

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 V

March 10, 2013

No. 10

Doing God's Will

David A. Cox

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) 777-6737
Bonnie Sutton..... (256) 232-2081

Deacons

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 233-5147
Tommy Coblentz (256) 232-3212
Joel Hamm..... (256) 230-6223
Larry Mitchell (256) 230-0185
Todd Williams..... (205) 541-8304
Russ Wulfekuhl (256) 683-9396

Evangelists

David A. Cox (256) 233-8910
Cell: (256) 614-3757
Jordan Lovell..... (256) 777-8998

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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

There is no greater subject that one could study than that of learning what God's will is. Why? Because man has a soul, and this soul will eternally exist somewhere. Jesus said that those that do the Father's will would enter the eternal home in heaven and those that do not obey will be banished from His presence and spend eternity with the devil and his angels (Matthew 7:21-23; 25:31-46). The fact of the matter is that the scriptures over and over emphasize the need to obey God's will.

Someone might ask, "What is God's will?" To answer this we might ask, "How do you know what anyone desires or what anyone's will is?" The answer would be, "They must tell us." That is exactly right. One must tell you what their will is for you to know it. I do not know what my wife's will is, unless she tells me. My two sons do not know what their dad's will is unless I tell them. So God, the Father, must make His will known to us. Has He done this? Yes! The Hebrew writer says, "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the father by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son" (Hebrews 1:1-2).

We are told "God has spoken" in the past to the fathers and prophets. We see this early in Genesis. God spoke to Adam saying, "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it" (Genesis 2:16-17). The Lord's will was clear. Adam and Eve could eat of every tree, except from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Did Adam and Eve understand this? Yes! The serpent came to Eve and asked about the eating of the fruit of the trees. Eve responded by saying, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die" (Genesis 3:2-3). Yes, Eve understood because God made His will known to Adam. Even though Adam and Eve understood God's will they disobeyed. Due to their disobedience, God put them out of the garden. Later, God gave His law (His will) to Moses in Exodus 20 and

following. Moses made known this law (God's will) to man. They intended to keep it, but failed over and over again. One example is the command God gave on the transporting of the ark of the covenant (Numbers 4). In verse 15, we are told that no one was to touch it lest they die. Later when the ark was being transported, "and when they came to Nachon's threshingfloor, Uzzah put forth his hand to the ark of God, and took hold of it; for the oxen shook it" (2 Samuel 6:6). Did God make known His will? Yes. Surely, Uzzah understood this. But he must have reasoned that God would not want the ark to fall to the ground and be broken into many pieces. Therefore, Uzzah steadied the ark with his hand. What was God's reaction to this? "And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his error; and there he died by the ark of God" (2 Samuel 6:7). God has in the past made His will known by the fathers and prophets and He expected His will to be obeyed.

The Hebrew writer says that "God has spoken" in the past through the fathers and prophets, but now speaks through His Son. The Lord's will is now given by Jesus Christ, and His words are our standard of judgement. Jesus, before he went to the cross said, "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. For I have not spoken of myself: but the Father which sent me, gave me commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that His commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak" (John 12:48-50). Jesus makes it clear that God's (the Father's) will is being spoken through Himself and that this will be the standard of judgement for men. Jesus, before His death, told His disciples that the Comforter would guide them into all truth, and bring to their remembrance all that He had taught them (John 16:13; 14:26). Why? So they could make God's will known to men as they preached and wrote in the first century.

To understand God's will we must look to the gospel of Christ and see what He taught. We must understand that this is God's will today and to please Him we must obey it. We cannot go back to the commands God gave to the fathers, or the prophets for our justification. Why? Because Christ said he fulfilled the law; brought it to an end (Matthew 5:17-18). Doing the Lord's will is doing what he commanded. A question such as, "Why don't

you use instruments of music in worship to God?" The answer is the law of Christ says nothing about using mechanical instruments of music in worship, but it does tell us to sing and make melody in your hearts unto the Lord (Ephesians 5:19). Or, "Why do you teach that one must be baptized to be saved?" The answer is because the law of Christ teaches that (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38). We must ever be impressed with obeying and doing God's will in all things.

Obedience to the will of God is one of the cardinal principles set forth in the scriptures. Let us learn the lessons of those in the past that God wants His will followed, and not be among those that have not obeyed when Jesus comes again (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9).



The Tower of Babel

Berry Kercheville

"Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top will reach into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name" (Genesis 11:4).

The story of the tower of Babel is one of the most well-known childhood stories (Genesis 11:1-9). But its significance is far greater than often supposed. Let's start with some of the points of interest about the story.

First, we see that the whole earth had one language and the same words (indicating that not only was the language the same but no dialects had developed). Having one language created a unifying effect and a desire to be dominant in the world. Notice they believed that building the tower would give them a reputation in the earth and would be a rallying point so that they would not be scattered away from each other. It has often been taught in Sunday school classes that the people wanted to create a tower so that they could reach up to heaven and see God. But "heaven" in this context is simply referring to the sky or our immediate atmosphere. These

people are not so foolish to think that the heaven where God resides is materially so close that they could reach it. Reaching God is not the point. In fact, the point is quite the opposite. They are not interested in God; they are interested in exalting themselves and getting others to be impressed with them. This is exactly the reason God was displeased with them. Instead of God being their focus and rallying point, they created themselves as their own god and desired the world to worship and honor them. The fact that “nothing they propose to do would be impossible for them” indicates the carnal and worldly direction they were headed.

