

# 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](http://Anderson-church.org)

**Men Priviledged To Serve:**  
Sunday, August 22nd

### *Bible Classes*

Song Leader

..... Matk McIntyre

Bible Reading ..... (Isaiah 24:1-13)

..... Claus Martel

Prayer

..... Jimmy Glass

### *Morning Worship*

Song Leader

..... Matk McIntyre

Prayer

..... Eddie J. Hammond

Lord's Supper

Presiding ..... Scottie Goode

Assisting ..... Brian Word

Serving ..... Aric Butler

..... Daniel Clemmons

..... Rodney McCrary

..... Mike Rogers

Closing Prayer

..... Larry White

### *Evening Worship*

Song Leader

..... Ronnie Phillips

Bible Reading ..... (Isaiah 24:14-23)

..... Stephen Stewart

Prayer

..... Monroe Pressnell

Lord's Supper

..... Scottie Goode

..... Brian Word

Closing Prayer

..... Phil Pressnell

Volume XI

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No. 33

## *Imitating Christ In Attitude*

**Daniel Bailey**

In Philippians 2:5, the apostle Paul instructs the Christians in Philippi to "let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." The New International Version translates this command a bit more clearly: "Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus." If a person were in a particularly grumpy mood, perhaps complaining about an aspect of their job that grates on their nerves, a co-worker might say, "You need an attitude adjustment." This common phrase simply means that if the situation were viewed from a different, more objective viewpoint, maybe things wouldn't seem so bad. That's what Paul instructs Christians to do: adjust your attitude to imitate that of Christ. We must strive to look at our lives and the situations we find ourselves in through the eyes of Christ; we need to adopt His attitude and outlook.

There are many scriptures to which one could turn to examine the attitude of Jesus in various situations. For example, in John 11, Mary and Martha send word to Jesus that their brother Lazarus is very sick. Christ makes known to His disciples that He will raise Lazarus from the dead ("*wake him up*") so that they will believe in Him, and He will be glorified as the Son of God (John 11:4, 11, 14). But even though Jesus knows He has power over death, when He sees Lazarus' sisters and friends lamenting and weeping over his death, Jesus weeps, too. Jesus wept because he was moved with compassion toward one another. In Romans 12:15, the holy apostle writes, "*Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.*" Even if the sorrows and stresses that afflict our brethren don't seem that important to us, we need to adjust our attitudes and always be ready to encourage one another and bear each other's burdens (Galatians 6:2).

Perhaps most importantly, we need to imitate Jesus' attitude toward serving God. In John 8:29, Jesus told the Jews that He would only do those things that please the Father. This attitude of humble obedience led Jesus to pray to the Father before He was betrayed, "not My will, but Yours, be done" (Luke 22:42). Even though Jesus had the power to refuse the will of His Father, pleasing Him was His number one priority, even though it led Him to the cross. God gives all people the free will to make their own choices about serving Him – we can either accept the entirety of His will, or we can reject it completely; there is no middle ground. There may be some aspects of living for Christ that just don't thrill you. There may be aspects of worship or serving others that you'd rather just leave alone or change to fit your own desires. But if that's the case, God expects you to improve your attitude. God commands His children to imitate the attitude of Christ, and this includes bending your own will to humbly submit to Him in all things.

-via *College View Columns*, Florence, Alabama



## *Saying, But Not Doing*

Dan S. Shipley

The following statement appears in the creed book of a popular denomination. Read it carefully. "The Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary to salvation; so that whatsoever is not read therein nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man that it should be believed as an article of faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation." Similar statements can be found in nearly all denominational creed books, one would be hard put to better express the all-sufficiency of the Scriptures, except it be in quoting such passages as 2 Peter 1:3 or 2 Timothy 3:16, 17. Even the men who write the creed books say that the Bible is all we need. They acknowledge it to be the only standard of faith and

practice in religion. They say that no man should be required to believe or practice anything other than what can be read in the Scriptures. Not only do the creed books say it, *practically every member of every leading denomination professes to believe it!* And, what may sound even more surprising to some is that most denominationalists believe themselves to be following the Scriptures. Those who may doubt such a statement need only to ask them.

Why then, one may well wonder, the great difference between denominational profession and practice? What they *profess* certainly cannot be faulted. In fact, it is my judgment that the above-quoted statement of confidence in Scripture, *if truly believed and applied*, would go a long way toward promoting unity and eliminating the divisions of denominationalism. Why then the disparity between what is said and what is actually done? For one thing, many simply do not know what the Bible teaches. It is much easier to *assume* practices to be right than to prove them so, as per 1 Thessalonians 5:21. Ignorance of right begets ignorance of wrong. The man who does not know what "the Holy Scriptures contain" on the subject of baptism is not likely to know that infant baptism is wrong. It cannot be "read therein or proved thereby", but what is that to one who makes no effort to either read or prove? We mean no disrespect to its members when we say that **Denominationalism has no greater enemy than the Scriptures**. It is good to affirm our confidence in the Bible but it is better to know, believe and abide in its precepts.

