear Ye Him" – (Mark 9:2-8)

Hal Hammons

What a scene it must have been on the mount of transfiguration. What a tremendous honor for Peter, James and John to be able to see Moses and Elijah. My four-year-old daughter is anxious to get to heaven so she can ask Elijah if it was really hot riding in the fiery chariot that took him to glory. I'm sure most of us adults would admit to having similar questions. So it is not surprising that Peter jumped up and proclaimed how good it was for him and his friends to be there on that occasion, and then suggested building tabernacles for all three of them -- supposedly to facilitate a longer stay.

But then they get a spectacle far grander -- the voice of God trumpeting down from heaven. The three friends likely were present at Jesus' baptism, when similar words were spoken in similar fashion (Mark 1:11). They almost certainly were present to hear a different message from the clouds in Jesus' final days in Jerusalem (John 12:28). But this message was especially for them, and it could hardly have been taken as anything else. It was an affirmation of the Sonship of Jesus -- a lesson that the disciples knew well, and yet in a very real sense needed to hear again. But this time, in addition to God saying, "This is My beloved Son", an additional phrase is added:

"HEAR ye Him": The disciples had spent more than two years with the Lord at this point. Peter had already made "the good confession" (Mark 8:29), and He was beginning to prepare them for His crucifixion (8:31). If the apostles were anything like Jesus' followers today, it would have been easy to assume they were in fellowship with Him simply because they were in company with Him. But that is not enough. As Jesus said so many times, "He who has ears, let him hear" (Matthew 13:9). The disciples had no excuse for missing so much of Jesus' teaching, seeing that they were in His presence day and night. However, we have no more excuse than they

if we choose not to hear, since we have the entire Spirit-revealed word of Jesus preserved for us and available at any time.

“Hear *YE Him*”: Even the disciples had much to learn about the Lord -- as is demonstrated in Peter’s reaction to the Lord’s words in Mark 8:32 regarding His own pending death. Complacency is one of the greatest threats to “veteran” Christians – the attitude that we have all the answers (or at least, all the answers we really need), and that we can afford to focus our attention on more mundane matters. If the disciples were not excepted from listening to the Lord, certainly we should “hear Him” as well.

“Hear *ye HIM*”: As impressive and important as Moses and Elijah were in the history if the Jews, they pale in insignificance before the very Son of God. Certainly we should respect the words of these and every other prophet God inspired. However, by no means should we place them on anywhere near the same level as our Lord. The near-deification of the mother of Jesus and of various “saints” by our Catholic friends are perhaps founded in a genuine desire to laud the achievements of notable men and women of faith. But ultimately, they were just human beings. And giving them status as mediators between God and man robs Jesus of honor that is to be His alone (1 Timothy 2:5). Likewise, we should regard the words of Moses (or any other prophet) as divine in origin; however, we must not make the mistake of esteeming them so highly that we reject the words of our Lord Himself. He said the words of the law would remain in force “until all is accomplished” (Matthew 5:18). It is in this light that we should look at Jesus’ dying utterance, “It is finished” (John 19:30). The time for looking to Moses has passed. Now we look to Christ.

Verse 8 tells us the disciples “looked around and saw no one with them anymore, except Jesus alone.” Perhaps they were a bit disappointed that the experience was over. But truly, what greater honor could there be than to be in the presence of

Jesus. Speaking for myself, I’m sure I would be more than content if I spent an eternity in heaven and never saw Moses or Elijah -- as long as every moment was in the presence of the Son of God Himself.

-via *Good News*; Tulsa, Oklahoma.



Starting The Day Right

Roger Shouse

“Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. And early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people were coming to Him; and He sat down and began to teach them” (John 8:1-2).

Here in John 8 is a very simple lesson but one that can make a big difference in our life. John 8 shows how two people began their day. Jesus, “early in the morning,” was in the temple. He came to the temple to teach. He started the day with thoughts of God and of His purpose. The adulterous woman (v. 4) started the day in sin. She was “caught in adultery.” Her first thoughts of the day were of lust, impurity, and fulfilling worldly desires. What an interesting contrast. What a difference we can learn from this example in John 8.

