

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 7th

Bible Classes

Song Leader
..... Ronnie Phillips
Bible Reading (2 Tim. 13:1-17)
..... Eddie Hammond
Prayer
..... Daniel Clemmons

Morning Worship

Song Leader
..... Ronnie Phillips
Prayer
..... Mark McIntyre
Lord's Supper/Collection
Presiding Larry White
Serving Phil Pressnell
..... Ethan Pressnell
..... Jerry Best
Closing Prayer
..... Scottie Goode

Evening Worship

Song Leader
..... Mark McIntyre
Bible Reading (2 Tim. 2:1-13)
..... Claus Martel
Prayer
..... Michael Clemmons
Lord's Supper
..... Larry White
Closing Prayer
..... Ray Tucker

Volume IX

April 7, 2002

No. 14

Set Your Mind On Things Above

Kent E. Heaton, Sr.

The mind is a beautiful thing when it is used properly. With it we are able to recall our memories of days gone by. Through the process of mental exercise we perform thousands of tasks each day "without thinking." As our eyes view the world about us, we catalog each moment in the vast cells of our brain and from the mind spring forth the actions that make us communicate, operate and facilitate our every action. Through the action of the mind we live and breathe and have our being in this earth.

The mind is a window to the eternal part of man. We are of dust in the mortal man. The flesh decays and returns to the dust from whence it came (Genesis 2:7; 3:19). Paul describes the relationship of our outward man and inward man in 2 Corinthians 4:16 - "For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day." Danny Roberts said that we do not possess a soul but our soul possesses a body. Our mind is the window of who we are and what we will become.

The life of the Christian is one filled with building up the mind unto spiritual things. Paul wrote in Colossians 3:1-2, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." We are to seek those things that are above and we cannot do that if our mind (affection) is not thinking about those things above. The wise man wrote in Proverbs 23:7, "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee."

As the "elect of God" we are to place in our minds the characteristics of "holy and beloved" people. "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness,

humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness” (Colossians 3:12-14). These characteristics are first found in the heart of the individual (Matthew 15:17-19).

In the body of Christ, we are to have “one mind” (1 Peter 3:8; Romans 15:6; 2 Corinthians 13:11; Philippians 1:27; 2:2), a “sound mind” (2 Timothy 1:7), a mind like Christ (Philippians 2:5; 1 Corinthians 2:16), a “willing mind” (2 Corinthians 8:12), a “renewed mind” (Romans 12:2). Setting our minds on things above is the result of placing the mind before the throne of God and seeking His glory in every part of our lives. What we think about and what we dwell upon in our mind is governed and guided by those things above. Having this kind of mind will keep us from temptation.

Romans 8:5,6 says, “For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.” The mind is guided by two things: the flesh or the spirit. From one mind we find death and from the mind that is set above we find life and peace. From the mind that brings life and peace - pictures of heaven begin to appear.

Setting our minds on things above will take it away from the pain and sorrow of this world and enthrone our minds upon the hope, the calling, the promise and the assurance of seeing the Father face to face. Our minds will picture eternal life as a wonderful blessing given to us by a loving God. In this strength of mind, we face death more boldly as only a means to secure our eternal home with the heavenly host. Philippians 4:8 bears reading to see the power of what we think. What do you think?

~via *Trenton Bulletin*; Trenton, Florida.

Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m. & Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Made Alive With Him

Dan Shipley

When the apostle Paul preached the gospel, he preached the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (1 Corinthians 15:1-4). And, equally important, he showed how every believer identifies with Christ’s sacrifice in order to procure its benefits. Indeed, salvation is made dependent on the believer’s fellowship with the death, burial, and resurrection of his Saviour.

Accordingly, there is a death to be experienced by every believer who would live with Christ. “But if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him” (Romans 6:8). As Paul shows in Romans 6:2, the Christian is one who has died to sin. None can make a rightful claim to being “of Christ” who has not “crucified the flesh with the passions and the lusts thereof” (Galatians 5:24). Where else but in repentance does the believer determine to “put off the old man with his doings” (Colossians 3:9)? Thus, he “reckons” (considers) himself to be dead unto sin (Romans 6:11) and determines that sin shall not have reign and dominion over him (Romans 6:12,14). That means no longer live unto themselves, but ‘unto him who for their sakes died and rose again” (2 Corinthians 5:14). When Christ and not the world determines how we live, we can say with Paul that “the world hath been crucified unto me, and I unto the world” (Galatians 6:14). In view of such truths, it is obvious that a crucified self is no less important than a crucified Christ! The fact that He “died for our sins” (1 Corinthians 15:3) has real significance only to those who are willing to die to sin.

