

# 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  
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

**Visit Us On The Web**  
[MarketStreet-church.com](http://MarketStreet-church.com)

### 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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## *What God Thinks*

**David A. Cox**

The matter of man thinking is far more important that we often realize. The wise man said, "As a man thinketh in his heart so is he" (Proverbs 23:7). Again keep thy heart with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life (Proverbs 4:23). Paul reminded the Philippians to guard their thinking and to think only on good, positive and godly things (Philippians 4:8). We need to learn and understand the power that our thoughts can have upon our relationship with God. Let us notice a few examples in scripture.

**The Case of Naaman.** In 2 Kings 5, we read the story of the cleansing of Naaman of his leprosy. The prophet, Elisha, told Naaman to "go and wash in Jordan seven times" (2 Kings 5:10). Naaman did not want to do this and was even angry at what the prophet told him. As Naaman went away in a rage he said, "Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, stand, and call on the name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place and recover the leper" (2 Kings 5:11). Naaman was thinking, but his thinking was faulty. As long as he thought this way and refused to align his thinking with God's, he would remain a leper. Let us learn that we must subject our thinking to God's thinking.

**The Case of the Rich Fool.** Jesus told the parable about a farmer whose ground was greatly blessed, even to the point that he had no room to store the harvest. Notice the thinking of this man who had been so blessed. "And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry" ( Luke 12 17-19). In this parable, the thoughts of the blest man was only upon self and there was no thanksgiving to God. In the verses that follow, Jesus gives God's reaction to such faulty thinking. "But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up

treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God” (Luke 12:19-21). The Lord reprimands him for such thinking. We must not think that “things” will help us in any way to be pleasing to God. God is not concerned with what we have, but what kind of steward we have been with the things that we have been blessed with.

**The Church at Laodicea.** In Revelation 3, the angel of the church at Laodicea writes to the church and speaks of their condition of being lukewarm, neither cold or hot. However, this description did not match the thoughts of the members of the church at Laodicea. Revelation 3:17 tells what the Laodiceans thought of themselves, “Because thou sayest, I am rich and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked.” What a difference in what the Laodiceans thought and what the Lord thought. We must be sure that we are objective in our thinking and that our objectivity is based upon God’s will.

These are a few examples and many more could be given, but this is enough to understand that pleasing God is not based upon what I think pleasing God is, but upon what God thinks. We must remember that God’s thoughts are higher than man’s thoughts and His ways are higher than our ways (Isaiah 55:8-9). We must then look to God’s word and determine what is right and pleasing to Him and then walk and think in those ways as we acknowledge God as the ruler of our lives.



## *Faith or Works*

**Jason Garcia**

The discussions we have about spiritual things with our religious friends can become heated very quickly when the conversation turns to faith and works. Both play a vital role in the Christian life and are integral to God’s plan for salvation, so what’s the disagreement over? There seems to be primarily two schools of thought when it comes to faith and works: one says essentially that anyone that has put their faith in Christ has done all the Lord requires and perhaps they would cite Ephesians 2:8 to support this teaching. The other school of thought is one that says salvation has to be

earned or *worked* toward, and if someone has put their faith in Christ and worked hard enough, when their time comes they will be acceptable to God. The Bible, however, teaches neither view to the extreme their advocates would have us to believe.

Consider what Jesus has to say in the Gospel of Luke: “Which of you, having a slave plowing or tending sheep, will say to him... ‘Come immediately and sit down to eat?’ But will he not say to him, ‘Prepare something for me to eat, and properly clothe yourself and serve me while I eat and drink’... He does not thank the slave because he did the things which were commanded does he? So you too, when you do **all** the things which are **commanded** you, say, ‘We are **unworthy** slaves; we have done only that which we **ought** to have done’” (Luke 17:7-10 emphasis mine). The Lord taught that even those of His servants who could keep all of His commands perfectly (though I have never met anyone who has) would still be an unworthy slave, and in need of His grace. We can most certainly conclude that no one, not even the Lord’s most faithful servants, can earn points with God so as to eventually merit salvation. The very best we can hope for even if we can keep all of Christ’s commands perfectly is the satisfaction of knowing that we have only done that which we were created for — to serve God (Ecclesiastes 12:13). It is here, also, that the truth of Ephesians 2:8 rings loudly as Paul declares, “For by **grace** you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast”(emphasis mine).

However, some clarification is needed now. When Paul says we “have been saved by grace through faith,” does he mean through faith only? There is nothing in this passage nor in any other mentioning faith in God to suggest Christ is sufficiently pleased with those who have simply acknowledged Him as Savior. There were many who believed or had faith that Jesus was the Son of God, yet within the same passage those men are described as “Loving the praise of men more than the praise of God” (cf. John 12:42-43). Were they saved? (cf. Matthew 10:37-38) Certainly not! What was missing? Why had these men who had faith in Christ not been counted as faithful? They lacked obedience, their “faith” was a dead faith because they were not willing to confess Christ and commit themselves to Him (cf. Luke 9:62). Consider what James had to say concerning the matter: “What use is it, my brethren,

if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him?...faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself. But someone may well say, 'You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works'...are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless:...You see that a man is **justified by works** and **not by faith alone**. In the same way, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead" (James 2:14-26 emphasis mine). James settles the matter and removes any doubt regarding the efficacy of working for the Lord. Does James contradict Paul and teach that works merit salvation? No, that is nowhere to be found in the context, but we must understand that true faith in God results in works--in a servant bearing the fruit of good deeds for His Master.

