

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, April 4th

Bible Classes

Song Leader

..... Phil Pressnell

Bible Reading (Ecclesiastes 1)

..... Dnaiel Clemmons

Prayer

..... Jerry Dickey

Morning Worship

Song Leader

..... Phil Pressnell

Prayer

..... Jimmy Glass

Lord's Supper Larry White

Serving Rocky Rose

..... Aric Butler

..... Stephan Stewart

..... Mike Rogers

..... Rodney McCrary

Closing Prayer

..... Scottie Goode

Evening Worship

Song Leader

..... Mark McIntyre

Bible Reading (Ecclesiastes 2)

..... Eddie Hammond

Prayer

..... Brian Word

Lord's Supper

..... Larry White

..... Rocky Rose

Closing Prayer

..... James Word

Volume XI

April 4, 2004

No. 14

The Ultimate Donor

Ralph Walker

I organize the Blood Drives at Florida College; four a year. Our students are wonderful about rolling up their sleeves and giving their blood to help others. We have one of the highest percentages of giving of any organization in Florida. We had a blood drive this week, Tuesday, March 16. Ninety-six students and staff seen, 78 pints of blood donated.

I have a lot of time to think and reflect about blood donations as I lay on the gurney to give. Here are some things I've thought about that help me appreciate the ultimate donation of my Lord Jesus. Maybe they will help you too, especially as you remember His death in the Supper.

First Peter 1:18-19 talks of Jesus' precious, unblemished blood. When you donate blood, you're asked a long list of questions which qualify your blood as usable or not. If you've been out of the country, taken certain medications, been in contact with people who have "tainted blood", then you can't donate. Your blood may infect someone else. You've got to have pure blood.

I think of Jesus, living among "highly contagious" sinners for over 30 years, yet He was never tainted by sin. Everyone around Him was infected, but He kept Himself unblemished and spotless. In fact, His was the purest blood this world has ever seen, or ever will see. Pretty amazing that He could do that.

But it was necessary because He was going to save us by that blood. If His blood was touched by sin, it couldn't be the blood that saves us. Be thankful, eternally thankful, that Jesus was able to pass God's questionnaire and "donate" His purest of blood so that we might live.

I also note how careful the blood services personnel are to make us comfortable. They have soft drinks to replenish us, snacks to build up our sugar intake. They have comfortable reclining gurneys for us to occupy. They swab us to keep us from getting infections. They use a sterile needle of the smallest gauge they can allow and still get the pint they require. They ask if tourniquets are too tight, and even apologize when they prick our fingers for the iron test. We're bandaged with colorful wraps to wear proudly as a badge of honor when we're done. We're thanked with words and free T-shirts and food coupons or small gifts.

How many of us would be willing to volunteer if our blood donation were called a "blood sacrifice?"

I've sometimes mentally moved from the room where I and others are donating, to another place of blood-letting. No sterile, razor-sharp needles there. Just blunt, crude metal spikes. Not thoughtfully puncturing, but coldly slamming through tender skin, past tendons, bone and blood vessels. Hands and feet horribly mangled, forever scarred. These spikes, and the spear that drew forth the final gout of blood - carelessly dragged back out of the hole it created. No stanching that hole, no bandaging that wound. No compassionate regard given to the now limp, soul-emptied body of the Lamb of God.

Read the account again, from John 19. Read it, and thank God and Jesus for loving you and me enough to suffer so horribly for us.

-via *New Living*, Brownsburg, Indiana.



Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

A Win-Win Situation

Dan McKibben

The past few weeks I talked with a couple of different sisters who have faced serious health problems. One sister in West Virginia who is battling cancer, talked about her situation. She said if the alternative treatments she is taking helps her get better, she wins, and if she does not overcome the cancer, she wins, so it is a win-win situation for her. I talked with another sister who was facing open heart surgery. She said if she gets through the surgery, she stands to gain, and if she doesn't get through the surgery, she stands to gain also, a win-win situation. What a great attitude to have, that is manifested by these two good sisters in Christ.

As Christians we have the privilege to go to the throne of mercy to seek help in time of need. "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16). God certainly has the power in his providential care to act in our behalf. If God chooses, he can and does act in our behalf at times. Even if he chooses not to intercede in his providence, we have confidence in the promise of the gospel.

