

# 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 Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, June 22nd

### *Bible Classes*

Song Leader

..... Brian Word

Bible Reading ..... (Psalm 111)

..... Aric Butler

Prayer

..... Scottie Goode

### *Morning Worship*

Song Leader

..... Brian Word

Prayer

..... Ronnie Phillips

Presiding ..... Claus Martel

Serving ..... Corey Goode

..... Jim Phillips

..... Daniel Clemmons

Closing Prayer

..... Monroe Pressnell

### *Evening Worship*

Song Leader

..... Jim Phillips

Bible Reading ..... (Psalm 112)

..... Daniel Clemmons

Prayer

..... James Word

Lord's Supper

..... Claus Martel

Closing Prayer

..... Jimmy Glass

Volume X

June 22, 2003

No. 25

## *It Is The Little Things*

**Glen Young**

How does one get to be a person of godly integrity? Does it simply come with age? Is it an epiphany, a spiritual flash that comes at a moment of crisis? Does it come with a grandiose, once in a lifetime decision?

The truth is that it is none of these. Godliness with contentment is the work of a lifetime. We grow into it by the many little, decisions made daily. Life is the accumulation of days, hours, minutes, and seconds. In our moment-by-moment existence, we are called upon to make decisions. Each decision carries with it a result. The end result of all these decisions makes a life of consequence. Therefore, we should not think that a decision of lesser note is unimportant.

A grave mistake in life is to try to do the whole of living in a single moment. When viewed as a whole, life becomes a discouragement that overwhelms the seemingly indomitable. However, when life is broken down into single moments, it becomes manageable. Tasks that once seemed beyond our capabilities lose their power to discourage us. Whatever we should do we can do.

Life is fragile. This fragility causes us to understand the importance of each second, each heartbeat, and each breath we take. James gives warning to those who fail to grasp this fact. "Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit'; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.' But now you boast in your arrogance. All

such boasting is evil” (James 4:13-16). He further points out that failure to live one moment at a time is to boast in arrogance. We have not one more second unless it is the Lord’s will.

We may think that one moment in a lifetime is such a small thing. How can it have such an impact upon my life? Once again we come face to face with those little, decisions we make. Jesus said, “He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much” (Luke 16:10-11).

We should forget the next year, or the next month, or the next day, or the next hour, or the next second, and concentrate upon the present moment. What is it that should be done this moment? The life of godly integrity is a result of making those little, decisions that are made each and every moment.

It is possible to live in obedience to God’s commands. This obedient life comes about by embracing whatever we know the Lord would want us to do and do it in the present moment! In this way, we are faithful in the little, which leads us to be faithful in the much.

Life is a journey with many pitfalls. Although this is true, it is a journey we must take. It is a journey made one step at a time. The key to a life of godly integrity is the management of its moments.

“What is man, that you should exalt him, That You should set your heart on him, That You should visit him every morning, and test him every moment” (Job 7:17-18)?

~via *The Road Creek Bulletin*, Elkhorn City, Kentucky,



*Remember Our Evening Service at 6:00.*

## ***History Teaches...or Does It?***

**Allen Dvorak**

I love to study history. That alone is probably enough to make some folks stop reading this article, but I am fascinated by the cause-and-effect relationship of historical events. As a result of this interest, I took history classes whenever possible to fill needed electives in college. One history professor in particular was a delightful teacher, but he made a comment on more than one occasion with which I suspect that I strongly disagree.

I say that “I suspect that I strongly disagree” because I am not totally sure what he meant. He would say, “History doesn’t teach anything.” In the context of his statement, he seemed to be saying that we cannot legitimately infer “lessons” from any particular historical event. He would probably say, “History just happens; instruction is purposeful.”

Maybe I misunderstood him, but, whatever he had in mind, one thing is true. Man often does learn from history. I think the history professor is wrong. Human nature doesn’t seem to change, i.e., men act from the same general motivations that they have from the beginning. Borrowing both the language and the thought of Ecclesiastes, “there is nothing new under the sun” (1:5-9; note especially verse 9!). Human nature being what it is, a careful student of history can make some educated predictions about how men will react to current or even future circumstances based on how they have reacted to past circumstances.

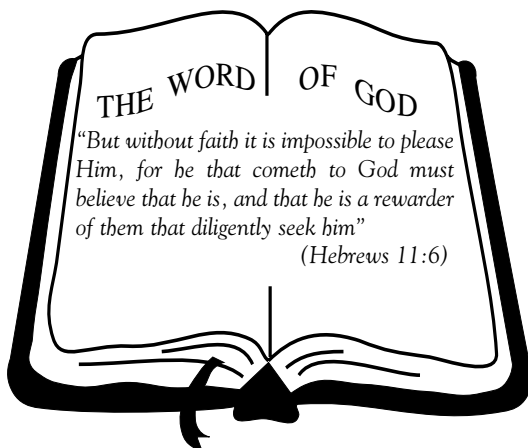
The prophet Ezekiel likened the two kingdoms of Israel and Judah to two harlot sisters. He identified the older sister, Oholah, as Samaria and the younger sister, Oholibah, as Jerusalem (23:1-4). The older sister committed harlotry (idolatry) and was judged by the Lord (23:9,10). The Assyrians carried the northern kingdom (Samaria was her capital city) into captivity. The younger sister, Jerusalem, did not learn from the

experiences of Oholah, but like-wise committed idolatry and was in the process of being punished herself through suffering and exile (23:11-34).