Then, as every believer dies with Christ, he must also be buried with Him. Paul shows that this burial is in the waters of baptism and no other place. “Or are ye ignorant that all we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him through baptism into death” (Romans 6:4). As Whiteside says, “We are not baptized

into the literal death of Christ, but into the benefits of His death, including freedom from sin. A person is not completely dead to sin till he is separated from it, and that separation takes place in baptism” (Commentary on Romans, p. 29). The death to sin that is resolved in true repentance is consummated in baptism. Any man who ever put on Jesus Christ is a man who was baptized into Christ (Galatians 3:27), and any man who was ever baptized into Christ was buried with Him in baptism (Romans 6:4; Col. 2:12). This burial in baptism cannot be the sprinkling or pouring that some call baptism because the word itself means immersion or submersion.

Finally, the believer who has died and been buried with Christ is also raised with Him to a newness of life (Romans 6:4). This is possible because of what happened in baptism. As Jesus promised, “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved” (Mark 16:16). Saul of Tarsus was told that his sins would be washed away in baptism (Acts 22:16). Remission of sins is promised to such believers as will repent and be baptized (Acts 2:38). With the forgiveness of sins we are made alive together with Him (Colossians 2:13). This life comes only with this death, this burial and resurrection.

~via *The Gospel Observer*, Avondale, Pennsylvania



A Synopsis of Bible Miracles

T. Doy Moyer

The purpose? To produce faith in Jesus Christ (John 20:30-31) and to confirm the word of God (Mark 16:20; Hebrews 2:1-4).

The nature? The outcome was immediate (Mark 7:35, etc.). The results were marvelous and even the enemies of Christ could not deny them (see Acts 4:16).

The duration? Miracles and spiritual gifts were to cease when revelation was completed (1 Corinthians 13:8-12).

Jesus promised the apostles that they would receive all truth (John 16:13). The apostles claimed to receive it (2 Peter 1:3). Revelation is complete (Jude 3); and therefore miracles and spiritual gifts through men have ceased.

Miracles are understood. Thousands claim to do them, yet offer no proof that what they do is even close to Bible miracles. Don't be fooled. Open your Bible and see for yourself. Read the miracles firsthand, then you will know the difference between truth and error.

~via *The Manslick Road Speaker*, Louisville, Kentucky.

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Wynell Ridgeway* is in the ECM hospital room 370 after experiencing some chest pains on Friday... *Tika White* has been down with her back this past week... *Angie McCrary* has continued to recover from recent surgery ... *Helen Trousdale* was not feeling well and was not able to be at services Wednesday night ... *Sanda Martel* has been sick this past weekend unable to be at Bible study Wednesday night ... *Tisha Thomas* has been sick this past week and unable to be at Bible study Wednesday night ... *Millinea Word* began taking a new medication for her Multiple Myeloma this past Monday ... *Scottie Goode's father, Hubert Goode*, continues at home taking his medication... Remember *Mattie Blanche Word* continues at home ... *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..

PICTURES: Remember we are trying to finish up our pictures this week for our pictorial

directory. If you haven't had yours made yet be sure to get with **Claus Martel** as soon as possible.

ACTIVITY FORMS: We need for every member to fill out a new activity form. Please make sure to one up on the table in the vestibule and fill it out and give it to one of the deacons so that we can know each area of work that each one is willing to do.

HOME PAGE: If your haven't visited our web site recently please do so. We are adding new material each week. The **Gospel Power** is being uploaded in .pdf format each Sunday afternoon on the church's website.

LAST SUNDAY NIGHT: It was good to hear **Claus Martel** preach for us last Sunday night. I appreciate his willingness and desire to do this. If any other men of the congregation would like to speak please let us know.

GOSPEL MEETING The **First Street church** in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with services Monday through Friday at 7:00. *Buc Chumbley of Athens* will be the speaker.

COMMUNICATION GROUPS: This week is Communication group one's week to meet. If you are in group one, plan to participate with your group tonight.

THE RECORD: *Averages for March 2002*

Sunday: Bible Classes 87
Morning Worship 102
Evening Worship 69

Wednesday: Bible Classes 65

Gospel Meeting

June 16-21

Bill Hall, Speaker

Anderson church of Christ
Highway 207
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

Deacons

Phil Pressnell (256) 232-8509
Rocky Rose (256) 247-0011
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