

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 22nd

Bible Classes

Song Leader
..... Phil Pressnell
Bible Reading .. (Proverbs 24:1-18)
..... Rocky Rose
Prayer
..... Claus Martel

Morning Worship

Song Leader
..... Phil Pressnell
Prayer
..... Jimmy Glass
Lord's Supper Ronnie Phillips
Serving Claus Martel
..... Stephen Stewart
..... Mike Rogers
..... Rodney McCrary
..... Mark McCrary
Closing Prayer
..... Aric Butler

Evening Worship

Song Leader
..... Daniel Clemmons
Bible Reading (Proverbs 24:19-34)
..... Larry White
Prayer
..... Jerry Dickey
Lord's Supper
..... Ronnie Phillips
..... Claus Martel
Closing Prayer
..... Scottie Goode

Volume XI

February 22, 2004

No. 8

Embracing Evil

Allen Dvorak

The state of Massachusetts took a step in the wrong direction this week. Its highest court ruled that the state must give the legal rights of marriage to same-sex couples who wish to marry. The ruling stopped short of mandating the issuance of marriage licenses to these couples, but it is another giant step in the march of homosexuals toward acceptance by the American public.

In 1996, the United States Congress passed the Defense of Marriage Act which defined marriage as a relationship between one man and one woman. Same-sex marriages or civil unions are not treated as equal to heterosexual marriages for the purposes of taxes, health and retirement benefits under federal law. According to this statute, individual states are not obligated to recognize same-sex marriage laws passed in other states. However, the Massachusetts court ruling has emboldened homosexual lobby groups to push for the legalization of same-sex marriages in all states.

It is possible that the Massachusetts legislature and governor will respond to this court ruling with the amending of the state constitution in order to define marriage as a relationship exclusively between a man and a woman. Some lobbying groups are already encouraging the amendment of the U.S. Constitution to ban same-sex marriages, a strategy which would undermine efforts to legalize homosexual marriages at the state level.

The attitude of Americans toward homosexuality is a perfect illustration of the danger of sin. There was a time when the American public viewed homosexuality as sinful, a cause for shame. In a relatively brief period of time, the perception of homosexuality by the American public has changed. It didn't happen overnight; instead it required incremental changes in our attitude toward this sin.

Americans began to tolerate homosexuality. Such toleration was made easier by the vociferous attacks against the inspiration of the Bible and its characterization as an “out-dated moral standard.” As long as homosexuals stayed out of sight, figuratively speaking, we didn’t have to be very vocal in opposing their practices. Homosexuals couldn’t “come out of the closet” until their public image was renovated. The media, Hollywood in particular, assisted (and continues) in this task by portraying homosexuals in the best possible light and painting those who disapprove of homosexuality as narrow-minded, hypocritical characters.

Homosexuals didn’t want to “stay in the closet.” They got in our faces. They flaunted their perverted and unnatural sexual behavior (read Genesis 19:1-13; Romans 1:24-28; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11) in their “gay pride” parades, demanding that the public and the government “accept” them regardless of their practices. They have made tremendous legal and cultural gains through this strategy.

We went from condemnation to pretending not to see what was happening. From there, it was an easy step to toleration and we have moved to at least a grudging acceptance of homosexuality. And so it is with sin. The Bible commands us to “abhor what is evil” (Romans 12:9). If we don’t abhor it, over time we end up embracing it.

-via *News & Notes*; Madison, Alabama.

Gospel Meeting

March 28 – April 2

David Hartsell, Speaking

Anderson church of Christ

Highway 207 South
Anderson, Alabama

Perplexing Facts

Don McWhorter

That human reasoning is capricious and often defies explanation can be easily demonstrated. Look at the following, only a handful of such examples that could be cited:

We fine a man for dumping garbage in a public place but would pay the same man a huge salary for dumping mental garbage on the public.

We force a man to clean up the filth on his property and properly dispose of the garbage. This is a matter of law. At the same time the law protects a man and guarantees him the right to keep pornographic filth and garbage on the magazine racks of his store.

