

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

Volume III

July 31, 2011

No. 31

How To Slay A Giant

Mike Wilson

The battle of David and Goliath is one of the best-known stories in all the Bible. A champion, Goliath, came out of the Philistine camp every day for 40 days, defying the Israelite army to send him a worthy opponent. This Philistine giant was about 9 feet 9 inches tall and wore at least 150 pounds of armor. Confident in the superiority of his equipment and his extraordinary natural strength, he proposes a winner-take-all contest. There were no takers!

Young David was sent by his father to deliver some roasted grain, loaves of bread and cheese to his brothers and their commander on the battlefield. It was on this battlefield that David's life took a very different turn, and it would never be the same. The ultimate outcome, however, did not occur by accident. David did four things that are timelessly instructive to the young and the young at heart.

1. **He took advantage of his opportunity.** We know David as a shepherd, a musician, a psalmist, a warrior and a king. But the doorway to a successful career as a man of God opened up to him in the valley of Elah. Observing firsthand Goliath's psychological warfare and intimidation, David asked, "What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should taunt the armies of the living God?" (1 Samuel 17:26). No one ever accomplishes anything of note if he doesn't take advantage of his opportunities. The cowardice of the Israelite armed forces, including King Saul, was an open door for David. The same shepherd boy who had slain a lion and a bear would say to the king, "This uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them..." (1 Samuel 17:32).

2. **He did not allow his youth to deter him.** David's older brother, Eliab, spoke with disdain: "Why have you come down? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your insolence and the wickedness of your heart; for you have come down in order to see

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
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MARKET STREET MESSENGER

*is published in the interest of New Testament
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Market Street church.*

David A. Cox, Editor

the battle” (1 Samuel 17:28). Other detractors might have said, “Oh, he’s young and inexperienced. This is just youthful exuberance.” Even today, young people in the church will naturally defer to older people who are in positions of influence, but that doesn't mean they don't have anything to offer. A young godly person can make a huge difference!

3. He saw the victory before the battle was fought. One can detect no trace of fear in David’s voice throughout this episode. On the contrary, his courage is infectious. He informed the king, “Let no man’s heart fail on account of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine” (1 Samuel 17:32). When the battle finally ensued, Goliath gave him a verbal barrage: “Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?” (1 Samuel 14:43). Just as trash talking is an ugly part of modern sports, it was a part of ancient battle etiquette. One gets the impression, nevertheless, that Goliath was genuinely offended by the handsome, unintimidating youth who stood before him. Is this the best the Israelites have to offer? On the contrary, David stood his ground and engaged the giant verbally, but he did not boast in the deadly marksmanship of his slingshot. “You have come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts...for the battle is the LORD’s and He will give you into our hands” (1 Samuel 17:45,47).

4. He was moved by a greater purpose. David tells his opponent that the immanent victory had a higher aim: “that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel” (1 Samuel 17:46). Young David was moved by the vindication of God’s name to an ignorant world. Does it pain you to think of how many of your friends and neighbors do not know God? If so, then what will you do about it? David wasn’t going to sit on the sidelines while an uncircumcised Philistine defied the armies of the living God! When the truth of God moves a person to righteous indignation and absolute trust, as well as concern for the lost souls of the other people, he will no longer be able to tremble in silence. Instead, he will rise up and act! Like Isaiah, he will say, “Here am I, send me.” How does the story end? “Thus David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and he struck the Philistine and killed him” (1 Samuel 17:50). The rest, as they say, is history.

-via North San Diego Newsletter; San Diego, California.

Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.

Dirty Cars and Clean Hearts

Justin Roberson

Currently, as far as transportation goes, Lauren and I own two vehicles and a riding lawn mower. Lauren’s is a 2005 Toyota and mine is a 1986 Toyota 4Runner. Even though both vehicles were purchased used, they were so clean and shiny from one end to the other (inside and out) , when we first purchased them.

I like and appreciate a clean car like the next fellow. I desire very much to have a car, which is clean and shiny both inside and out. Years ago I ate at a Hardees restaurant up above where I lived. When I came out, one of the employees was washing off the parking lot with a hose right next to where my truck was parked. I tried and tried to talk him into washing my truck but he just wouldn’t. You see, I do desire a clean truck. I certainly am aware of the advantages of keeping the truck clean and I do intend someday to give it a good cleaning. But my desire to have a clean truck isn’t enough. I still don’t clean it.

You may be asking yourself why I have said so much about my dirty cars and why I don't clean them. The reason is because we are often guilty of the same thing with regard to our soul. We may be perfectly aware of the sin stains upon our soul but take no action to remove them. In this way we do as I do with my truck, allow it to remain dirty.

The person who has never obeyed the gospel of Christ Jesus may have been taught enough of God’s word for them to realize they are guilty of sin before God. “For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). They may also have been taught what to do to be cleansed of their sins (Acts 22:16) and may even have a general desire to have their soul cleansed. Most, however, decide to remain dirty with their sin stains.

Even erring children of God are often guilty of this. Clearly they know God’s will and thus they know when they have erred. But because of other things of this life they choose to dirty themselves again with sin and to remain with such filth on their soul.

