

# 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, September 4th:

#### *Bible Classes*

Song Leader

..... Brian Word

Bible Reading ..... (Rev. 3:1-13)

..... Rodney McCrary

Prayer

..... Mark McIntyre

#### *Morning Worship*

Song Leader

..... Brian Word

Prayer

..... Rocky Rose

Lord's Supper

Presiding ..... Scottie Goode

Assisting ..... Aric Butler

Serving ..... Curits Mosley

..... Daniel Clemmons

..... Jason White

..... Mark McCrary

Closing Prayer

..... Ronnie Phillips

#### *Evening Worship*

Song Leader

..... Jim Phillips

Bible Reading ..... (Rev. 3:14-22)

..... Wesley Phillips

Prayer

..... Larry White

Lord's Supper

..... Scottie Goode

..... Aric Butler

Closing Prayer

..... Eddie J. Hammond

Volume XII

September 4, 2005

No. 36

## *Put Your Trust In God*

**David A. Cox**

I am sure all have seen the devastation from the Hurricane Katrina along the Gulf coast this past week. Often while watching news reports of the devastation and the terrible losses that individuals have suffered, we wonder how these people will cope with such losses. In 1 Timothy 6:17, Paul tells Timothy to charge the rich not to "trust in uncertain riches, but the living God who giveth us richly all things to enjoy."

God's word is full of instruction concerning our misplacing of value on temporal or the physical things of life. One occasion of this instruction is found in Luke 12:15 where Christ taught, "...for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." If those who have suffered catastrophic losses are among those that place their emphasis in life upon obtaining earthly possessions, then, their lives will be ruined. In some of these cases, people may have worked for years to obtain the things which are now no longer here. Indeed, our sympathy is with anyone that experiences such a loss, but God's word clearly warns us of the temporary nature of these treasures. In Matthew 6:19-20, Christ taught in the sermon on the mount about a man having his treasures on earth where they will decay and where loss may take place. In verse 20, Christ said, "But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through and steal." In Luke 16, we see another occasion that Christ taught about the danger of placing emphasis upon earthly riches. In the incident of the rich man Lazarus, Christ said that the rich man "was clothed in purple and fine linen, and faired sumptuously every day" (v. 19). As he continued in verse 20, he introduced the beggar

named Lazarus “which was laid at his gate full of sores, and desiring to be fed with crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.” Truly, the rich man had all the comforts of life and Lazarus had a very hard life. Christ then tells that both of these men died. Lazarus had trusted God in his life and was blest enjoying paradise, but the rich man, although he had everything he wanted to comfort him in his earthly life, found no comfort being in torment. He had trusted in riches in his life. As we sojourn upon this earth, we need to recognize that true riches are found in Christ (Ephesians 1:3-ff).

May we each be thankful for the abundant blessings that God bestows on us. Let us use our blessings to help those who have had their lives turned upside down by Hurricane Katrina. But ultimately let us remember to put our trust in God. The psalmist declared “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof” (Pslam 46:1-3). May we ever be mindful not to “trust in uncertain riches,” for we may have them today and be gone tomorrow. Let us put our trust in God who sustains us in this life (Acts 17:28) as we look “for a city...whose builder and maker is God” (Hebrews 11:10).

The Anderson  
church of Christ website at:  
[www. Anderson-church.org](http://www.Anderson-church.org)

**On The Site You Will Find:**

1. Information about the church at Anderson
2. The *Gospel Power* in .pdf format uploaded each Sunday.
3. Sermons preached at Anderson in Real Audio.
4. The sermons preached at our meeting in March with Randall Hammock.

## *God Save The Family*

**Dee Bowman**

The moral climate in our country has deteriorated steadily since the 1950’s. The change from Father Knows Best to MTV is astounding.

I’m not one to flaunt the “good old days.” Our memories tend to tolerate only the good stuff anyhow; and we don’t remember what was not good at all. Modern technology, communication, and medical advancements have made “the good old days” not so good by comparison. But the moral standards of that day make the “good ole todays” not so good, either.

The reasons for our modern immoral morass are complex and not easily understood. Just what happens is open for speculation by those who know more about culture, environment, psychology, and societal differentiations than do I. But one thing I know: the failure of the family unit has contributed more to the moral depletion in this country than any other single factor.

The family is the beginning place for society. If the family fails, so does society. And I fear for the failure of the family unit. Now, don’t take that statement lightly. To whatever extent the family is diluted, to that same extent society suffers. It’s scary, folks—scary how the families of this day bear so little resemblance to the pattern first instigated by God.