We rise up in rage at a processor who packages his goods carelessly and thus exposes people to danger of disease and yet many argue for the legalized sale of drugs. The drugs are by far a greater danger.

We abhor rape and the rapist while we glorify the styles and fashions which incite him. Even churches sponsor parties and activities where the human body is undressed and shown off to the opposite sex, where the body wiggles and squiggles in every kind of sexually exciting way.

We count sacred the life of the snail darter, the baby seal, the whooping crane, and many other species of animal, fowl, and fish. Some would even prohibit slaying animals for food whether by hunting or in a processing plant. Yet the same people are trying to force legislation which not only legalizes but would involve our government in subsidizing the slaughter of innocent little babies in their mother’s womb.

We endorse a certain speed limit upon our highways because we say that it saves lives, and it does. Then we turn right around and guarantee the rights of people to make, sell, and consume alcohol, which accounts for more than 50% of all

highway deaths.

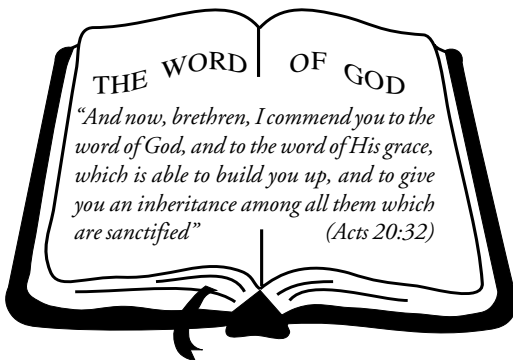
We work hard at cleaning up the air and water around us because they pollute the body. At the same time we pander the lewd and lascivious writers, producers, and performers who use motion pictures, television, the stage, and the printed page to totally pollute the minds and disease the morals of a whole nation.

Prayer is legally eliminated from our schools but atheists and communists which purvey ideologies that totally destroy our freedom are made professors at our universities and we are taxed to pay their salaries.

We piously mourn the blind, the maimed, the mentally retarded who are innocent victims of venereal disease and yet we destroy the moral restraints which might help keep those diseases in check and under control. We institutionalize the tubercular person and turn the venereally diseased back on the public and guarantee his right by law to continue to infect others if he so desires.

This list could be continued; however, these should be sufficient to validate the saying, "The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked; who can know it?" (Jeremiah 17:9).

-via *The Graphic Evangelist*; Athens, Alabama



Remember Our Evening Service at 5:00.



Remember:

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

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Jean Ray* continues to be sick at home and not able to be out...*Buffy Wallen's father, Billy Ray Thompson*, had good results from his CAT scan...*Myrtie Williams* continues at home and is making slow progress in her recovery ...*Willie Ridgeway* is now at home ... *Mandy Griffin* has not been able to be out ...*Lydia Clemmons* has been sick and not able to be at services ...*Kathy Smith* has been sick and not able to be at services ... *Sam Noles* is scheduled to have surgery on his left eye on March 2nd...*Hoyt Hammond* is at home ... 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.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Butlers:* Aric and Andrea were out of town this past weekend visiting with family... *The Rogers:* Mike, Tisha, Zack and Jacob are away this morning and plan to be back this evening... *June Calvert* has been out of town.

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.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Westview church* in Athens is beginning a meeting today and will continue through Wednesday with servcies Monday through Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. *Frank Jamerson of Lakeland, Florida* will be the speaker ...The *Hollings' Gin church* near Ardmore is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with services at 7:00 p.m. *Bill Hall* will be the speaker in this meeting...The *Russellville church* in Russellville is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday with services at 7:00 p.m. *Mike Schmidt* will be the speaker in this meeting.

ELDERS & DEACONS MEETING: There will be an elders and deacons meeting today at 2:30 p.m. at the building.

COMMUNICATION GROUPS: Tonight will be the time for Communion group 4 to meet following our evening service. If you are in group four, plan to meet this evening.

THE RECORD: *Attedance for the Week of Feb. 15th*
Sunday:

Bible Classes 93
 Morning Worship 108
 Evening Worship 72

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 85

Remember Our Bible Class Periods

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

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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