

**Crossville Church  
of Christ**  
P.O. Box 211  
Crossville, TN 38557  
Phone:  
484-5297 or 484-2960  
Live audio streaming  
866-883-9291

# COMPASS

**Using God's Word to Chart The Course  
Of A Congregation**

For live video streaming see Website  
[www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org](http://www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org)  
Email: [Office@crossvillechurchofchrist.org](mailto:Office@crossvillechurchofchrist.org)  
[Elders@crossvillechurchofchrist.org](mailto:Elders@crossvillechurchofchrist.org)



**Elders:**

Frank Bohannon  
Jonathan Loveday  
Larry McDuffee  
Brian McLaughlin  
Jon Tatum

**Deacons:**

Jim Bell  
Kyle Fairman  
Dale Hennessee  
Mike Isaacson  
Doug Loveday  
Don Napier  
Tom Parham  
Mark Roberts  
Jason Wyatt  
Jerry Wood

**Ministers:**

Alan Judd  
Ken Mears

**Missionaries:** (India)

Don Iverson  
Jim Waldron

**Service Times:**

Sunday Bible Study	9 AM
Sunday Worship	10 AM 6 PM
Wednesday	6 PM

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:**

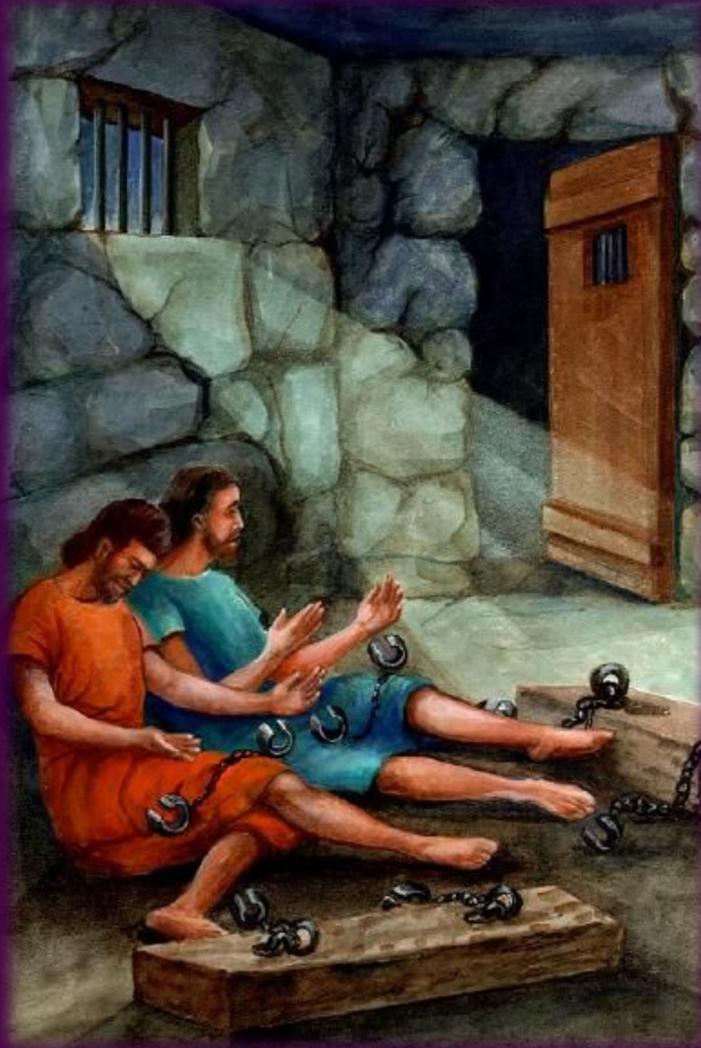
<b>Ladies Bible Class</b>	
Tuesdays	11 AM
<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	
Tuesdays	10 AM
<b>Joyful Generation</b>	
<b>(Youth Devotional &amp; fellowship)</b>	
1st Sunday	7 PM

**POLISHING THE PULPIT**

(PTP) 365 Audio/Visual Library  
available at:  
<https://365.polishingthepulpit.com>  
Username:  
Crossville church of Christ  
Password:  
crossvilleptp2018

January 13, 2019

“And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed,  
and sang praises unto God: and the  
prisoners heard them.” Acts 16:25 kjv



**COURAGEOUS LOVE**

## GIVE THE DEVIL HIS DUE?

Alan Judd

Last Sunday evening the Golden Globe Awards ceremony was held. I do not watch exhibitions of this kind originating from Hollywood. I cannot tell you the difference between the Oscars, Emmy, Golden Globe, Tony, or whatever other award spectacle celebrities organize to get together and congratulate themselves. Why do I have such opposition to such? Largely because over the last few decades these events are nothing more than platforms to attack values that Christians hold dear and to instead promote agendas completely at odds with Scripture. These elites, as they consider themselves, denigrate those who disagree with them on issues like homosexuality or abortion. They have no regard for God and are unwilling to submit to the truth of His Holy Word and takes the greatest delight in ridiculing those who do attempt to honor their Creator. If you combine this with the filth, they produce for the public to consume via the mediums of movie, tv, music, internet, etc. I have little desire to do anything to show any measure of support or endorsement to the Hollywood industry and those who work in it.

