

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 VII

July 26, 2015

No. 30

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) 232-3312
Joel Hamm.....(256) 278-1977
Larry Mitchell(256) 230-0185
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

Salvation By Grace

Cecil F. Cox

*"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves:
it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast"
(Ephesians 2:8,9).*

In the above verses we learn that salvation is by grace. The word translated "grace" always described a gift which would have been impossible for one to procure in and of himself. It speaks of a gift that could never be earned or merited. So it is with salvation. Man has sinned and thus fellowship with God is severed (Isaiah 59:1-2). Man un-aided could never be bridged from the earthly side. So God promised a bridge-builder from the heavenly side. From Genesis 3:15 onward, there is an ever increasing stream of prophecies flowing from God. Now Christ has come. He has made it possible for all to be saved. It is upon Him we must depend for salvation. By grace we are saved! To further clinch this the apostle said that salvation is "not of works." He then went on to indicate what kind of works he was speaking of, that is works of merit or boasting. Hear him, "not of works lest any man should boast." So, my friends, you cannot merit or earn salvation. There is no room for boasting.

Now as we continue our study, I want to make it clear that nowhere does the Bible teach salvation is by "grace only." Many have the idea that since salvation is a gift it is unconditional on the part of man. In a little booklet entitled *Saved and Certain* we note this statement, "Salvation is by the grace of God alone, apart from any human effort or merit, making God alone responsible for our salvation." One popular Church Manual says, "We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace." "Wholly" is a lonesome word, it will not allow any thing else. The manual is saying that salvation is by "grace alone." Such a doctrine is a perversion of the Bible doctrine of salvation by grace.

Question: Does compliance with terms or conditions nullify grace? If a neighbor or relative purposes to give you something of great value but places some small conditions to be met before you could have the

gift would the performance of these conditions nullify the gift? No, it would not. May I illustrate with the following. Suppose a relative has a new Buick that he says he will give to you. But he makes the following terms or conditions to be met: fill up the three small holes in my drive-way with gravel. In doing this have you earned the automobile? Have you merited it? Is there any room for boasting in what you did to receive the Buick? The answer is obvious. No, you did not earn the automobile. It was a gift. The performance of those conditions did not mean you merited it and thereby nullified the gift.

So it is with salvation. We are saved by grace, but God has made the gift conditional. In Matthew 7:21-27 Jesus said, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." Get your Bible and read the entire passage. The rich young ruler we read about in Matthew 19:16-32 understood salvation to be conditional and Jesus made no attempt to cause him to think otherwise. The Philippian jailor in Acts 16 understood that there was something he needed to do, and Paul and Silas made no effort to correct him. So, salvation is conditional and our complying with the conditions does not nullify grace.

Please notice the two dilemmas faced by "grace alone" advocates. If salvation is by "grace alone" then:

1. Everyone will be saved. In Titus 2:11 we read, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men." But the idea that everyone will be saved is in conflict with Matthew 7:13 which says, "For wide is the gate and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat."
2. This would make God responsible for those that are lost. But this is in conflict with 2 Peter 3:9 and 1 Timothy 2:3-4. These verses teach that God would have all men to be saved, that He is not willing that any perish.

Let us go back to the text at the beginning of this article. The apostle says that we are saved by grace through faith. In Romans 5:2 he says, "By whom we have access by faith into this grace wherein you stand, and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God." Grace is God's part in salvation - Faith is man's part. Grace brings salvation into our reach and by faith we lay hold on to it. Notice the following examples of God's grace and man's faith working together to obtain the desired results.

1. God's grace made it possible for Naaman to be healed of leprosy; Naaman's faith led him to meet the conditions (2 Kings 5).
2. Grace made it possible to take Jericho; faith led Israel to meet God's conditions (Joshua 6).
3. So the grace of God makes possible our salvation, but our faith will cause us to do what God has prescribed as conditions.

Sometimes people ask what these conditions are. A study of the book of Acts will reveal that in order for one to become a Christian, be forgiven of his sins, stand in a saved condition, he must hear the gospel of Christ, believe the message heard, repent of past sins, confess his faith in Christ and be baptized for the remission of his sins.

