

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 Privileged To Serve:
Sunday, March 31th

Bible Classes

Song Leader
..... Ronnie Phillips
Bible Reading (2 Tim. 1:1-18)
..... Eddie Hammond
Prayer
..... Larry White

Morning Worship

Song Leader
..... Ronnie Phillips
Prayer
..... Brian Word
Lord's Supper/Collection
Presiding Michael Clemmons
Serving Scottie Goode
..... Mark McIntyre
..... Daniel Clemmons
Closing Prayer
..... Ray Tucker

Evening Worship

Song Leader
..... Brian Word
Bible Reading (2 Tim. 2:1-13)
..... Daniel Clemmons
Prayer
..... Mark McIntyre
Lord's Supper
..... Michael Clemmons
Closing Prayer
..... Jerry Best

Volume IX

March 31, 2002

No. 13

What Is Truth?

David A. Cox

Pilate asked the question in the trial of Jesus, "What is truth?" (John 18:38) and it is a question that has been asked many times. Many would have one believe that truth is relative – meaning that truth is determined by the individual and what they believe truth to be. Is this how truth is determined or is there an objective source of truth?

The Matter of Relative Truth

As we consider the idea of relative truth or truth determined by what an individual thinks, let us consider what the scriptures teach. First, the scriptures warns us saying, "There is a way that seemeth right to a man, but the end is the way of death" (Proverbs 14:12). Again we are warned, "It is not in man that walketh to direct his own steps" (Jeremiah 10:23b). It is certain that all would agree that these wise and inspired men were not giving warnings to which there was no real danger. All will surely admit that there have been times in their lives or in the lives of friends that have seemed good, but in the end they were not right, but wrong.

Jacob provides us with a good example of this from the scriptures as we think of truth being determined by what we think or how we feel about what is true and right. In Genesis 37 we have recorded the story of Joseph and his brothers. Joseph's brethren were very jealous of him and hated him greatly. Their hatred for Joseph got to the point that his brothers wanted to kill him. But instead of killing him they plotted together to sell Joseph as a slave to a band of Ishmaelites who were passing by on their way to Egypt (Genesis 37:12-28). In their plotting they decided to take a coat of many colors that Jacob had given Joseph and dip it in blood and show it to their father. In Genesis 37:31-33 we read, "And they

took Joseph's coat, and killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the blood; And they sent the coat of many colors, and they brought it to their father, and said, This have we found: know now whether it be thy son's coat or not. And he knew it, and said, It is my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces." The plot of the brothers worked; Jacob believed Joseph was dead. Jacob made an honest assessment of the information he had. He was honest, but he was wrong. Jacob could not have believe anything to be truer than what he believe to be true about Joseph. Was Jacob right just because he believed it with intensity or that it seemed to be the correct assessment of the situation? No, he was wrong. Truth is never changed because of how convinced one may be that it is true.

How Can We Determine What Is True?

Look To The Right Source. Jesus said, "Sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth" (John 17:17). This means that we must take our Bibles, the word of God and study them openly, honestly and carefully. We must examine what we believe to be true with what the Bible says and if they do not match we must understand that "God is true" and we must accept what is taught.

Look For The Truth. A good example of this type of people that were looking, longing, and seaching for the truth were the Bereans. "And these (the Bereans) were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11). We must be like the Bereans in searching and looking for the truth, not just accepting it because good ol' brother so-and-so said it. Let us be seekers of the truth and then we can know what truth is.

Love The Truth. To really know the truth and to profit from it we must love it. Paul, writing to the Thessalonians, spoke of those that were deceived who thought they were right because "they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved" (2 Thessalonians

2:10)." Many are pictured here by Paul that simply did not love the truth enough to accept it and obey it.

Live The Truth. Jesus said, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31-32). Let us then desire to ever live as God's Word directs and we shall know the truth. This means applying the principles of truth found in the scriptures and walking in them.



Will You Let The Home Die?

Glen Young

A woman accompanied her husband to the doctor's office. After his checkup, the doctor called the wife into his office alone. He said, "Your husband is suffering from a very severe disease, combined with horrible stress. If you don't do the following, your husband will surely die."

