

SERMON NOTES ♦ JANUARY 11, 2009
Unlimited Power...And Why We Need It

SERMON TEXT

Romans 1:14-23 (ESV)

¹⁴I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. ¹⁵So I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

¹⁸For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. ¹⁹For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. ²¹For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²²Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

NOTES

I. Unlimited power... (vv. 14-17)

II. Why we need it...(vv. 18-23)

Leadership of First Presbyterian Church

2009 SESSION

Dr. Clay Brown, Moderator

Dr. Frederick A. Coates CP Chappel, Clerk

Class of 2009

Christine B. Ahearn
Karen O. Brawley
F. Michad Campbell, MD
Philip L. Heilman
Weldon M. Hitchcock
Thermond E. Thompson
J. Scott Vaughn

Class of 2010

David W. Brooks, II
Donald L. Fair
Donald F. Howie
Joyce S. Johnson
Thomas R. Kirkland, Jr.
W. Smith Kirk
Mark E. McNeely

Class of 2011

Mark E. Auten
Allen M. Brawley
W. Brent Curtis
Mary H. Fortanbary
Karen A. Shore
Paul S. Trimble
Harry Weyer

2009 DIACONATE

Kathleen H. Irwin, Moderator

Class of 2009

Dale W. Brawley
John G. Donelson
Judy L. Cole
Eric H. Estes
C. Marshall Horsman, Jr.
Kathleen H. Irwin
Julie R. Morrow

Class of 2010

Kathy B. Ballard
Laura E. Bates
Lynn T. Brooks
Rebecca B. Deal
Janice S. Puer
J. Patrick Stutts
Eric R. Puer

Class of 2011

Bryan G. Cole
James N. Davidson
Thomas B. McMillan
Beth B. Sink
Mary Beth Stutts
Gene E. Vaughan
Lucinda Weyer

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LuAnne Sledge, Treasurer
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Nellie Goodman, Secretary
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Billy Black, Sexton

Jerilyn Fair, Hostess

Joanne Daykin, Interim Organist



Loving God... Loving People... Making Disciples

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

249 West McLelland Avenue
Mooreville, North Carolina 28115
704-664-5275 ♦ www.moorevillefirstpres.org

January 11, 2009 ♦ 11:00 A.M.

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

Welcome and Ritual of Friendship Clay Brown
(Please complete the Friendship Pad and pass it down your pew for all to sign.)

Invocation

Prelude: *From Heaven Above to Earth He Came* PELZ
Joanne Daykin

Choral Call to Worship: *We Have Come to Join in Worship* MOORE
Chancel Choir

*Hymn #17: *Praise the Lord! O Heavens, Adore Him* AUSTRIAN HYMN

Time with the Children Fred Coates

Call to Confession Tyler Domske

Unison Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change. Open us to a future in which we will be changed. Grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image. We pray through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*Response #34: *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD 100TH
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Reading: Habakkuk 2:1-4 Pew Bible, pp. 825-6
Kathy Ballard, Reader

Hymn #31: *I Sing the Almighty Power of God* ELLACOMBE

New Testament Reading: Romans 1:14-23 Sermon Notes

Sermon: *Unlimited Power...And Why We Need It* Clay Brown

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem: *The Love of the Lord* WAGNER
Chancel Choir

*Response # 688: *We Give Thee but Thine Own* SCHUMANN

We give thee but thine own, what e'er the gift may be: all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Affirmation of Faith: From Romans 8

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose. We are sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

TAKING GOD'S WORD TO THE WORLD

*Hymn #560: *I Love to Tell the Story* (vv. 1-2) HANKEY

*Invitation to Discipleship and Opportunities to Serve

*Charge and Benediction

*Response #560: *I Love to Tell the Story* (v. 3) HANKEY

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest. And when in scenes of glory I sing the new, new song, 'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory, to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

*Postlude: *Somerset Carol* DALY

(* Those who are able will please stand.)

If you are our guest today, welcome! We're so glad you're here. For more information on FPC, please indicate your interest on the Friendship Pad and/or take home a "Welcome Home" folder from the Parlor. **You can become a FPC member TODAY** by your profession of faith, transfer of membership, or reaffirmation of faith. Please speak with the pastor in the chancel area following the service.

Large print bulletins are available from the ushers. **Assisted listening devices** are available from the sound console at the back of the sanctuary.

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Frank Rader's birthday by Liz and Ellie Rader. The flowers in the vestibule are given in honor of Marshall and Rosie Crouch's 54th wedding anniversary on January 15 by their children.

Recent Prayer Requests: Dot Baker; Carolyn Brawley; Joan Gibson and family; Rebecca Auten; Dean Washburn; Bedo Cuberson; Aimee Culler's father; Lottie Massey; Don Fair; Mary Voils Aven; Bob Davidson; Anita Teeter; Terry Stevens; Cathy Brown's parents; David Ortwein, Ken Bemd's nephew; Martha Andrews; EO3SW Laban Thompson and all those who have recently lost loved ones.