Often our days go from bad to worse; sometimes because of the very way we start them. Jesus reminds us that “Each day has enough trouble of its own” (Matthew 6:34).

Consider for a moment:

1. If you start the day off tired, grumpy, angry, your mood usually gets worse throughout the day. You may even say or do things that you wish you hadn’t done, simply because you are having a “bad day.” Could there be a connection to how your day started?

2. If you start the day by doing things that are wrong, you will spend the rest of the day trying to hide that fact and covering it up so you won’t get caught.

3. If you start the day off with a prayer, and lay before the Lord the day as you have planned it, you will find a different attitude and approach to the day. Your thoughts will be planted where they ought to be. Your heart will have invited the Lord into your day. What a difference that can make.

How do I start the day right? Here are a few ideas.

1. End the previous day right. End the day with a prayer thanking the Lord for all you were able to do. Ask the Lord to give you strength for the new day. Beg for a clean heart.

2. Get organized. In the morning, many of you get upset because you can't find your school books, lunch money, car keys, shoes, or a million other things that could be taken care of the night before. What a difference getting organized can make to your morning.

3. Don't take on a lifetime in one day. There are many things that have to be done. There is schoolwork, with tests, reports, and projects. There is band practice and sports. There is work. There is dating. There is the coming weekend and the plans you have. There is next semester. There is this summer. There is next year. There is college. And on and on it goes. There can be too much. Don't try to figure it all out in the morning. Start with what comes first and what is essential for the day. Make your lists. Get your "order in order." Stress and pressure from all that has to be done can destroy a morning as well as a day. Remember the big picture as Jesus did. Remember you are heading to an important place called Heaven, and the choices you make each day can help you or hurt you. Start the day right! "O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You" (Psalm 63:1).

-via *Silver Street Bulletin*; New Albany, Indiana.

Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.



Remember:

- What?** Young Adult Home
Bible Study
- When?** Next Sunday, February 22nd,
following our evening service.
- Where?** At the home of
Ronnie & Lou Ann Phillips
- Subject?** Building Strong Homes

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Jean Ray* is sick at home and is not able to be out...*Buffy Wallen's father, Billy Ray Thompson*, is going to have a CAT scan done this Tuesday...*Myrtie Williams* continues at home and is making slow progress in her recovery ...*Willie Ridgeway* is now at home ... *Claus Martel* has been sick this past week and have been unable to be at services...*Sam Noles* is at home and did not have surgery on his other eye this past week ...*Hoyt Hammond* is at home and is to go to the doctor on Thursday... Remember *Mattie Blanche Word* continues at home ... *Marcia Cooper's and Brian Word's uncle, Paul McCafferty* 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*, is in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski ...*Janice Glass' grandmother, Emma Ray*, is staying with family.

SONG SERVICE: This evening will be the time for our regularly scheduled song service. *Mark*

McIntyre will be directing the service. I hope that everyone will make their plans to be present tonight as we teach and admonish one another in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs.

ELDER/DEACON APPOINTMENTS: This past Sunday, February 8th, **Monroe Pressnell** was appointed to serve along with **Michael Clemmons** and **Scottie Goode** as our elders. Also, **Jimmy Glass**, **Mark McIntyre**, and **Brian Word** were appointed to serve along with **Phil Pressnell**, **Rocky Rose** and **Larry White** as our deacons. The church here will benefit from their appointment and I appreciate all of them accepting the responsibility to serve in the various capacities. Let us all encourage and help them in fulfilling the duties and responsibilities they have.

SONG PRACTICE: Remember this afternoon at 4:15 we will be meeting for our song practice. Our young men will each lead a song and we will sing some newer songs that we are not as familiar with. I hope that everyone who can will be present at 4:15 to encourage our young songleaders.

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

ELDERS & DEACONS MEETING: Next Sunday afternoon, February 22nd, there will be a elders and deacons meeting at 2:30 p.m.

COMMUNICATION GROUPS: Tonight will be the time for Communion group 3 to meet following our evening service. If you are in group three, plan to meet this evening.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for Week of Feb. 8th*
Sunday:

Bible Classes 96
 Morning Worship 110
 Evening Worship 78

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 77

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
 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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