The Bible teaches neither of the doctrines most often vouched for by our religious friends but, in fact, a third alternative: "He [Jesus] is the source of salvation to all those who **obey** Him" (Hebrews 5:9) emphasis mine). True faith is more comprehensive in scope than some would have us believe. It is no mere intellectual exercise or acknowledgement, but carries with it a desire and determination to work. First-century Christians understood belief in Christ to be a work, and that in acknowledging Jesus as Lord they had to obey His will — even as He Himself declared, "Why do you call Me Lord, and do not do what I say?" (cf. John 6:29; Luke 6:46). Let us never forget the victory has been won, and His grace covers all our sin, but let us also never grow lax in service to Him, for we will be judged according to our deeds (cf. Romans 8:37; Hebrews 7:25; 2 Corinthians 5:10).

-via *Faithful Sayings*; Amarillo, Texas.



## *Humility*

Dennis Carrow

A young boy once came home from school really bragging to his mother about his accomplishment at school that day, to which she replied, "It looks like I

need to teach you a lesson in humility." To which the young boy said; "Mom, I know everything there is to know about humility."

This humorous story illustrates how that once we think we have reached the pinnacle of humility we no longer possess it. How do we learn humility? How do we teach humility?

Humility grows out of an attitude of how we view ourselves and others. It is a critical element of faith. In the absence of humility we will never be able to enter into fellowship with God. Humility is the antecedent of pride. Therefore, it is through humility we begin to approach God (James 4:6).

Then, effectively, in this state we naturally become the kind of people God would have us to be. Humility enables us to "have the mind of Christ." The essence of humility is the condition of mind that places the desire of God and the needs of others above our own. (Philippians 2:1-11).

It is imperative that we possess this quality and we must instill it in our children. Humility begins as we acknowledge we don't know everything and we depend on God.

-via *What Is True?*; Little Rock, Arkansas.

## *News & Notes*

### THE SICK:

Gladys Johnson	Delmar Carter
Marvin Wales	Rachel Grubbs
Stuart Wilson Family	David Gardner
Mary Ruth Gardner	Martha Rice
Brent Lowman	Una King Currier
Jeff Waddell	Wanda Taylor
Barbara Ogles	Mary Dean
Joe Collier	Sarah Collier
Matt Poff	Randy Graviett
Paige Phillips	Phillip Harwell
Robbie Shoulders	Don Bowling

### *In The Hospital:*

*Jim Currier*; Trinity Hospital – Birmingham

*Doris Claxton*; Valley Rehab. Madison.

*Rhett Bailey*; St. Jude's Hosp. Memphis, Tenn.

*Athens Convalescent Center:*

Betty Bates, rm. 17

*Limestone Health Facility:*

Janet Berryhill, rm. 65      Annie Mae Bragg, rm. 57  
Mary Smith, rm. 85      Rosella Pugh, rm. 74  
J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E

*Limestone Manor:*

Albert 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:

- Andrew Deen; Japan
- Whitney Deen; Japan
- Matthew Cox; Iraq

**PREACHING AWAY:** *David Cox* is beginning a week of Vacation Bible School at Anderson. The VBS will continue through Friday morning.

**NEW ADULT BIBLE CLASS:** Beginning today a new Bible class will be meeting the little auditorium in the west wing. *Stuart Wilson* will be directing the study on “*Denying Self*”. I know that it will be a good study for all that would like to be a part of it.

**SYMPATHY:** We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Bonnie Sutton* and *all the family*, in the passing of Bonnie’s great neice, *Michelle Garner*. Her funeral was Saturday afternoon at Limestone Chapel.

**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 HOMESINGING:** Remember the singing at the Athens Convalescent on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

**THE RECORD:** *For the Week of July 3rd*

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 130  
Morning Worship ..... 167  
Evening Worship..... 120

**Wednesday:** Bible Classes..... 107

Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, July 10th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Joel Hamm  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Preaching ..... Warren Glass  
Lord’s Supper  
Presiding ..... Jonathan Keenon  
Assisting ..... Tyler Cox  
Serving ..... Stefan Fudge..... Will Chumbley  
..... Delmer Carter ..... Mark Rogers  
Closing Prayer ..... Hunter Cox

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Joel Hamm  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer ..... Stuart Wilson  
Preaching ..... Jordan Lovell  
Lord’s Supper ..... Jonathan Keenon  
Closing Prayer ..... Terry Andrews

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 10th:

Usher ..... David Terry  
Work Sound System ..... Stuart Wilson

**Wednesday, July 13th:**

Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox  
Bible Reading..... (Isaiah 26:12-21)  
..... Danny Johnson  
Prayer ..... Marty Adams  
Invitation ..... Warren Glass  
Closing Prayer ..... Marcus Morris

**Sunday, July 17th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Stuart Wilson  
Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
Prayer ..... Marty Adams  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord’s Supper  
Presiding ..... Jonathan Keenon  
Assisting ..... Tyler Cox  
Serving ..... Stefan Fudge..... Will Chumbley  
..... Delmer Carter ..... Mark Rogers  
Closing Prayer ..... Marcus Morris

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Stuart Wilson  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell  
Preaching ..... Joel Hamm  
Lord’s Supper ..... Tyler Cox  
Closing Prayer ..... Marty Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 17th:

Usher ..... Keenon Currier  
Work Sound System ..... Marty Adams