One who needs cleansing by the blood of Jesus Christ (Revelation 1:5; 1 John 1:7; Acts 4:12) will not

do so until they feel it is really important. We must be aware, and make others aware, of both the benefits of this cleansing by the blood of Christ and the cost of not "washing away" our sins (Acts 22:16). Being cleansed of our sins means we have a hope of eternity with God in Heaven. Without this cleansing there is no hope.

Paul speaks of the end of all things when Jesus will come "rendering vengeance to them that know not God, and to them they obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus: who shall suffer punishment, even eternal destruction from the face of the Lord and from the glory of his might" (2 Thessalonians 1:8,9).

I know some of the nicest people in the world who have the cleanest cars, but never take the time to wash their hearts. We all need to be ready for judgment but cannot do so unless we are made clean by leaving sin and obeying God - Romans 6:1-6.

Are you clean?

-via *Northwood Messenger*; Northport, Alabama.



Giving Attention To God

Shane Williams

God is quite popular on Sunday, Millions of people around the world stop what they're doing to visit a building where they seek, in one way or another, to meet with others to worship, sing, and learn about God. For many, Sunday is THE day to think about God. But then Monday rolls around. What place does God have in their lives then? When the emphasis is on a thousand other things, people can easily go all week without giving Him another thought.

That's not just a danger for everyone else. It may also be a danger for us, those who are truly committed to following the Lord. Too often God's name may not ever be heard the rest of the week. If it is, it is often spoken in vain and not in reverence. Often His plans are not considered and His guidelines for living aren't given a thought.

Where do people get the idea that God wants our attention only on Sunday and the other 6 days are our own? Certainly not from the apostle Paul, who said we are to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Doesn't this imply that God is listening on Monday through Saturday too? Paul also wrote, "Rejoice always" (vs. 16). This surely isn't limited then to time spent at the church building. What about the command, "In everything give thanks" (vs. 18)? Doesn't everything kind of include, well...everything? That would suggest that the rest of the week is just as full of opportunities to say, "Thank You," to the Lord.

Sunday is certainly a special day to give direct attention to God. It is the first day of the week and we are to come together to worship the Lord (Acts. 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1-2). However, it doesn't stop there. Don't forget Monday (and Tuesday and Wednesday...)! Christianity is not a block of time in your week, it IS your week. It is to be your life!

Galatians 2:20, "*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.*"

-via *The Lilbourn Light*; Lilbourn, Missouri

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Mot Beasley	Rachel Grubbs
David Gardner	Gladys Johnson
Mary Ruth Gardner	Jack Jones
Martha Rice	Steve Hardy
Brent Lowman	Una King Currier
Jeff Waddell	Wanda Taylor
Matt Poff	Mary Dean
Joe Collier	Sarah Collier
Barbara Ogles	Randy Graviett
Paige Phillips	Phillip Harwell
Robbie Shoulders	Don Bowling

In The Hospital:

Delmer Carter; Huntsville Hospital, CVICU
Gladys Sandlin; Huntsville Hospital, rm. 539
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. 98

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

SONGBOOKS: We begun to use the new songbooks “*Songs of Worship and Praise.*” The elders are want anybody here that would like to have a copy of the old book “*Hymns For Worship*” to get one. The old books are in boxes in the little auditorium in the west wing.

SINGING: There will be a singing on Friday night at the ***Helton Drive church*** in Florence. It will begin at 7:00 p.m.

PREACHING AWAY: ***Warren Glass*** is preaching again this week for the ***Pine Lane church*** in Bessemer. He will be speaking at both services today.

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.

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

THE RECORD: *For the Week of July 24th*

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 132
Morning Worship 161
Evening Worship..... 124

Wednesday:

Bible Classes..... 100

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, July 31st:

Morning Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Tyler Cox
Prayer Jonathan Keenon
Preaching David Cox
Lord’s Supper
Presiding Bonnie Sutton
Assisting Joel Hamm
Serving Ronnie Locke Marion Pepper
..... Harold Davis Paul Hasting
Closing Prayer Wayne Vaughn

Evening Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Tyler Cox
Prayer Dwaine Allfrey
Preaching David Cox
Lord’s Supper Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 31st:

Usher Delmer Carter
Work Sound System Stuart Wilson

Wednesday, August 3rd:

Song Leader Tyler Cox
Bible Reading..... (Isaiah 28:11-19)
..... Terry Andrews
Prayer Marion Mitchell
Invitation Marcus Morris
Closing Prayer Jerry McGlocklin

Sunday, August 7th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Landon Adams
Preaching David Cox
Lord’s Supper
Presiding Marty Adams
Assisting Stuart Wilson
Serving Nathaniel Adams Hunter Cox
..... Terry Andrews Keenon Currier
Closing Prayer Tommy Coblentz

Evening Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Tyler Cox
Preaching David Cox
Lord’s Supper Stuart Wilson
Closing Prayer Terry Andrews

Other Assignments for Sunday, August 7th:

Usher Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System Marty Adams