The child of God knows that if we pass from the scenes of this life we stand to gain. "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." (Philippians 1:21). Now for those that are not faithful Christians, death is a tremendous loss! But through the promise of the gospel we have great hope. "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us" (Romans 8:37). The gospel brings life and immortality to light. "But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:" (2 Timothy 1:10). We have nothing to fear about death if we are serving the Lord. The Hebrew writer said, "And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage" (Hebrews 2:15). The atti-

tude of these 2 good sisters is uplifting and refreshing. What about you, as you think about death and dying? Will it be a loss, or a winning situation? We pray that if you are not serving the Lord, that you will start doing so today!

-via *What Saith The Scriptures*, Rockcastle County, KY.



Where Do You Stand?

H. L. Bruce

Some argue that it is not right for error to be condemned by uninspired men. We are told that the examples in the Bible are cases of Christ and inspired men reproving the errorist, and that since we are uninspired we are not qualified to criticize them. The idea seems to be that error needs to be tolerated, ignored or embraced without any kind of uninspired opposition.

The above reasoning is just as faulty as can be and places only error to advantage. The person who so reasons obviously has objectives other than a propagation and defense of the truth.

If we asked, "Did not Christ condemn error?" We are immediately reminded that "He was perfect and we are not!" If we mention the practice of Paul in rebuking and reproving false teachers, we are told that "he was inspired and we are not." Obviously our respondent would tie our hands and give error free course to be advocated without any kind of answer. The direction that ones lends his influence, who so reasons, is not to the advantage of the truth.

We agree that Christ was flawless and reformed sin, wickedness error and corruption. The Bible so teaches (Matthew 23; Hebrews 7:26). The apostle Paul, through the utility of inspiration, also put false teachers to rout (Galatians 2:4-5; Acts 17:22,31). Christ and

Paul had this disposition in common: Christ withstood them — so did Paul! If Christ withstood false teachers and apostle Paul imitated Him, what recourse does this leave us, in view of the fact that Paul said, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also of Christ (1 Corinthians 11:1)?"

-via *Gospel Truths*, Vol. 15 No. 4; April 2004

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Sissy Clemmons* is at home following her surgery on Monday...*Lou Ann Phillips* is at home following her surgery on Wednesday ...*C. L. Weathers* continues his recovery at home ...*Myrtie Williams* is in Glenwood Rehabilitation in Florence... *Lou Helms* has at home now after spending a couple of days in the Athens-Limestone hospital ...*Mike Rogers* has been sick this past week ...*Jean Ray* was able to be at Bible study Wednesday night ...*Marcia and Erin Cooper* have been sick and unable to be out ...*Jamie Mosley* has been sick and unable to be out ...*Mandy Griffin* has not able to be at services this week ...Remember *Mattie Blanche Word* continues at home ... *Marcia Cooper's and Brian Word's uncle, Paul McCafferty* is at 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 ... *Janice Glass' grandmother, Emma Ray*, is staying with family.

COMMUNICATION GROUPS: Tonight will be the night for communication group one to meet. If you are in group one remember to meet with your group.

SERVICE TIME Beginning this evening our evening service will begin a 6:00 p.m. I hope

everyone will make your plans to be present at our services this evening.

GOSPEL MEETING: The *Brookhill church* in Killen is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Tuesday with services at 7:00 p.m. *Mark White of Florence* will be the speaker in this meeting...The *Helton Drive church* in Florence is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with services at 7:00 with *Joseph Casimier of Columbus, Indiana* preaching...The *Hays Mill church* in Limestone county is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with services at 7:00 p.m. *Dee Bowman of Pasadena, Texas* will be the speaker...The *Parkway church* in Lawrence county is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday with services at 7:30 p.m. *Dale Robins of Lexington, Kentucky* will be the speaker.

OUR MEETING This past week we have been engaged in our spring gospel meeting with *David Hartsell* preaching. David did his work well and I commend all the lesson to you. The services of the meeting were recorded and you can get them on CD, DVD or Cassette tape. Why not get copies of these lessons and share them with others.

THE RECORD: *Averages for March 2004*

Sunday:

Bible Classes 103
Morning Worship 116
Evening Worship 93

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 82

Vacation Bible School

July 12-16

Anderson church of Christ

Highway 207 South
Anderson, Alabama

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

Evangelist & Editor

David A. Cox (256) 247-1049
Office-(256) 247-5539
E-mail address: dacox@hiwaay.net

U.S. Postage
Paid
Bulk Rate
Anderson, Alabama
Non-Profit
Permit #6

Anderson church of Christ
P.O. Box 66
Anderson, Alabama 35610

Return Service Requested