

# 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, May 22nd:

### *Bible Classes*

Song Leader

..... Jim Phillips  
Bible Reading ..... (James 2:1-11)  
..... Mike Rogers  
Prayer  
..... Aric Butler

### *Morning Worship*

Song Leader

..... Jim Phillips  
Prayer  
..... Ray Tucker  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Claus Martel  
Assisting ..... Larry White  
Serving ..... Curtis Mosley  
..... Eddie L. Hammond  
..... Rodney McCrary  
..... James McConnell  
Closing Prayer  
..... Michael Clemmons

### *Evening Worship*

Song Leader

..... Eddie J. Hammond  
Bible Reading ..... (James 2:12-25)  
..... Andrew Gatlin  
Prayer  
..... Scottie Goode  
Lord's Supper  
..... Claus Martel  
..... Larry White  
Closing Prayer  
..... Jerry Dickey

Volume XII

May 22, 2005

No. 21

## *What Must I Do To Stay Saved?*

**Dee Bowman**

The Bible does not teach the doctrine of "once saved, always saved." When the Apostle Peter closed his discourse on the so-called Christian Graces, he says, "If these things be in you and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for it you do these things you will never stumble" (2 Peter 1:8-10). This scripture certainly suggests that if you don't make your calling and election sure, you will fall.

In Galatians 5:4, Paul tells the brethren there, "You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace." The Hebrew writer says, "For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversary" (Hebrews 10:26). And Peter says (2 Peter 2:20-22), "For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: 'a dog returns to his own vomit, and a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.'" Do these passages sound like you can't fall from grace?

Several others passages could be cited to show the fallacy of the argument that the Christian, once having been saved, cannot then so sin as to be lost; but these should suffice. Then that poses the

question comprising the title of this little piece: What Must I Do To Stay Saved?

We must grow. The passage we cited earlier from 2 Peter 1 says so. “If these things be in you and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful...” That argues the need for spiritual progress. The same Apostle exhorts that one who is a child of God, “As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word that you may grow thereby” (2 Peter 2:2), and “Grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 3:18). Growth is necessary to faithfulness. A Christian’s faith must grow (2 Thessalonians 1:3). We are to leave off being immature, or “children,” “but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ” (Ephesians 4:14).

We must worship Him. There is no such thing as a true Christian who does not assemble regularly with the saints and take advantage of the opportunities to glorify Him. In the very first place, forsaking the Lord’s Day assembly is not allowed. “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.” It is a very serious matter to willfully forsake the worship services. In fact, one who does so is said to “trample the Son of God underfoot,” and to have “counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace.” The writer concludes that “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.” (See Hebrews 10:23-31).

We must not neglect our opportunities. We have opportunities to teach; we must be about the business of doing so (Acts 2:42; Acts 2:46-47; Acts 8:4; Galatians 6:6; 2 Timothy 2:2; etc.). We have opportunities to practice benevolence; we must be about the business of doing it (James 1:27-29; Galatians 6:6-10). We have the opportunity to take a stand for truth; we must be about the business of doing so (Matthew 5:13-15 ; 1

Corinthians 16:13; 1 Peter 3:15; 1 Peter 4:16).

We must keep on keeping on. Paul said, “work out your own salvation with fear and trembling” (Philippians 2:12). That says its your salvation and that you must work it out. “Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls,” Peter says (1 Peter 1:9). We must keep on looking at the goal. “Looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross...” (Hebrews 12:2). We have to keep on keeping on.

It is not time to rest (Hebrews 4:9). And so, let us “...give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. For if the word spoken by angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation...” (Hebrews 2:1-3).

-via *News & Notes*, Madison, Alabama.



## 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.
4. The sermons preached in our recent meeting with Randall hammock.

*Please Visit Our Site Regularly.*

# *Laboring For The Lord*

**Harold Hancock**

It is important that we work for the Lord. Paul said, “For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love” (Galatians 5:6). Faith without works is dead! (James 2:26).

Paul commended the Thessalonians for their “work of faith, labour of love, and patience of hope in the Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thessalonians 1:3). The word “labor” means “laborious toil” or “toil resulting in weariness” (W.E. Vines Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words). The Thessalonians did so much work for the Lord that they sometimes got tired!

Some know what it is to work hard enough to get tired. Many do it every day on a secular job. Others get tired while working around the house or in the yard. How many of us work so hard for the Lord that we get tired?

Paul said, “And let us not be weary in well doing” (Galatians 6:9). Someone has said, “Christians should get weary in their work, but not of their work!”

Jesus told the church at Ephesus, “I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou has tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name’s sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted” (Revelation 2:2,3). Again, this is “laborious toil” or “toil resulting in weariness.” The Ephesians worked hard enough for the Lord to get tired, but they did not faint or get tired of the work.

Work hard for the Lord — visit the sick (Matthew 25:36), restore the fallen (Galatians 6:1), support the weak (1Thessalonians 5:14), exhort the brethren daily (Hebrews 3:13), help instruct the young and young in faith, teach the lost, and prepare yourself for the coming of the

Lord (Matthew 24:44). If you get tired, rest for a moment. Jesus told His apostles, “...Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place and rest a while.” (Mark 6:31). But do not quit the work of the Lord nor retire from His work. Do not “rust” while resting.

Like Jesus, we too must “work...while it is day: the night cometh when no man can work” (John 9:4). We must be “stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord,” and know that our “labour is not in vain in the Lord” (1Corinthians 15:58). John heard a voice from heaven that said, “Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them” (Revelation 14:13).

Labor for the Lord and do not grow tired of the work.

-via *Good News*, Lufkin, Texas.

## **N**ews and Notes

**THE SICK:** *Myrtie Williams* went to ECM on Thursday to open the blood flow ... *Sissy Clemmons* had surgery on Tuesday to removed a cyst on her hand... *Virginia Lovell* is still not doing well and has been unable to be at services ... *James McConnell's mother, Della Mae McConnell*, spent several days in the hospital this past week and came home on Wednesday... *Valerie Stewart's grandmother, Ollie Bell Rochelle*, continues at Life Care Center in Columbia... *Tisha Thomas' mother, Shelia Johnson*, is continuing her chemo treatments ... *Wanda Tucker's father, Billy Letson*, is at home ... *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 awaiting a kidney transplant ... *Curtis Cooper* is continuing his chemo treatments ... *Mattie Blanche Word* is 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

**COMMUNICATION GROUPS:** Tonight will be the night for Communication Group four to meet. If you are in group four, remember to meet with your group tonight.

**OUT OF TOWN:** *The Pressnells: Monroe and Yvonne* are in Mobile this weekend... I am away this week preaching in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania.

**SYMPATHY:** We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Doris Newton and all the family* in the passing of her cousin, *John Dean*, this past Wednesday.

**THE RECORD:** *For the week of May 15th*

**Sunday:**

Bible Classes ..... 94  
 Morning Worship ..... 120  
 Evening Worship ..... 75

**Wednesday:**

Bible Classes ..... 91



## Vacation Bible School

July 11-15 – 10:00 a.m.

Anderson church of Christ

Highway 207 South  
 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  
 Monroe Pressnell ..... (256) 232-0780

#### Deacons

Jimmy Glass ..... (256) 247-0571  
 Mark McIntyre ..... (256) 233-1953  
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 Rocky Rose ..... (256) 247-0011  
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