How simply we read that God confused their language so that they could not understand one another's speech. In other words, God created a number of other languages and immediately and miraculously infused these new speeches into the minds and tongues of a variety of groups of people resulting in dispersing them across the face of the earth. The result was the origin of the name “Babel” (similar to the Hebrew sound, which means “confused”). Therefore, instead of man “evolving” from apes and cavemen who made grunting sounds until they gradually were able to form words and eventually a language, God made His imprint on the whole world through the creation of the original language and then at Babel the creation of numerous languages. From these languages came a variety of nationalities and races of people as they married with their own language base.

To this day mankind still has the desire to make much of themselves instead of honoring God. And just as in the story of Babel, man without God as His focal point, defeats himself and his own purposes.

“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil” (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14).

-via *Teaching Truth*; Madison, Alabama

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Come and Join Us As We Study Together

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Ruth Legg	Fay Ferguson
Jo Ann Gilbert	Judy Vaughn
Gwen Bullock	Wynell Casteel
Gilbert Hardy	Jilya Gossett
Jerry Taylor	Barbara Piper
Charles Burns	Bruce Mordecai
Una King Currier	Ronald Harrison
David Hartsell	Abby Gilbert
Phillip Harwell	Ava Brooke Cambell
Matt Poff	Shelia Dunnivant Douglas

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Beulah Pope, rm. 100	Mattye Murray, rm. 60
Harvey Pope, rm. 100	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Dyral Allfrey, rm. 80	

Limestone Health Facility:

Janet Berryhill, rm. 75-B	Albert Bowers, rm. 115-B
Albert Norton, rm. 36	Frances Bower, rm 116
Rosella Pugh, rm. 74	J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E

Limestone Lodge:

Yvonne Sherbert, rm. 29-E

Brookshire Healthcare - Huntsville:

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 112-C

Shut-In:

Reba Adams, at home
 Lola Colwell, at home
 Mary Riuth Gardner, at home
 Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

LADIES BIBLE CLASS: The Ladies' Bible class meets on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 in the west wing auditorium. They are continuing the study, “*The Barnabas Factor*”. All the ladies that can are invited to be a part of this class.

PICTURES: *Joel Hamm* will be taking pictures of the the elders and deacons for the directory this morning. If you would like to have your picture made for the directory, please see Joel this morning.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Cooks:* *Jonathan, Lora, Alex, Elijah and Anna* are in Gatlinburg, Tennessee this weekend.

WORK GROUPS: Work Group three will be meet-

ing this evening after our evening service. If you are in group three, remember to meet with your group tonight.

TEACHERS MEETING: There will be a teachers' meeting next Sunday afternoon at 4:00 concerning the VBS for this summer. I hope that all of our teachers will be able to be present.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Ardmore church* in Ardmore is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. There will be different speakers as follows: *Sunday morning – David Cox; Sunday afternoon – Lance Taylor; Monday – Jeff May; Tuesday – Bobby Graham; Wednesday – Colby Junkin; Thursday – Philip Owens; Friday – Lowell Sallee.*...The *East Florence church* in Florence is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. *Marc Gibson* will be the speaker in this meeting.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE DRILL: The Children's Bible Drill is each Sunday afternoon at 4:40 and lasts about 15 minutes. It meets in the auditorium and will end about 5 minutes before the beginning of our evening service. I hope that all of our children will be able to be present this evening for the Bible drill.

THE RECORD: Attendance for Week of March 3rd

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 127
Morning Worship 166
Evening Worship..... 125

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 102



Gospel Meeting

April 14-17, 2013

(Sunday through Thursday)

Schedule of Services

Sunday 9:30 a.m.; 10:45 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
Monday through Thursday– 7:00 p.m.

Mark W. White, Speaking

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street
Athens, Alabama

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, March 10th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Marcus Morris
Song Leader Tyler Cox
Prayer Bonnie Sutton
Preaching Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper
Presiding Jonathan Keenon
Assisting Larry Mitchell
Serving Kenneth Adams..... Marvin Putman
..... Brandon Griswold .. Wayne Vaughn
Closing Prayer Kenneth Smith

Evening Worship

Announcements Marcus Morris
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Jonathan Keenon
Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 10th:

Usher Dwaine Allfrey
Work Sound System Landon Adams

Wednesday, March 13th:

Song Leader Marty Adams
Bible Reading..... Isaiah 63:1-6
..... Danny Johnson
Prayer Wayne Vaughn
Invitation Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer Todd Williams

Sunday, March 17th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Terry Andrews
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Marty Adams
Assisting Tommy Coblentz
Serving Dan Lovell..... Marion Mitchell
..... Dwaine Allfrey Keith Hinkle
Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Stefan Fudge
Prayer Todd Williams
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer Jack Cannon

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 17th:

Usher Keenon Currier
Work Sound System Nathaniel Adams