

# 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, June 2nd

#### **Bible Classes**

Song Leader  
..... Phil Pressnell  
Bible Reading ..... (Heb. 13:1-15)  
..... Claus Martel  
Prayer  
..... Daniel Clemmons

#### **Morning Worship**

Song Leader  
..... Phil Pressnell  
Prayer  
..... Ray Tucker  
Lord's Supper/Collection  
Presiding ..... Mark McIntyre  
Serving ..... Ronnie Phillips  
..... Ethan Pressnell  
..... Daniel Clemmons  
Closing Prayer  
..... Brian Word

#### **Evening Worship**

Song Leader  
..... Daniel Clemmons  
Bible Reading ..... (Heb. 13:16-25)  
..... Larry White  
Prayer  
..... Michael Clemmons  
Lord's Supper  
..... Mark McIntyre  
Closing Prayer  
..... Jerry Dickey

Volume IX

June 2, 2002

No. 22

## **Be of Good Courage**

Glen Young

A man watched as an attendant at the local zoo entered a cage. He had nothing in his hands but a broom. Carefully closing the door, he proceeded to sweep the floor of the cage. The man observed that the worker had no weapon to ward off an attack. The onlooker could not turn his eyes away from the scene. He had never seen such a brave man. A man who would enter a wildcat's cage defenseless.

When the attendant got to the corner where the wildcat was lying, he poked the animal with the broom. The wildcat hissed at him. It then went over and lay down in another corner.

The fascinated observer remarked to the attendant, "You are a brave man."

"No, I'm not brave," he replied as he continued sweeping.

"Is the cat tame?"

"Nope," came the reply, "he isn't tame."

"If you are not brave and the wildcat is not tame, then why doesn't it attack you?"

The man chuckled, then replied with an air of confidence, "Mister, he is old. He ain't got any teeth."

Some situations in life mimic the old, toothless wildcat. They appear to be vicious when in reality they are harmless. Many a time, Christians loose sleep, fret, and generally become disquieted over something that has long lost its teeth.

However, all circumstances are not so harmless. Those events that are used by the devil to tempt and discourage Christians fall into a different category. Peter puts it this way. "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a

roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour” (1 Peter 5:8). No one should think for a moment that a roaring lion is not a real and present danger. Nevertheless, God has made a way of dealing with this formidable foe. Take for an example Daniel; he was given a most disquieting choice. He was to stop praying to God or face the hungry lions, which possessed large teeth (Daniel 6:15-23)! Then there is Moses who chose between a life of luxury in the king’s palace, or suffering with God’s people (Hebrews 11:23-29). Esther is another Old Testament character who faced the lion’s roar. She chose between keeping quiet, thus allowing the Jews to be destroyed or standing up against evildoers at the risk of losing her life (Esther 4:10-17).

What do these three have in common? They trusted in God. Daniel believed, and God sent an angel to shut the lions’ mouths. God was with Moses as he fulfilled the mission God gave him. Esther’s courage was one driven by the righteousness of her cause. In all three cases, God turned the roaring lion into an old, toothless wildcat!

Christians need such courage in their lives! They need courage that stands for **truth** regardless of the consequences. Their lives should put Christ first regardless. Courage to speak the name of God to a world that regards Christians as fools.

*“Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart, all you who hope in the Lord” (Psalms 31:24).*

~via *The Road Creek Bulletin*; Elkhorn City, Kentucky.



## *Of Mice or Men*

**Matt Hennecke**

As I bent over to scoop up sunflower seeds for the bird feeder I noticed the mouse. Instinctively I recoiled, jerking back fast enough to

drop the scoop. My pulse increased as I contemplated the furry creature. In the back of my mind I wondered how he’d gotten into the sealed container which held the fifty pounds of sunflower seeds.

I leaned closer, taking note of the cute little fellow: light brown fur, beige colored tail curled in a gentle “S,” and quite dead. That’s right. His eyes were open and he looked very well-fed but, sure enough, he was dead. Taking a pair of pliers from my toolbox I picked up the mouse by his tail and tossed him into a snow drift just outside the garage door.

How ironic, I thought. The little mouse probably thought he’d struck gold when he discovered all that sunflower seed. I can picture him happily gorging himself. I can almost imagine him thinking, “I’m rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing.” Of course what the mouse didn’t realize is that eating requires digestion and digestion requires water. In the midst of all his riches and wealth the little mouse died of thirst.

