

MARKET STREET

"And this is the message we have received of Him, and declare unto you..." (1 John 1:5)



MESSENGER

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street
P.O. Box 388
Athens, Alabama 35612
Phone (256) 232-1525

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Classes..... 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship..... 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship..... 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Classes.....7:00 p.m.

Elders

Jerry McGlocklin.....(256) 232-7620
Kenneth Smith.....(256) 233-2050
Bonnie Sutton.....(256) 232-2081

Deacons

Marty R. Adams.....(256) 233-5147
Rusty Brand.....(256) 233-7343
Joel Hamm.....(256) 230-6223
Stuart Wilson.....(256) 233-6291

Evangelists

David A. Cox.....(256) 233-8910
E-mail: david.a.cox@att.net
Warren Glass.....(256) 497-3138

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MARKET STREET MESSENGER

is published in the interest of New Testament Christianity and to enhance the work of the Market Street church.

David A. Cox, Editor

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No. 7

A Saving Faith

David A. Cox

The Hebrew writer says, "Without faith it is impossible to please God, for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6). Without doubt all would agree that in order to be saved, one must have faith. What is involved in a saving faith? Is this faith just mental assent or is there more involved? The Hebrew writer in this verse and its context gives us a clear picture of what is involved in a saving or pleasing faith.

A Saving Faith Believes. First the Hebrew writer says, "...he that cometh to God must believe that He is..." As one looks at the intricate design of this creation, indeed one must be impressed with the fact that there must a designer. The psalmist said, "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork" (Psalm 19:1). Paul, writing to the church at Rome said, "For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse" (Romans 1:20). The Hebrew writer says, "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear" (Hebrews 11:3). These passages plainly declare that the things of creation or nature affirms that God exists. Therefore, a saving faith or pleasing faith must believe in the existence of God.

A Saving Faith Trusts. Secondly, this passage implies a trust in faith. Notice the text says that one that believes God is a "rewarder of them that diligently seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6). The one that believes in God will take, or trust in the promises He has made. The wise man said, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5). In some ways this may be the hardest part of faith because our trust has been violated too many times by those that we place our trust in. But our faith must have this trust based on God's:

1. Genuine interest in our well-being (Deuteronomy 6:24; John 15:13).

2. Faithfulness to the promises that He makes (Joshua 21:45; 2 Peter 3:9-10).
3. Faithful aid, constant help and ability to deliver (1 Corinthians 10:13; Romans 4:20-21; Hebrews 7:25).

Trust then is not blind or without reason and our faith must involve a complete trust in God.

A Saving Faith Will Seek. Faith will cause one to “diligently seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6). Notice this is not just a seeking, but a diligent seeking of the Lord. This means that we will strive to please the Lord in all things doing His will. Then one must spend time in reading, studying, and mediating upon the word of God. This will strengthen our faith and increase our knowledge of God and His will for us.

A Saving Faith Obeys. In reading Hebrews 11, one must be impressed as the great men of faith are mentioned and how they obeyed the will of God. Beginning with Abel in verse 4, his faith was pleasing because he obeyed God. Noah’s faith in verse 7 pleased God because he obeyed. Abraham’s faith in verse 8 was pleasing because he obeyed and the list goes on.

What we see from Hebrews 11 is that a saving and pleasing faith believes in God, trusts God, seeks God and obeys God. Do you have this kind of faith?



Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross

Jason Cicero

“Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.” (Isaiah 53:4-6; NKJV)

When I come to see Christ on the cross because of my sins...

My pride will be broken. Pride has to do with

having a high or over bearing opinion of one’s worth or importance. No one is worth more or more important than Him. How can I have a high opinion of my importance as I stand at the foot of His cross with the realization that He is dying for my sins? He is on the cross because of me. He is on the cross for me. My sins put Him there. His love for me kept Him there. I am broken before Him. “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8; NKJV).

My guilt will be blotted out. The broken and contrite find forgiveness at the Cross. The sins of the poor in spirit are erased, removed, and remembered no more at the Cross. I am free from the bondage of sin and death. Jesus relieves my guilt at Golgotha. “I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins” (Isaiah 43:25; NKJV).

Love will be kindled. Love is the response of the good and honest heart that gazes at the love expressed at Calvary. Love for Him because He is expressing love for me. Seeing Him bleed and suffer and die for my sins moves me to love Him, to worship Him, to serve Him. “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins” (1 John 4:10; NKJV).

Hope will be restored. Sin destroys. It robs me of hope. The Cross communicates the most profound truth of all - Jesus loves me. I have confident expectation now and forever because He died for my sins. “... which is Christ in you, the hope of glory” (Colossians 1:27; NKJV).

My character will be transformed. Jesus died for me so that I might live for Him. To gaze upon His glory is to become like Him. The more I go outside the camp and see Him suffer for me, the more conformed to His image I become. “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me” (Galatians 2:20; NKJV).

Our Prayer: Father, through Jesus and the Holy Spirit, keep us near the cross: “...and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed” (1 Peter 2:24; NASB).

~via *The Vestavia Standard*; Vestavia, Alabama.

Decisions, Decisions

W. Frank Walton

When we come to the end of life's way, we will be the sum of the choices we made along that way. Life is full of decisions. It's been said, "We make our choices and then our choices make us." In life, spiritual decisions are the weightiest, for they have eternal consequences.

Choose for yourselves today whom you will serve... but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:14-15). Joshua challenged God's people to make the right decision in life's ultimate purpose. We make dozens of decisions daily. What will be most important? He independently made his own decision of how to live for God. So it should be with us! Our choices are the levers of our destiny.