"Each morning, fix him a healthy breakfast, be pleasant and make sure he is in a good mood. For lunch, make him a nutritious meal. For dinner, prepare an especially nice meal. Do not burden him with chores, as he probably had a hard day. Do not discuss your problems with him, it will only make his stress worse. In addition and most importantly, shower him with a lot of love and affection daily. If you can do this for the next ten months to a year, I think your husband will regain his health completely."

On the way home, in a weak voice the husband asked his wife, "Dear, what did the doctor say?"

"You're going to die." She replied.

The previous caricature is funny. However,

it is also sad. It is sad to think that a wife would have so little regard for her husband. Of course, the same charge applies to the husband who has little regard for his wife. The present times trouble the righteous soul. Children grow to adulthood observing selfishness and lack of commitment. Therefore, each generation gets further and further away from godly homes.

Homes across our great land are in trouble. It is not just the homes of the worldly. The homes of Christians are in trouble as well. The family sitting in the pew behind you could be in trouble. It could be the family next to you. It could even be your home!

The fact that Christians have troubled homes is not the problem. A reality check will reveal that Christians are human and as such, are prone to weakness. Additionally, homes consist of more than one personality and you have the ingredients for trouble in the home.

It is becoming increasingly common for Christians to give up on having a godly home. Some even gives up to the point of destroying the home through divorce. Why is there no solution to this devastating problem?

There is good news and bad news. The good news is, 'YES,' there is an answer to the problem. The Bible teaches us how to have good, solid homes. It instructs us in the ways that will ensure a home complete with peace and harmony. Following the instructions creates a home where all members are happy and well adjusted. It creates a home where the family is clothed with spiritual armor. The Spiritual armor necessary for doing battle with the forces of evil. Then why are there so many Christians homes that are unhappy? That is the bad news.

Too many Christians are like the wife in our introduction to this article. They are not willing to do what is necessary to make the sick home well. Whether it is selfishness or just plain laziness, the things that ensure success in the home never materialize.

The method for having a godly home is not

a mystery. There are many passages in the New Testament that deal with the subject. One such passage is as follows. "Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also, Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself" (Eph. 5:22-28).

A selfish wife who constantly wants her way, or a demanding husband who never considers his wife's needs, is a disaster waiting to happen. A self-indulgent husband who surrounds himself with his "toys", or a domineering wife who seeks to control every aspect of the relationship will bring a home to ruin.

~via *Road Creek Bulletin* Elkhorn City, Kentucky

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Wynell Ridgeway* had angioplasty done on Tuesday and came home from the hospital on Thursday and is doing well...*Glenda* came home from the hospital on Monday and is recovering from her injuries sustained in a car accident last Saturday...*Angie McCrary* is recovering from surgery on Monday...*Amber Hammond* was not feeling well and was not able to be at services Wednesday night...*Hoyt Hammond* has been sick and unable to be services this past week... *Millinea Word* continues taking her medication for her bout

with Bronchitis ...**Scottie Goode's father, Hubert Goode**, continues at home taking his medication... Remember **Mattie Blanche Word** continues at home and not able to be out ...**Millinea Word's mother, Nola McCafferty, and brother, Paul McCafferty** and **Aldeen Noles** are in 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.

OUT OF TOWN: **Marla Clemmons** has been out of town this past week, but is now back home.

PICTURES: Many have already had their picture made for the pictorial directory, but if you haven't remember to get with **Claus Martel** as soon as possible. to get your picture made.. Also, you have already had your picture taken the pictures are on the bulletin board if you would like to see what your picture looks like. Let's try to get this pictures finished up as soon as possible.

HOME PAGE/RECORDINGS: Remember the **Gospel Power** is being uploaded in .pdf format each Sunday afternoon on the church's website. Also, we are now recording sermons in digital format to easily make CD copies of sermons and to upload sermons preached to the website on RealAudio.

PREACHING TONIGHT: **Claus Martel** will be preaching tonight at our service. I look forward to hearing Claus and hope that all will make plans to be present.

GOSPEL MEETING The **Belgreen church** in Belgreen is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday with services each evening at 7:00. **Don Miller** will be the speaker.

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

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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P.O. Box 66
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