No man ever became a member of any religious denomination by following New Testament teaching. When men will reject all that cannot be "read therein and proved thereby", they will reject denominationalism itself. If not, then they will reject the teaching of the Bible, even if unwittingly. What many have not realized is that denominationalism does not offer optional ways of being right, but of being wrong! It is not a question of whether men are pleased with such religion. Many are. **But is God pleased?**

Again, assumption is easy. But there is *only one way* that any man can **know** what pleases God and that is in following to the best of one's ability His will, the Bible. Abiding in **that** doctrine produces fellowship with Heaven as nothing else can. Failure to abide therein forfeits all (2 John 9). We **say** it is sufficient — but merely saying so is not.

-via *Plain Talk*; Burnet, Texas.



## *Walking By Faith*

**Allen Dvorak**

The apostle Paul wrote, “For we walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Corinthians 5:7). Some suggest that Paul meant that as far as we follow the Word of God (“the” faith), we are walking by faith rather than by sight, i.e. our own opinions. While that concept is certainly true, I suspect that Paul meant even more by his affirmation.

Faith is trust or belief based on indirect evidence. It is not the same thing as knowledge, but stands in the place of knowledge in areas where knowing is not possible. Regardless of whether one is religious or not, faith plays a part in our lives. For example, my car is complicated enough that I do not know how, without special training, to fix certain problems which it may develop. When I take it to my mechanic and he tells me that it needs an inner and outer gooberswizzle, I accept his diagnosis because of my trust in his honesty and capability. Faith is so necessary in religion because religion deals with spiritual things, things which do not lend themselves to knowledge through our physical senses. Such things include spiritual promises which profoundly affect my daily behavior. Walking by faith means that I make decisions based on my trust in these promises.

While I can see evidence of God's existence from the created world, I need His special revela-

tion, the Bible, to know what the divine will is for my life. I have studied the process of the transmission of the Scriptures from the first century to modern man and I believe, as a result, that the guiding hand of God was involved. I trust in the power of the God who perfectly and completely revealed His word to preserve that same word, even if He used men, scribes, to hand down the word from generation to generation.

I trust the promise of God to His spiritual children that in the face of temptation He would provide a way of escape (1 Corinthians 10:13). I believe that the escape exists, not because that way of escape is always painfully obvious to me, but because God said it would be there.

I trust the promise of God that He will provide for those who consider His kingdom and righteousness as first priority (Matthew 6:33). I pray to God because I trust the word which says that God hears my prayers (1 John 5:14) and is disposed to answer them.

To walk by faith, however, means that my trust in the inspired and uncorrupted character of God's word and in the promises which it contains are a controlling force in my life. I do not let my “sight” overwhelm my faith and influence my decisions so that I lay the word of God aside.

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6).

-via *News & Notes*; Madison, Alabama

## **N**ews and Notes

**THE SICK:** *Willie Ridgeway* is to have an aspiration on his lung this Tuesday ... *Cheyenne Griffin* was sick and unable to be at Bible study Wednesday night... *Myrtie Williams* continues at home ... *Hoyt Hammond* is at home and is unable to be out... *Eddie Hammond's uncle,*

**Euel Davis**, is sick at home and not doing well ...**James McConnell's mother, Della Mae McConnell**, is now at home following her stay in the hospital...**Helen Trousdale's sister, Margaret Neal Newton**, is nearing the end of her treatments for cancer ... **Mattie Blanche Word** is at home and is recovering from a fall in which she broke several ribs ...**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 at the Countryside Nursing Home in Lawrenceburg ... **Jerry Best's nephew, Shannon Johnson**, continues at home ... **Tisha Thomas' grandmother, Nellie Hunter**, is in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** The **Beulah church** in Limestone county is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. **John Gibson** will be speaking. Services will be Monday through Friday at 7:00 p.m. ...The **South Tuscaloosa church** in Tuscaloosa has planned a Saturday lectureship this coming Saturday. The sessions and speakers will be as follows: 9:00 a.m. – **Jeremy Paschall**; 10:00 a.m. – **Larry Rouse**; 12:30 p.m. – **Ryan Hasty**; 1:30 p.m. – **Harold Carswell**; 4:00 p.m. – **Joel Mark Ellis**; 5:00 p.m. – **Wes Brown**; 6:30 p.m. – **Ryan Hasty**.

**COMMUNICATION GROUP:** Tonight will be the night for communication group four to meet. If you are in group four remember to meet with your group this evening.

**THE RECORD:** *For the week of August 15th*

**Sunday:**

- Bible Classes ..... 95
- Morning Worship ..... 123
- Evening Worship ..... 92

**Wednesday:**

- Bible Classes ..... 90

**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 ..... 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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