

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

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Seek Those Things Which Are Above

Daniel Bailey

In Colossians 2:11-15, Paul writes to the faithful Christians in Colosse, explaining the symbolic significance of baptism into Christ. The apostle details that immersion in the waters of baptism symbolizes a death and burial in the form of Christ's death and burial. Whereas Christ died physically and was raised to live again by the power of God, the believer in Christ, when baptized according to the gospel message, dies to sin and is raised up again to walk a new spiritual life in the likeness of Jesus Christ. Upon these statements, Paul goes on in Colossians 3 to teach how this spiritual resurrection should affect the way that Christians live before God in this earthly life:

"If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God."

Paul speaks to people who had been raised with Christ – they died to sin and were raised to walk in newness of life through faith when they were baptized. And based upon that fact, the apostle teaches these Christians, as all children of God should learn and understand today, that a new creature in Jesus Christ must not live a life absorbed and controlled by the concerns and desires of the world, but should live with an unwavering consciousness of the eternal will of God, giving utmost devotion and highest loyalty to the rule of heaven.

"Seek those things which are above, where Christ is" – in other

Men Priviledged To Serve: Sunday, May 8th:

Bible Classes

Song Leader

..... Claus Martel

Bible Reading (Hebrews 12:12-21)

..... Aric Butler

Prayer

..... Andrew Gatlin

Morning Worship

Song Leader

..... Claus Martel

Prayer

..... Jimmy Glass

Lord's Supper

Presiding Michael Clemmons

Assisting Rocky Rose

Serving James McConnell

..... Daniel Clemmons

..... Eddie L. Hammond

..... Rodney McCrary

Closing Prayer

..... James Word

Evening Worship

Song Leader

..... Ronnie Phillips

Bible Reading (Hebrews 12:22-29)

..... Jim Phillips

Prayer

..... Jerry Dickey

Lord's Supper

..... Michael Clemmons

..... Rocky Rose

Closing Prayer

..... Scottie Goode

words, be motivated to strive for and attain the things that really matter: the things that are above, in heaven with Christ and God. As children of the world strive and struggle to gain worldly things, children of the Most High must focus their efforts on heavenly things. The concerns of God and His righteousness must take priority over the concerns of this life (Matthew 6:33). Christians must make heaven, that eternal resting place of the faithful, our principle goal and aim, and we must strive with all diligence and devotion to attain it. Note how Paul expressed his paramount aim in this life: “forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:13-ff)

“Set your mind on things above, not on things of the earth” set your mind is somewhat too weak a translation, for the concept involves more than just the logos, but also love, desire, value, moral reflection, and intense concern (see Strong or Vine on the Greek, *phroneite*). For this reason, the King James Version translates the phrase, “Set your affection on things above,” and the New American Standard Version footnotes, “Be intent on things above.” The command involves not only what we think about, but how we think. The new creature in Jesus Christ does not stumble through life with heaven directly occupying every waking thought, but rather contemplates every thought, action, emotion, and situation in the context of heaven, always considering the present in the light of eternity and God’s will. This means that when we make a decision to take a job or begin an educational program or join a club/society, faithful Christians **first** think about how that decision might affect their service in God’s kingdom, then the possible benefits gained in this life. When we surf the internet, or choose a book to read or a movie to watch or a radio station to listen to, we as God’s children reflect upon whether or not the consequent meditations will be edifying to our souls and beneficial in our race for the prize of heaven. Christ is there,

our loving Father is there: we should long with mind, body and soul to be with them, and therefore live and think in ways that will help us secure that goal.

Oftentimes walking in the light of Christ demands that we abstain from carnal things that the impure world regards as fun. Sometimes devotion to the rule of the Lord demands that we refuse to operate by dishonest and selfish standards of the world that lead only to temporary success and satisfaction. Colossians 3:1-3 reminds all Christians that we no longer live according to the priorities of and dictates of the flesh, because we died to those carnal things when we put on Christ. Therefore, God’s children must live every moment of every day striving above all else to please God, living in accordance with His standards of righteousness and wisdom. Let us firmly focus our minds on heaven, and always make decisions in this life while considering the life that is to come.

~via *College View Columns*, Florence, 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.

Please Visit Our Site Regularly.

Do You Only See Giants?

Shane Williams

There were 12 spies who were sent out by Moses to scout out the land of Canaan for 40 days. When they returned, all but Joshua and Caleb gave this negative report: "We are not able to go up against the people for they are too strong for us" (Numbers 13:31) and "We were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight" (Numbers 13:33).

These "leaders" from their respective tribes (Numbers 13:2-3) lacked faith and only saw difficulties and defeat. Yes, the giants were great, but wasn't their God greater? How could they so easily forget the way God parted the waters of the Red Sea or led them through the wilderness?

The ten spies who were filled with doubt died by a plague before the Lord (Numbers 14:36-37). In fact, the entire nation of Israel from 20 years old and up wandered in the wilderness for forty years until they died because of their unfaithfulness. All except the two spies who stood by the Lord (Numbers 14:30). We know that Joshua led the people into the Land of Canaan but what about Caleb? God blessed him and brought him into the Promised Land because he had "a different spirit and follows Me wholeheartedly" Numbers 14:24).

Numbers 14:24, "But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to and his descendants will inherit it."

We need more Caleb's—willing to follow the leading of the Lord because they are filled with a different attitude than others. Are you a Caleb of faith, or are you among the skeptics who always see the giants of difficulty? Faith sees opportunity (2 Corinthians 5:7), but fear sees obstacles.

—via *The Lilbourn Light*, Lilbourn, Missouri.



Remember our regular scheduled song service next Sunday evening, May 15th at 6:00. Brian Word will be directing the service. I hope all of us will make our plans to attend as we sing songs of praise to God.

Vacation Bible School

July 11-15 – 10:00 a.m.

Anderson church of Christ

Highway 207 South
Anderson, Alabama

News and Notes

THE SICK: *Virginia Lovell* had some tests done past week for the problems with her stomach... *Valerie Stewart's grandmother, Ollie Bell Rochelle*, is now in Life Care Center in Columbia... *Tisha Thomas' mother, Shelia Johnson*, is continuing her chemo treatments... *Myrtie Williams* is at home and not able to be out... *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... *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

GOSPEL MEETINGS: *The Belgreen church* in Belgreen is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday with services at 7:00 p.m. *Bill Hall* will be the speaker... *The Jordan Park church* in Huntsville is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with *R.J. Stevens*... *The Addison church* in Addison is beginning a meeting and it will continue through Friday with *Charlie Rawls* preaching.

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

OUT OF TOWN: *The Gatlins: Andrew and Marrison* out town this week on vacation in Mexico ... *The Pressnells: Phil, and Logan* are in Auburn and *Cindy and Ethan* are visiting with her mother today.

THE RECORD: *For the week of May 1st*

Sunday:

Bible Classes 98
 Morning Worship 118
 Evening Worship 88

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 97



Remember Our Bible Class Periods

Sunday at 9:45 a.m.
 Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

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
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