

# 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, May 25th

#### **Bible Classes**

Song Leader  
..... Brian Word  
Bible Reading ..... (Heb. 11:17-40)  
..... Ronnie Phillips  
Prayer  
..... Phil Pressnell

#### **Morning Worship**

Song Leader  
..... Brian Word  
Prayer  
..... Mark McIntyre  
Lord's Supper/Collection  
Presiding ..... Jerry Dickey  
Serving ..... Eddie Hammond  
..... Jerry Best  
..... Rodney McCrary  
Closing Prayer  
..... Michael Clemmons

#### **Evening Worship**

Song Leader  
..... Daniel Clemmons  
Bible Reading ..... (Heb. 10:26-39)  
..... Eddie Hammond  
Prayer  
..... Ronnie Phillips  
Lord's Supper  
..... Jerry Dickey  
Closing Prayer  
..... Ray Tucker

Volume IX

May 25, 2002

No. 21

## **What Doctrine Does Satan Preach?**

**Carlton G. McPeak**

Jesus has a doctrine. Satan has a doctrine also. Jesus spent three years preaching His doctrine to the world and then left men to preach and write down that doctrine. Satan has no written doctrine. Today, just like in other centuries, he is still preaching his doctrine of "no heaven, no hell and no hurry."

Why does he preach "no heaven"? By convincing you there is no heaven then you will not believe in God. Never stating "there is no God", Satan raises doubts in the minds of people about God's character. Who will set standards if there is no God? Who will judge? Satan knows that there is a God and he believes there is a God (James 2:19), but he does not want to obey God.

Why does he preach "no hell"? Who wants to hear about the horror of hell and all its torment and suffering? Everyone wants to hear there are no consequences to their actions. So, eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow you may die (cf. Isaiah 22:13, Luke 12:19). Live life for today.

Why does he preach "no hurry"? Having a sense of urgency about spiritual matters might cause you to read your Bible. If on the other hand you feel you have plenty of time, then time will slip away and your life will be over and you will never have obeyed what God said.

As young people he convinces us we are young only once. Enjoy your high school and college years; you have the rest of your life to be serious. After graduation we are persuaded we need to work long and hard so that we can establish our careers.

When our kids are young we need to be involved in their

school and recreational activities. When they are older we work so we can pay their college tuition. After our kids marry and have grandkids we spend our time spoiling their kids.

Spending time with our kids is great but at the same time, when we are working extra hours or jobs so that we can provide for them, we never have any time to think on spiritual matters. We may not admit it but our actions say we believe in the doctrine of Satan that says, "There is no hurry."

But, what if Satan is preaching a false doctrine and you believe it?

Then you will miss seeing one of the grandest places in existence; miss worshipping the Creator of the world (Revelation 21); and miss associating with all of God's people for eternity.

Instead of resting for all eternity (Revelation 14:13), you will suffer in hell where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth (Matthew 13:14). You will be in permanent darkness because the Light will not be there (Matthew 8:12; Revelation 22:5); and misery that can only be compared to an eternal fire burning your body forever (Revelation 20:10).

Procrastination is Satan's greatest tool. If on your last day on this earth, you have never obeyed God, then the next day you will spend eternity with Satan. Exactly what he wants.

If you have rejected the doctrine of Satan, then help others to reject it also. Help them to understand the will of God (Ephesians 5:17), which teaches there is a hell and there is a heaven. Why would anyone want to be miserable for eternity rather than worship God forever? So, believe there is a hell, believe there is a heaven and do it in a hurry.

~via *Dalton Daily-Citizen*, Dalton, Georgia



*Come and Study God's Word  
With Us.*

## *Persuasion's Power*

**Michael W. McLemore**

Christians are perplexed by the world's failure to embrace Christ and his promise of eternal salvation. Equally bewildering is the "religious world's" espousal of doctrines plainly contrary to sacred scripture. Mystified Christians incessantly seek the power of persuasion to turn men to the Lord and His truth.

Without a doubt most seek to persuade men in vain by employing carnal device. The "institutional movement" of two generations ago convinced brethren the cause of the Lord is perpetuated in "educating men in the art of oratory" and thereby advocated support of colleges by local churches. Too, the same convinced congregations their future growth was dependant upon the construction of "entertainment facilities" (fellowship halls, family life centers, etc.) if men would be persuaded to hear their message of "truth." Though the New Testament is specific about the means to draw men to Christ (Romans 1:16; 2 Thessalonians 2:14), men thought the Gospel not possessive of sufficient power to persuade men, thus aspired to bolster it with carnal gadgets of human invention. The fruits of the movement are being observed as vanity.

