

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, March 27th:

Bible Classes

Song Leader

..... Jim Phillips
Bible Reading (Hebrews 7:1-10)
..... Eddie L. Hammond
Prayer
..... Brian Word

Morning Worship

Song Leader

..... Jim Phillips
Prayer
..... Ray Tucker
Lord's Supper
Presiding Monroe Pressnell
Assisting Jerry Dickey
Serving Aric Butler
..... Mike Rogers
..... Wesley Phillips
..... James McConnell
Closing Prayer
..... Mark McIntyre

Evening Worship

Song Leader

..... Daniel Clemmons
Bible Reading .. (Hebrews 7:11-19)
..... Stephen Stewart
Prayer
..... Rocky Rose
Lord's Supper
..... Monroe Pressnell
..... Jerry Dickey
Closing Prayer
..... Larry White

Volume XII

March 27, 2005

No. 13

Beginning Today

Gospel Meeting

March 27 - April 1

(Sunday – Friday)

Schedule of Services

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.; 10:45 a.m. & 4:00 p.m.

Singing at 3:00 p.m.

Monday – Friday: 7:00 p.m.

Randall Hammock, Speaker

Anderson church of Christ

Highway 207 South
Anderson, Alabama

Your Will Be Done

Daniel Bailey

During the course of the prayer that Jesus teaches His disciples as a model in Matthew 6, the Christ includes in verse 10 the petition, “*Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*” Like the first phrase of this rich passage (“*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name*”), this phrase further seeks to glorify the name of God, to magnify His sovereignty and divine right to rule over the things which He made. Children of God must learn to ever focus on God’s will, giving Him priority over our own needs and desires in prayer. The Scriptures even reveal in passages like James 4:3 and 1 John 5:14 that God refuses to entertain prayers asked against His will or solely for selfish pleasure.

Learning to mold the will to match that of the Father’s is part of growing to spiritual maturity in Jesus Christ. In 1 Peter 4:1-2, the inspired apostle explains that when a person becomes a child of God through faith in Jesus Christ, he or she must depart from sin and cease serving the will of the flesh to live only for the will of God. Even while the Son of God walked this earth as a man, he taught through example that mankind is to submit to the Father in all things. Never do we see such humble submission in accordance with Matthew 6:10 than in Matthew 26 when Jesus Christ prays to God for deliverance just before His betrayal and arrest in the garden of Gethsemane. Our Savior knew the torture He would endure, the abandonment He would face when all those He loved would forsake Him and flee. He knew and despised the shame of the cross (Hebrews 12:2), and yet He prayed fervently to God with tears, “Not my will, but Your will be done” – Jesus Christ unfailingly put the will of God before His own. Jesus taught His disciples to submit to God’s will, and He lived out that command in total obedience that led Him even to the death of the cross. In like manner, Christ

commands all of His disciples: “*If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. . . And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me*” (Matthew 16:24, 10:38). In other words, if we are going to follow Jesus Christ as true servants of God, we must deny our own preferences and desires whenever they contradict the will of God and simply carry out the work that God commands us to do.

Considering these principles, children of God should pray that God’s righteous will would constantly be done, starting with our own lives – that we would have the faith and strength to set aside pride and stubbornness to ever seek the just pleasure of our Father. Expanding upon this concept, Christians should furthermore beseech the Father that His will would be accomplished in the church, the only institution in all the world given the responsibility to constantly uphold God’s will (2 Timothy 3: 15). And further still, children of God should pray that God’s will and righteousness would spread throughout the world, carried on the lips of those who love and obey the gospel. The will of God should be the paramount concern in the lives and prayers of all Christians. As the author of Hebrews prayed in chapter 13, verses 20-21 of that epistle:

“Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.”

–via *College View Columns*, Florence, Alabama.

Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

The Conversion of Simon

Lindsay A. Allen

When Philip went down to Samaria he found a sorcerer, Simon by name, who had bewitched the people for a long time with his sorcery. He succeeded in persuading the people that he was “some great one” and that he “had the power of God.” But since He was nothing but a trickster and a faker, he readily saw that Phillip’s miracles were genuine and along with the Samaritans, he believed and was baptized..