For instance, the most basic part of the family unit is understood in two terms: *headship* and *helpmeet*. The Bible teaches that the husband is the spiritual mentor of the family (Ephesians 5:22-25; 1 Corinthians 11:1-3). That fact is fundamental. Furthermore, it is necessary to the proper function of the family. The wife is to submit to and honor her husband (Ephesians 5:22; 1 Timothy 2:9-15), and provide for him such help as will make his obligations easier. And children are to honor and obey their parents (Ephesians 6:1-2). In all three cases, the failure to honor these commitments, all three of which

were instituted by God, brings about ill- defined roles, poorly defined obligations and, as a result, an unsettled family.

Love is the mucilage, the glue if you please, that holds the whole fabric of marriage together. Now, I know you already know that. But I'm not talking about some sentimental attachment, or some erotic linkage. I'm not talking about emotional feelings, either. I'm talking about the kind of love that makes a hard day—one where things go wrong—easier to bear. I'm talking about one where a fuss disrupts the family, one where somebody in the family gets out of line, and love—real love—is required to solve the problem (see 1 Corinthians 13). I'm talking about headship and helpmeet in regard to such matters, one where scripturally defined roles are used to solve the problems. That's real love—love for truth as well as love for one another.

Communication is the lifeline of a good family. It's necessary that wives and husbands learn—yes, I said learn—to talk to one another. Not only that, it's necessary that wives and husbands learn to listen to one another. That's the root of all communication—transmission and reception. When one or the other is impeded, there is a problem. I'm not a good counselor, but I have done enough of it through the years to know that a lack of sound communication skills, coupled with too much pride—is the cause of nearly every marital difficulty with which I have had to wrestle. And the simple fact is that talking when it's time to talk and listening when it's time to listen would solve nearly every marriage problem you can name.

And listen carefully. Families don't function well when God is left out. There's a void in the various relationships where God is not present. Please be clear about this: love is not love when truth is left out of it. True love has truth as its base, verity as its energy, and when those are not present, look out, because things are about to unravel. It may not be a bombastic explosion, but unravel they will. One day you'll wake up and

there's no bond left in the relationship, no cement to hold it together. Why? Somebody—perhaps both somebodies, or perhaps even every somebody in the family—either darted off, or gradually drifted away from the truth of God that should characterize a good family. The father didn't do his job, the mother left the home, the kids got out of their place, and so it fragmented the family and distorted everyone's role in it. You can't have a good family that is not based on truth and righteousness. It won't work.

Like I said, I don't know all the answers necessary to ward off our headlong plunge into moral decadence. But I can read the Bible. I know what it says about families and how they are to function. And all the psychologists, sociologists, and human behavioral specialists, combined, are not going to solve the problems in our culture today until they return to the original pattern, the one ordained and commanded by the Creator—God Almighty.

Can you tell I'm serious about this?

~via *Southside Sunday*, Pasadena, Texas.

## News & Notes

**THE SICK:** *Jerry Best* is doing better after being sick last week... *Angie McCrary* had an arteriogram done on her kidney on Wednesday and had a stint inserted ... *Scottie Goode* is to see on surgeon on Tuesday about his Gall Bladder... *Helen Stewart* continues her recovery and rehabilitation at home ... *Suzette McIntyre* was sick an unable to be at Bible study Wednesday night... *Virginia Lovell* is doing better with her back problems, but hopes to be here today... *Sissy Clemmons* continues her recovery from her broken ankle... *Tisha Thomas' mother, Shelia Johnson*, continues in the Vanderbilt Hospital with her treatments ... *Eric White's father, Jim*

*White*, is at home ... *Myrtie Williams* is at home ... *Leota Springer's husband, Bob Springer*, continues to deal with dialysis... *Judy Williams' mother, Flossie Kazzaire*, continues in a nursing facility in Fayette... *Monroe Pressnell's aunt, Mildred Pressnell*, is at home ... *Helen Stewart's grandson, Adam Stewart*, is awaiting a kidney transplant ... *Mattie Blanche Word* is at home... *Shannon Johnson*, continues at home ... *Tisha Thomas' grandmother, Nellie Hunter*, is in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski

**OUT OF TOWN:** *The Phillips: Jim, Brooke and Samuel* have been away this week with Jim work... *The Gatlins: Andrew and Marissa* were in Nashville on Wednesday for a funeral of a family friend.

**ANDERSON COMMUNICATOR:** Remember to pick-up your copy of the *Anderson Communicator* today. The new communication groups are listed on the back.

**COMMUNICATION GROUPS:** Tonight will be the night for Communication Group 1 to meet. If you are in Group 1, remember to meet with your group this evening after our services.

**THE RECORD:** *For the week of August 28th*

**Sunday:**

Bible Classes ..... 94  
 Morning Worship ..... 115  
 Evening Worship ..... 85

**Wednesday:**

Bible Classes ..... 82

**Gospel Meeting**  
**September 25 – 28**  
 Cecil Cox, Speaking  
**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 ..... (256) 247-1451  
 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 ..... (931) 565-3799

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