

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, May 12th

Bible Classes

Song Leader
..... Daniel Clemmons
Bible Reading (Heb. 9:1-10)
..... Eddie Hammond
Prayer
..... Mark McIntyre

Morning Worship

Song Leader
..... Daniel Clemmons
Prayer
..... Claus Martel
Lord's Supper/Collection
Presiding Rocky Rose
Serving Mark McIntyre
..... Jerry Dickey
..... Ronnie Phillips
Closing Prayer
..... Ray Tucker

Evening Worship

Song Leader
..... Ronnie Phillips
Bible Reading (Heb. 9:11-28)
..... Rodney McCrary
Prayer
..... Daniel Clemmons
Lord's Supper
..... Rocky Rose
Closing Prayer
..... Brian Word

Volume IX

May 12, 2002

No. 19

Room In The Kingdom

Troy Nicholson

Sometimes we sing a song, "Room in God's Kingdom," about there being room in the kingdom and a place in the service of God that we all can do. We see an example of this song in action in the city of Corinth.

Paul went to Corinth seemingly in a depressed state, for he later wrote the Corinthians saying, "I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling" (1 Corinthians 2:3). His speech was not all that great, either (v. 1). The Lord even spoke to Paul in Corinth to tell him, "Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent;..." (Acts 18:9-11). Paul "testified to the Jews that Jesus is the Christ" (v. 5). Their response? They "opposed him and blasphemed" and later brought false charges against him (vs. 6, 12-13). This is not to say that Paul did not have any success preaching to the Jews, for he did (vs.4, 8); but his success seemed to be limited.

Another disciple, Apollos, later went to Corinth with a much different disposition than that of Paul. He was "an eloquent man" and "fervent in spirit" who "spoke boldly" and "vigorously refuted the Jews publicly,..." (Acts 18:24-28). Some have surmised that because the Corinthian culture admired eloquence and zeal that Apollos would have had more appeal to them than Paul. We do not have many details of his success, but we do know that "he greatly helped those who had believed through grace" (v. 27).

Which preacher was better? Can we say that Apollos was a better preacher because he was more eloquent? Was Paul maybe better because he was able to reach some that Apollos was not? Could we not fittingly say that there was room for both of them in the kingdom, that there was work that each of them could do?

So what was Paul's attitude toward the differences in Apollos and himself? He condemned the Corinthians who tried to make a distinction of honor between them (1 Corinthians 1:11-13; 3:3-5, 21-22). He said, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase," recognizing the work that each of them did and giving all the credit to God (vs. 6-7). He said that "he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor." He considered Apollos a "fellow worker" in God's field (v. 9).

How does this example apply to us? There may be some brethren who are more talented in certain areas than you; but instead of being envious of them, you should thank God for their ability and do the best you can with the ability He gives you.

Not all of us will ever be like Apollos—eloquent, knowledgeable, and zealous. We must remember that all the Lord requires of us is that we use the ability we have as best we can in His service. As long as we do, we will hear the same words from God as those with greater ability who have utilized it: "Well done, good and faithful servant;...Enter into the joy of your Lord" (Matthew 25:20-23).

~via *The Southport Sounder*, Indianapolis, Indiana



Gospel Meeting

June 16-21

Bill Hall, Speaker

Anderson church of Christ
Highway 207
Anderson, Alabama

Getting The Job Done

Robert F. Turner

A fellow preacher showed me the church building in a community of middle income people — the meeting place for 60/80 brethren. Paint was peeling from the trim, the lawn was filled with weeds and needed mowing, shrubbery needed trimming, and trash was blowing about the parking lot. He asked, "If you were preaching here, how would you go about getting the brethren to clean up this place?"

I told him I would begin by bringing my mower up there and cutting the grass. Then, at our next meeting, I would ask if any of the members had an edger, and if so, would they meet me here on Saturday and edge the walk while I clean up the parking lot. I'd thank that person publicly on Sunday, and ask if someone would volunteer to trim the shrubbery. All this should get their attention!!