The apostle Paul encouraged the Corinthians to “learn from history” (1 Corinthians 10:1-11). The history of the nation of Israel is available in the Old Testament and it reveals that Israel, despite their spiritual privileges, lusted after evil things, committed idolatry and sexual immorality, tested God and complained against Him. Many of the nations were destroyed for their behavior. Paul’s admonition is based on the two very simple principles: (1) evil behavior brings punishment and (2) spiritual privilege doesn’t make one immune to justice. These principles were illustrated in Israel’s history as God punished individuals for their evil behavior despite their spiritual advantages and that history was committed to writing for our admonition (1 Corinthians 10:6,11).

Whether or not we care to view history as a teacher, the lessons are there. So much suffering could be avoided if we were willing to listen to the voice of the past. Will we learn from Biblical history about the certainty of punishment for sin? In general, men tend to repeat the mistakes of history. Will we?

-via *News & Notes*, Madison, Alabama



Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

## News & Notes

**THE SICK:** *Shelia Goode and Lou Ann Phillips’ mother, Shirley Slaton*, is in the UAB hospital in Birmingham... *Eddie Hammond’s father, Berl Hammond*, is in the ECM hospital in Florence ... *Henry Trousdale* was released from the Mitchell-Hollingsworth rehabilitation this past Wednesday ... *Mary Best* has been sick this past week and has not been able to be out...*Billy Haraway* continues at home... *Hubert Goode* continues at home ...*Eddie Hammond’s cousin, Ricky Davis*, has cancer and is being treated ... 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 ...*Mary Best’s nephew, Shannon Johnson*, who is at home ... *Tisha Thomas’ grandmother, Nellie Hunter*, who is in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski ...*Freda McConnell’s father, Alton Wray*, who is at home...*Janice Glass’ grandmother, Emma Ray*, who is at home.

**OUT OF TOWN:** *The Clemmons:* *Michael and Sissy* are in Florida on vacation this week... *The McIntyres:* *Mark, Suzette, Sadie and Luke* are in Florida on vacation this week...*The Mosleys:* *Curtis, Jamie, and Taylor* are in Florida on vacation this week...*The Dickeys:* *Jerry, Charlotte, Justin and Brandson* are in Florida on vacation this week... *The Mosleys:* *Roger and Cindy* are in Florida on vacation this week... *The Williams:* *Ray, Judy and Chase* are in Florida on vacation this week... *Daniel Clemmons* is in Florida on vacation this week... *The Words:* *Lisa, Michael, Corey and Olivia* are in Florida visiting with family this week... *June Clavert* has been away

on vacation.

**LAST SUNDAY:** I appreciate *Dan Bailey* being here and preaching for me in my absence last week. I have heard many good reports and I know that you enjoyed having him here.

**COMMUNICATION GROUPS:** Tonight will be the time for Communication Group four to meet after our afternoon service. If you are in group four, plan to meet this evening.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** We want to congratulate *Doug McCrary* and *Veronica Smith* on their marriage this past Monday. We wish for them a long and happy life together as husband and wife.

**LEAVING FOR TRAINING:** *Patrick Martel* will be leaving Monday for a month of training in Ft. Lewis, Washington. We wish the very best for him and pray for his safe return.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** The *Hollings' Gin church* near Ardmore is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The meeting will begin each evening at 7:30 p.m. The speakers in the meeting will be: *Sunday morning – David Harwell; Sunday afternoon – Guy McDaniel; Monday – John Gibson; Tuesday – Kim Harbin; Wednesday – David Cox; Thursday – Mark White; Friday – Lowell Sallee...* The *Centerview church* in Russellville is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. *Cecil Cox* will be the speaker in this meeting. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 p.m.... The *Russellville church* in Russellville is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with services at 7:30 p.m. *Robert Harkrider of Orlando, Florida* will be the speaker ... The *Wilson Dam Road church* in Muscle Shoals is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with services Monday through Friday at 7:00 p.m. *Dale Robins of Lexington, Kentucky* will be the speaker... The *Hillsboro Heights church* in Moulton is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with services at 7:00 p.m. *Dave Bradford* will be the speaker in this meeting.

### 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

#### Deacons

Phil Pressnell ..... (256) 232-8509  
Rocky Rose ..... (256) 247-0011  
Larry White ..... (256) 247-0988

#### Evangelist & Editor

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

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

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