1. **The Power Of Choice:** Before the children of Israel entered the promised land, Moses' farewell address urged them to make the right decisions in life: "I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live... by loving the Lord your God, by obeying His voice, and by holding fast to Him" (Deuteronomy 30:19f). Each Jew had to make a decision to put God absolutely first or face the consequences of their repudiation of God. To know God is to truly live. It is always right to obey God. Each of us has the power of choice as a freewill moral agent. Never say that you cannot help the way that you are.

2. **Making Right Decisions:** I pray each of us will always strive to make the right choices to please God. "Elijah came near to all the people and said, 'How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him but if Baal, follow him.' But the people did not answer him a word" (I Kings 18:21). They didn't want to choose, but to not support the right is a choice by default to support the wrong. Jesus said, "He who is not with Me, is against Me" (Matthew 12:30).

Each new day is the opportunity to begin anew more intelligently. We set the courses of our lives each day by the thoughts we think and the deeds we do. We must say "yes" to God and "no" to our carnal self. Jesus

taught the way to everlasting life is first a decision to die "daily" to the old man of sin and self (Luke 9:23-26). Jesus invites us to choose to follow Him daily. If we base our lives on divine principles of righteousness, then the vast sum of our choices are already decided. Then, we must have the uprightness of character and love of God to follow through. Doing the right thing is not accidental. If we are ever in doubt about what to do, it's a good rule to ask ourselves what we shall wish tomorrow that we had done today.

May the New Year find you making better decisions about spirituality, in loving God and others; in daily prayer, Bible study, meditation, and heart-felt worship; in church involvement and attendance; and in sharing the soul-saving gospel and doing good deeds for the Lord. "Our people must also learn to engage in good deeds to meet pressing needs" (Titus 3:14).

-via *Melrose Memo*; Richardson Texas

News & Notes

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

Janet Berryhill; Hartselle Hospital

At Home:

Mot Beasley	Sam Wilson
Wayne Vaughn	Joyce McGlocklin
Delmer Carter	Leigh Ann McGlocklin
Earl Davis	Rachel Clem
Rachel Grubbs	Hazel Toone
Mary Ruth Gardner	Yvonne Sherbert
Bertha Johnson	Martha Rice
Roger Andrews	Phillip Harwell
Jeff Waddell	Jeff Mitchell
Jesse Carter	Randy Graviett
Jim Currier	Una King Currier

Athens Convalescent Center:

Betty Bates, rm. 17

Limestone Health Facility:

Bernice Thomas, rm. 52	Rosella Pugh, rm. 74
Joe Leopard, rm. 97	Gladys Sandlin, rm. 107
J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E	Mary Smith, rm. 85

Limestone Manor:

Albert & Mary Norton, rm. 96

Shut-In:

Reba Adams, at home

Lola Colwell, at home

Polly Davis, River City Care, Decatur, rm. 74

MILITARY SERVICE: Remember all those that are serving on foreign soil in the military for our country. Those who are among us or have connections to the Market Street church are:

Joel Smith; Iraq

Andrew Deen; Japan

Whitney Deen; Japan

Matthew Cox; Iraq

BACK ISSUES OF MESSENGER: The back issues of the *Market Street Messenger* are in the library. They are on the shelf to the left as you walk in the door of the library. There are some copies left of nearly all of the bulletins published in 2009 and 2010. Please feel free to take as many copies of these bulletins as you would like.

NURSERIES AVAILABLE: There are two nurseries available for those who will need them. One is in the west wing and the other is in the east wing.

WORK GROUPS: Tonight will be the night for work group two to meet. If you are in group two, remember to meet with your group this evening.

NURSING HOME SINGING: Remember the singing at the Athens Convalescent on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

THE RECORD: *For the Week of February 6th*

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 130

Morning Worship 160

Evening Worship..... 110

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... na

Gospel Meeting

May 15-19, 2011

Jeff May, Speaking

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street

Athens, Alabama

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, February 13th:

Morning Worship

AnnouncementsJerry McGlocklin
 Song LeaderJoel Hamm
 PrayerBonnie Sutton
 PreachingDavid Cox
 Lord's Supper
 PresidingKenneth Smith
 AssistingTyler Cox
 ServingNathaniel Adams.....Harold Davis
Chris SidesPaul Hasting
 Closing PrayerLandon Adams

Evening Worship

AnnouncementsJerry McGlocklin
 Song LeaderJoel Hamm
 PrayerRusty Brand
 PreachingWarren Glass
 Lord's SupperTyler Cox
 Closing PrayerJonathan Keenon

Other Assignments for Sunday, February 13th:

UsherRusty Brand
 Work Sound SystemMarty Adams

Wednesday, February 16th:

Song LeaderStuart Wilson
 Bible Reading.....(Isaiah 14:1-11)
Jack Cannon
 PrayerJerry McGlocklin
 InvitationDavid Cox
 Closing PrayerLifford Smith

Sunday, February 20th:

Morning Worship

AnnouncementsTBA
 Song LeaderTBA
 PrayerTBA
 PreachingDavid Cox
 Lord's Supper
 PresidingTBA
 AssistingTBA
 ServingTBA.....TBA
TBA.....TBA
 Closing PrayerTBA

Evening Worship

AnnouncementsTBA
 Song LeaderTBA
 PrayerTBA
 PreachingRusty Brand
 Lord's SupperTBA
 Closing PrayerTBA

Other Assignments for Sunday, February 20th:

UsherTBA
 Work Sound SystemTBA