Then I would ask the elders, or the next business meeting, if there was any objection to scraping off the old paint, and putting on new, I'd have prices for paint on hand – and if they said the "church" couldn't afford it, I'd offer to do it myself, with whatever help anyone would give. But my friend played devil's advocate. "What if no one offered to help, or even told you that if it took a neat clean building to get people to come to worship they would be coming for the wrong reason." I would counter that people who looked for a show place weren't coming to that little place; and that the clean-up was not to attract new comers, but was the fruit of self-respect on the part of those who regularly worshipped there.

I might suggest a Bible reading of Proverbs 24:30-34. "I went by the field of the sluggard, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding; and, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, The face thereof was covered with nettles, and the stone wall thereof was broken down..."

In this day of emphasis upon material things this article seems almost archaic. But this was not written to promote clean neat buildings alone. I hoped you would notice that if something needs doing you begin by doing it yourself. Elders and preachers will not increase personal work, contribution, or other desirable traits by “fussing” at the congregation. We should have scriptural authority for our plea, but even this will fail in the absence of example. Most brethren know what is right, but are not motivated to do as well as they know to do. For the bottom line, it is this mutual edification, encouragement, prompting and correcting that gives meaning to congregational fellowship.

~via *The Gospel Observer*, Avondale, Pennsylvania.



Assembling Ourselves Together

Evan Bennett

Have you ever quit an activity or stopped participating in something because you realized you were not getting anything out of it? Maybe you just realized that it was not worth your time to go anymore; maybe you found it a drag on your energy to prepare for every meeting. All of us have stopped doing something at some time because it lost its ability to draw our attention.

Unfortunately, too many have made such a decision about their relationship with the church. They may go once in a while, or even once a week, but their hearts are not in it. The assembling of the saints becomes to them a chore, and they complain, “I just don’t get anything out of it.” This attitude is the bane the local church; it robs the congregation of dedicated members, making it more difficult to accomplish the work of the Lord.

It is also a very worn-headed attitude

because it fails to see the greater purpose of assembling with the saints. Hebrews 10:24-25 makes clear the purpose of assembling together is not getting, but giving: “And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

Coming together with the saints is not something we do in expectation or receiving, but as an opportunity for giving. We should see the times of assembly as an opportunity to encourage others, to strengthen our brethren, to edify the faithful. When we approach the assembling of ourselves together as a time of giving we will find that we will get more than we give.

~via *The Cornerstone*, Richmond, Virginia.

News & Notes

THE SICK: *Freda McConnell's father, Alton Wray*, was moved to Glenwood Rehabilitation this past week...Remember *James McConnell's father, Albert McConnell*, as he is taking treatments ...*Scottie Goode's father, Hubert Goode*, continues at home taking his medication... *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.

OUR MEETING: Our gospel meeting is approaching quickly with brother *Bill Hall* preaching. It will be **June 16-21** and I hope

that we are telling others and inviting them to join us in a week of Bible studies. There are some fliers on the table in the vestibule for you to take and pass along to those that you invite.

OUR GRADUATES: Again this year we have several that will be graduating from school. They are **Katy Goode**, who is graduating from Lauderdale County High School...**Andrea Phillips**, who graduated last Sunday from Blue Mountain College in Blue Mountain, Mississippi...**Brooke Phillips**, who is graduating from UAH in Huntsville this afternoon.

OUT OF TOWN: The Pressnells: *Phil, Cindy, Logan and Ethan* are in Prattville this weekend. Logan is participating in the High School state golf tournament...**Aric Butler and Anrea Phillips** are away this weekend visiting Aric's mother in Panama City, Florida.

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

ACTIVITY FORMS: Remember we are needing every member to fill out a new activity form. We have had a number turned in, but still have quite a few that have not been turned in yet. If you have not turned one in, please be sure to fill one out and give it to one of the deacons, as soon as possible. The forms are located on the table in the vestibule.

THE RECORD: *Averages for April 2002*

Sunday: Bible Classes 77
 Morning Worship 95
 Evening Worship 64

Wednesday: Bible Classes 63

Next Sunday evening, May 19th, will be the time for our regular scheduled song service. Mark McIntyre will be directing the service. Make your plans to join as we sing songs of glory and praise to God.

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

U.S. Postage
 Paid
 Bulk Rate
 Anderson, Alabama
 Non-Profit
 Permit #6

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

Return Service Requested