Now, the question arises, was the conversion of Simon genuine and did he become a saved man, a child of God? Those who teach that it is impossible for a child of God to “fall from grace” declare that Simon was never truly converted and was not a child of God. This is an effort to defend a false doctrine in spite of the fact that this is a clear-cut example of a Christian’s falling into condemnation. If this doctrine had never arisen, then the conversion of Simon would not have been called in question. But let us look at the divine record.

Luke declares, “But when they (Samaritans) believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized both men and women” (Acts 8:12). No one has ever questioned the conversion of the Samaritans or that they became children of God. But Luke further declares: “Then Simon himself believed **also** and when he was baptized...” (Acts 8:13). The key word in this passage is “also.” “Simon himself believed also.” The simple meaning is, Simon believed as the Samaritans believed. He believed **what** they believed. His faith was like their faith and as genuine as their faith. His conversion was like their conversion. He obeyed the gospel. He “believe and was baptized,” just as the Samaritans “believed and were baptized.” Now, was Simon a saved man? Did he become a child of God?

If Simon was not a saved man, then Jesus did not keep His promise, for in Mark 16:16, Jesus has said, “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.” If Simon was not saved, then it was not Simon’s fault, for he did exactly what the Lord commanded him to do. Also, if Simon was not saved, then neither were the Samaritans, for Simon did exactly what they did.

The truth of the matter is, Simon obeyed the gospel (Romans 1:16). He “believed and was baptized.” Jesus declares that those who thus do, are saved (Mark 16:16).

-via *The Instructor*, Albertville, Alabama

News and Notes

THE SICK: *Wanda Tucker’s father, Billy Letson*, is in the ECM hospital in Florence in ICU and is not doing well... *Corey Word* has been sick this past week and unable to be at services .. *John Lovell* has continued to be sick this past week and unable to be out ... *Tisha Thomas’ mother, Shelia Johnson*, awaitsto her treatments for her multiple myeloma... *Valerie & Michelle Stewart* have been sick this past week and have not been able to be at services ... *Scottie Goode’s grandmother, Clara Kelley*, has moved to rehilitation .. *Jerry Dickey’s father, David Dickey*, is in Mitchell-Hollingsworth rehabilitation in Florence... *Monroe Pressnell’s aunt, Mildred Pressnell*, is at home ... *Leota Springer’s husband, Bob Springer*, continues to take kidney dialysis ... *Helen Stewart’s grandson, Adam Stewart*, is at home now, and is doing well ... *Curtis Cooper* is continuing his chemo treatments ... *Myrtie Williams* is at home ... *Mattie Blanche Word* continues at home... *James McConnell’s mother, Della Mae McConnell*, continues at home... *Jerry Best’s nephew, Shannon Johnson*, continues at home ... *Tisha*

Thomas' grandmother, Nellie Hunter, is in the Meadow Brook Nursing Home in Pulaski.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Wynell Ridgeway* and *Willodean Hammond* in the passing of their aunt, *Hattie Reynolds*, this past week. Her funeral was Tuesday in Pulaski.

SINGING & WORSHIP SERVICE: Remember this afternoon at 3:00 we will be gather for a song serivce and it will be followed by our evening service at 4:00 with Randall Hammock preaching.

COMMUNICATION GROUPS: Tonight is the time for Communciation group four to meet. If you are in group four remember to meet with your group this evening.

OUT OF TOWN: *Signa Skiptworth* and *Catherine Parker* have been in North Carolina visiting their sister, Ann. They are now back home.

THE RECORD: *For the week of March 20th*

Sunday:

Bible Classes 90
Morning Worship 109
Evening Worship 91

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 83



The Anderson
church of Christ
website at:

[www. Anderson-church.org](http://www.Anderson-church.org)

On the Site You Will Find:

1. Information about the church at Anderson
2. The **Gospel Power** in .pdf format uploaded each Sunday.
3. Sermons preached at Anderson in Real Audio.

Please Visit Our Site Regularly.

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
Monroe Pressnell (256) 232-0780

Deacons

Jimmy Glass (256) 247-0571
Mark McIntyre (256) 233-1953
Phil Pressnell (256) 232-8509
Rocky Rose (256) 247-0011
Larry White (256) 247-0988
Brian Word (256) 229-5823

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