If the previous paragraph seems harsh, I simply wanted to make it crystal clear that I have a great distaste for the Hollywood culture and accompanying celebrity worship that infects many in our country today. Sadly, I have observed and believe that infects Christians too! (I beg parents who are reading this to be very diligent in monitoring what your children consume. I suppose this is a warning that all of us need to heed what we watch and listen to whether we are parents or children. This is an important issue, but not the purpose of this article.)

I was surprised to see on Monday an article about an actor who gave a very unusual acceptance speech. The headline read like this: “Actor Christian Bale Thanks Satan For Helping Him Play Role Of Dick Cheney.” I do not know anything about Mr. Bale and am not sure if he played the former vice-president in a movie or TV show of some kind. The article reporting this news I suppose made mention of these details, but again, as noted above, I really do not care to find out or learn more about such matters. The acceptance speech for the award given for his portrayal was transcribed: “Thank you to Satan for giving me inspiration on how to play this role.” I am sure most of the audience members enjoyed this analogy that attempted to connect the vice-president with the archenemy of mankind.

I am in no way endorsing this comparison, but it made me think that sometimes we perhaps do not give the devil credit. It pains me to say, but the evil one is effective at what he does. He achieved his devious purpose in the Garden of Eden in Genesis 3 and has been accomplishing mischief through temptation and deceit ever since. Let me be clear, the devil or satan or evil one or however you wish to refer to him cannot force us to sin. He simply provides the temptation or the deception and urges us to put our will before the will of God. While we do not study his tactics in order to imitate or praise them, Paul urged us to not let him get an advantage over us because we are not ignorant of his devices—*2 Corinthians 2:11*. He is sneaking about seeking an opportunity to devour us—*1 Peter 5:8*. Let us, like Jesus, fortify ourselves with the Word of God so we can resist his temptations—*Matthew 4:1-10* and when we submit to God we are assured he will flee from us—*James 4:7*.

# THE POWER OF LOVE

## Anderson Judd

In 1985, there was a song written that some of you might know, and the chorus goes like this: *“Don’t need money, don’t take fame, don’t need no credit card to ride this train; it’s strong and it’s sudden, and it’s cruel sometimes, but it might just save your life. That’s the power of love.”* Don’t worry, I am not going to look at what Huey Lewis has to say about the power of love, but I do want to briefly consider what God’s Word teaches.

Of all the forces in the universe, love may be the most powerful. Love is more powerful than physical strength, it is more powerful than argument, and it’s even more powerful than everyone’s favorite force of all, sarcasm. In this article, I want to look at one way love can help us in our lives by looking at the power it has on us individually.

Whether we recognize it or not, every emotion we have affects us. When we hate someone, the person may suffer from our hatred, but what we don’t often realize is the effect that hatred has on us. In Star Wars, Yoda says that “hate leads to anger and anger leads to the dark side.” For us, as Christians, that dark side can become sin if we are not careful. Have you ever been angry and said or done something you would not have done otherwise? I have, and I know how embarrassing it is to go back and apologize later. Those of us who are Christians must also recognize that not only do our actions reflect on us, but they also reflect on the church, and our example can win or lose souls. Many souls have been lost because of the bad example of one Christian which makes the unbeliever jump to the conclusion that all Christians are that way. We must always remember that the world is watching us, and how we behave can lose and win souls.

On the other hand, loving people can bless them, but not to the degree that we are blessed. Acts 20:35 reads: *“I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. Also, remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”* When Paul says *“it is more blessed to give than to receive,”* we often think about physical things like Christmas presents, but he is also talking about emotional gifts and spiritual gifts like gifts of love. We benefit from loving others.

The Bible says that love is something we owe everyone. *“Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.”* (Romans 13:8) So not only do we owe everyone love, but it also fulfills the law. This verse also means that everyone owes us love, but in the world how can we expect people to love us if we don’t teach them? The simple conclusion is we can’t. It is our job as Christians to show people the Word of God. Love makes us more like God. 1 John 4:8 says *“He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.”* So, by loving others, we are doing ourselves much good and obeying the Scriptures, but if we do not love others, we are not like God because God is love. By loving others, we become more like God, and that should be something we all want. That’s the power of love.