Logos/Middle School Ministry begins second semester this Wednesday, January 14, at 4:00 p.m. Second semester tuition payments (\$50) are due as soon as possible. Please contact Ellen Auten or Gretchen Little to request scholarship assistance if needed. There will be a parent meeting for new participants only this Wednesday, January 14, at 6:45 p.m. in the library.

Saints Alive Trip: The Saints Alive group is planning a trip to the Billy Graham Library this Friday, January 16. The group plans to leave at 9:45 a.m., tour the library and eat lunch at the Graham Brothers Dairy Barn. Please contact Ellen Auten to make a reservation.

Italian Renaissance Art Tour and Dinner: A special evening is being planned for Thursday, January 22, and includes a catered dinner (\$8) and art lecture in the parlor, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Jeannette Cox, Docent Emeritus of the National Gallery of Art, will present an Italian Renaissance Art Tour, particularly the transition that Renaissance art brings to the role of faith and the church. Reservations are essential. Please call the church office by Tuesday, January 20, to make a reservation.

Catechism Club begins second semester classes tonight at 5:30 p.m. in Room 322.

"Discovering God's Way of Handling Money": We're offering a short Friday-Saturday workshop, Jan. 30-31, on managing your money. This video and application based workshop is from Crown Financial Ministries, a recognized leader in helping people to discover and apply Biblical principles for our personal finances. We will meet on Fri. from 7:00-9:00 p.m. and on Sat. from 8:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided for \$5 per person. Child care will be provided by advance reservation. Participants will need a course workbook available at the workshop for \$10 each. Please register by contacting the church office at 704-664-5275 or nellie@moorevillefirstpres.org. If you have questions, contact Clay Brown at 704-664-5275 or clay@moorevillefirstpres.org.

It's Chili Cook-off time again: January 25, 2009 will be a great opportunity to see just how well your chili measures up! To submit an entry in the contest, simply make a crockpot of your favorite chili to share and to be judged by popular vote. Votes will be made by the depositing of checks or cash (one vote per dollar) in your favorite chili's voting pot. All proceeds from the

voting will be divided among local Mooresville charities. Admission is only \$4 for adults and \$2 for children (with a family maximum of \$15.)

Next Sunday, January 18th, the PYF (7th grade - 12th grade) will be going to Wolf Ridge Ski Resort for a Ski Trip. We will leave from the church at 1:30pm and return late that night (no school Monday!). Cost is \$50, which includes ski rental, lift ticket, and transportation (\$60 if you want to rent a snowboard rather than skis). Those who want to come along, but not ski, just need to pay \$6 to cover transportation. All students interested in going must let Tyler know TODAY so he can make a final head count. Hope to see you there!

Lent will be upon us before we know it. This coming Lent we will have our "Lent in the Living Room" small group emphasis. We meet in the homes of church members and discuss the Scripture passage that will be preached the following Sunday. This year we will focus on the Passion of Christ from the Gospel of Mark. We need host homes and facilitators. A host home is a person, couple, or family who allows a Lent in the Living Room group to meet in their home once a week for six weeks, from the week of February 22-28 through the week of March 29-April 4. A facilitator is someone who covenants to lead the group discussion, using the discussion questions provided in the Lent in the Living Room booklet. If you're interested in serving in either or both roles or have questions, please contact Clay Brown at 704-664-5275 or clay@moorevillefirstpres.org.

CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 11-18, 2009

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. - Presbyterian Men's Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - Early Worship
10:00 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - Worship
4:00 p.m. - Alpha PYF
5:00 p.m. - Omega PYF
5:30 p.m. - Catechism Club
6:00 p.m. - Diaconate Meeting
7:00 p.m. - Committee Meetings- start in the Sanctuary

Monday: 2:00 p.m. - Circle 1 in the parlor
6:15 p.m. - Circle 3 at the home of Kim Streb
7:00 p.m. - Boy Scouts
7:30 p.m. - Bible Study at the Coates' home

Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. - Circle 4 in the parlor
12:00 p.m. - Circle 5 in the Session Room
2:00 p.m. - Circle 6 in the parlor
6:00 p.m. - Circle 2 in the parlor

Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. - Bible Study at the home of Fronnie Gardner
4:00 p.m. - Logos/MSM - *Wild, Wild West* night
6:15 p.m. - HS Supper Club at Wendy's
6:45 p.m. - Logos Parent Meeting
7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir

Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study at the Rogers' home
6:00 p.m. - Exaltation Ringers

Friday: 9:45 a.m. - Saints Alive to Billy Graham Library
6:00 p.m. - Cotillion

Sunday 1/18: 9:00 a.m. - Worship
10:00 a.m. - Church School
11:00 a.m. - Worship
1:30 p.m. - PYF Ski trip
5:30 p.m. - Catechism Club