Faithful brethren are not immune from these notions. Many congregations of the Lord's people are convinced persuasion's power is realized in human ability. This is manifest in a number of ways. One is observed in preaching. Let me say, I am an advocate of bold Gospel preaching and believe the most capable among us ought to be sought out and used for the same! But, brethren, the persuasion of souls is not discovered the moment a certain brother drives into the city. The impression that the persuasion of men rests in the eloquence of the man preaching is ridiculous. Yet, this is commonly believed. Friend, persuasion's power in any endeavor is discovered in the action of those committed to such an enter-

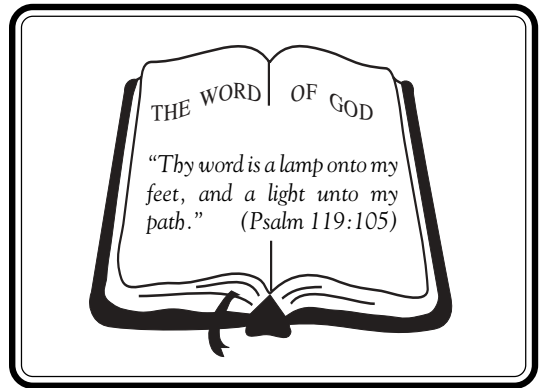
prise, not only in the oratory of a single man unknown to most hearers. Paul said, “Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men...” (2 Corinthians 3:2,3).

Shakespeare said, “Action is eloquence; the eyes of the ignorant are more learned than their ears.” One living example before our peers speaks volumes more eloquently than a thousand well-spoken words. A congregation of the Lord’s people who loves one another and dwells together in unity resounds as the clarion trump, “Ye are my disciples” (John 13:31-35; 2 Corinthians 3:18, RV).

Eloquence observed in action – Christ living in us – is our greatest means of persuasion. God’s children trust in His word as of sufficient strength to change the lives of men. The example of that change in us testifies to the glory of God before mankind (Matthew 5:16). Brethren, our commitment to the cause of Christ manifest to those with whom we come in contact outruns logic. It is greater than most able oratory. Its vehement simplicity overwhelms the witness with the power of God to move men. Speaking of true eloquence, Daniel Webster wrote, “words and phrases may be marshaled in every way, but they cannot compass it.” He earlier defined eloquence’s power as noble, sublime. Godlike action. If our devotion to the Lord’s work and the salvation of souls were so defined, few could resist the persuasive power of such an example.

Christians remain perplexed with the failure of humanity to obey Christ, but they need not be mystified as to the power to persuade them, God’s word living and active in our speech and life. All other human invention is of little profit and its fruit defiled.

~via *Bible Viewpoints*, Katy, Texas, Texas.



## News & Notes

**THE SICK:** *Millinea Word* underwent surgery on Monday to put pins in her hip that she broke last Saturday. She is still in the Maury Regional Hospital in Columbia, Tennessee, room 650-B. They plan to move her soon to NHC in Pulaski for rehabilitation ..**Lou Ann Phillips** was down with her back and not able to be at services Wednesday night..**Mark McInrtyre** was better and able to be at Bible study Wednesday after being sick over the weekend..**Freda McConnell’s father, Alton Wray**, continues in the Glenwood Rehabilitation in Florence ..**My sister, Anita Willis** had additional surgery for her cancer on Friday and is at home. She will begin treatments in the next few weeks... Remember **James McConnell’s father, Albert McConnell**, as he is finishing his 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

### Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski.

**OUR MEETING:** There are some fliers on the table in the vestibule for you to take and pass along to those that you invite to our gospel meeting. The meeting will be **June 16-21** with brother **Bill Hall** preaching. I hope that we are telling others and inviting them to join us in a week of Bible studies.

**SYMPATHY:** We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Rocky Rose** in the passing of his uncle, *Doug Patterson*, this past Wednesday. His funeral was yesterday in Athens.

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

**OUT OF TOWN:** **Claus Martel** has been out of town this past in Washington, D.C. due to work. He is now back home...**The Goodes:** *Corey and Ashley* have been away this week in Gatlinburg on their honeymoon...**The Phillips:** *Jim and Brooke* are in Florida this week on vacation.

**YOUNG ADULTS:** The young adults are invited to our house this evening after our services. I hope that all will be able to come.



# 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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