That little mouse got me thinking about those of us living in the United States. As a nation we are blessed beyond compare. We have riches in abundance. A trip to the local grocery store is an amazing journey into the profusion of foods available to us. Yet, even in the midst of riches, many are dying of thirst. Our bodies are filled, but our souls are parched and dying.

John said it well: “Because you say, ‘I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,’ and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor...” (Revelation 3:17).

We are like that little mouse who began to feel poorly while surrounded by plenty. We need “water.” We cannot live without “water.” Our souls long for it and will die without it. Are you thirsty? Jesus said, “the water that I give shall be a well of water springing up into everlasting life”(John 4:14).

~via *Think On These Things*, Cortland Illinois.

# It Is Your Move!

Robert F. Turner

While in Baltimore, Maryland, I visited successfully old Ft. McHenry which withstood a British naval attack in the War of 1812, inspiring Francis Scott Key's poem "The Star-Spangled Banner." Fifty or sixty tourists sat in a small theater to see a stirring dramatic film presentation of the battle. "The rocket's red glare gave proof through the night, that our flag was still there."

At the conclusion of the film, the curtains on one side of the theater were slowly opened, the thrilling strains of our National Anthem were played, and we saw Old Glory flying gallantly from the tall standard in the fort. It had a wonderful impact.

And I sat right there with all the rest of those sophisticated tourists. I had the immediate impulse to arise and stand respectfully at attention. But I didn't!!

As we filed from the room my conscience was hurting, and I mentioned my abortive impulse to one who had sat near me. Sheepishly he admitted that he too had had such a thought, "but no one started it!" Do you get the point of this article? "No one led the way!!"

I could have obeyed my impulse – when it really counted – and my neighbor would have stood with me. I am persuaded that every man and woman in that room would have arisen and paid the homage due our flag (Romans 13:7). But a few moments later it was too late!

This is not written simply to "wave the flag," although I think a little patriotism would do us good. This is written to stress the need for "speaking up" and "acting" when the need is present. To obey that impulse to do what is right, instead of weighing the cost of possible embarrassment, etc., "and holding off."

There are churches that could have been saved from digression – if "some one had led the

way" when it would have counted. There are souls that would have been saved – "if someone had invited." At this moment, someone is waiting for our word of encouragement, our example. **Will we give it??**

~via *The Gospel Observer*, Avondale, Pennsylvania



Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

## News & Notes

**THE SICK:** *Millinea Word* has moved to NHC in Pulaski for rehabilitation, room 230 ...**Ashley Goode's father, Robert Barringer**, is in the CCU at ECM hospital in Florence ...**Charles Glass** was sick this past week and unable to be at services...**Margaret Weathers** had a MRI done on Tuesday and it was clear. She will return to the doctor on Monday ...**Tisha Thomas** was able to be out Wednesday after being sick on Sunday...**My sister, Anita Willis** received word from the surgery she had last week. It was not good and she will have more surgery later on after they have started her chemo treatments...Freda McConnell's father, Alton Wray, is now home following his rehabilitation...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

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.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS/VBS:** The **Northside church** in Lexington is having a Vacation Bible School this week beginning tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m. and continuing each evening through Friday. The speakers in the adult class are: Monday – Steve Klein; Tuesday – Dwight McGee; Wednesday – Matt Oglesby; Thursday – Norm Webb; Friday – Oscar Miles....The **Pepper Road church** in Athens is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with services at 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. *Wes Brown* will be the speaker in this meeting ...The **Piney Grove church** south of Tusculumbia is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with services at 7:00 p.m. *Whit Sasser* will be the speaker in this meeting... The **Quinn Memorial church** in near Spruce Pine is beginning at meeting today and it will continue through Friday with services at 7:30 p.m. The speaker in the meeting will be *Mark White of Florence* They will be having a Vacation Bible School each morning at 10:00 a.m.

**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.

**OUT OF TOWN:** **The Dickeys:** *Jerry, Charlotte, Justin and Brandon* have been away this week on vacation in Florida...**The Bests:** *Jerry and Mary* have been out of town this week on vacation...**Glenda and Andrea Phillips** and **Aric Butler** are visiting today with family.

**THE RECORD:** *Averages for May 2002*

**Sunday:** Bible Classes ..... 78  
Morning Worship ..... 96  
Evening Worship ..... 65

**Wednesday:** Bible Classes ..... 67

### 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

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Rocky Rose ..... (256) 247-0011  
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