The Bible teaches salvation by grace, but this does not mean that it is by "grace alone." He requires that you meet the conditions he has laid down. I trust that you will give this your very serious attention.

-via *Topics For Thought*; Russellville, Alabama.

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How Sweet The Sound

Phillip Mullins

David's head was hung low. He knew he had sinned with Bathsheba. He knew his hands were stained with the blood of Uriah. He knew that he deserved to die. Instead he heard the forgiveness of God through the lips of Nathan, "The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die" (2 Samuel 12:13).

Peter had done exactly what he said he wouldn't do, he had denied Jesus. What guilt he must have felt, what shame he must have had. Several days after the resurrection, Peter sat on the shores of Galilee with His Lord. What did he hear from Christ? Words of scorn, words of rejection? No. "Feed my lambs", said Christ (John 21:15). Words of restoration to the work Jesus had called Peter to do. Words of forgiveness.

The greatest words that a person can hear are not, "You are getting a raise" or "You just earned the highest grade in the class" or even "Yes, I will marry you". The

most important words that the human ear can receive are the words that bear the news that God is merciful and that He forgives through His Son Jesus Christ.

“But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ...” (Ephesians 2:5-6).

Have you heard these words? Have you responded with love, faith, and obedience? If not, open God’s Word, bend your ear, and listen to His voice. It will be the sweetest sound you have ever heard.

-via *Messages*; Kingsport, Tennessee.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Dan Lovell	Lisa Wulfekuhl
Marie Nave	Lona Killen
Jeanette Weir	Buddy Pepper
Irene Inman	Marjorie Dunnivant
Carl Hargrave	Essie Hardison
Gwen Bullock	Linda Ordonez
Bennie Pepper	Bob Knowlen
Ray Kennedy	Pam Perry
Phillip Harwell	Eli Williams
Ann Bush	Ava Brooke Campbell
Michael Vaughn	Ben Hinkle
Al Pollard	Elizabeth Kate Miller
Anita Willis	Helen Rushing
Matt Poff	Una King Carrier
Charles Burns	Gene Carpenter
Analynn Tegg	Abby Gilbert

In The Hospital:

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 111	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Dorothy Draper, rm. 97	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Mattye Murray, rm. 2
Gayle Mills, rm. 15	Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
Mable Crafts, rm. 100	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Judith Groce, rm. 21	Terry Camp, rm. 91
Helen Trousdale, rm. 43	

Limestone Health Facility:

Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E

Limestone Manor:

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 86

Limestone Lodge:

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 20W

Floyd E. “Tut” Fann Veterans Home - Huntsville:

Albert Bowers, rm. 115-C

Shut-In:

Hazel Brooks, at home

Wynell Casteel, at home

Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

DEATH: This past Thursday morning about 2:20 my father, **Cecil Cox**, passed from this life. I will miss daddy and the opportunities to sit and visit with him. But we rejoice for the life he lived and the example he set. Daddy preached the gospel for over 60 years. He began preaching at the age of 18. He preached throughout the southeastern states during those years. But the churches he labored with were primarily in Alabama. Leighton, Mt. Hope, Hanceville, Waterloo, Belgreen, Bessemer, Russellville (Eastside, Waco & Centerview) and Haleyville (Needmore). He labored for about three years with the Fairview church near Collinwood, Tennessee and for five years with the West End church in Richmond, Virginia. He took the work of preaching as a serious matter and worked tirelessly in the work. Personally, I can say that much of what am I and the work I do as an evangelist came from the training I received from my father.

We want to express our sincere appreciation for all the concern and love you have demonstrated toward our family in the time of daddy’s sickness and passing. We will always remember your service and kindness extended to us. Indeed, Market Street is a special place with special people. We love you and are glad to have you as our family.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Thomas’:* Tony and Patsy are out of town this weekend... *The Hinkles:* Keith and Angie are out of town in Asheville, North Carolina this weekend... *The Melvins:* Russell, Ella & Makala have been on vacation this week at the Gulf... *Louise Melvin* is also on vacation at the Gulf... *Ruby Dean Ezell* has been in Pigeon Forge this week... *The Hamms:* Joel, Sharma, Clayton and Ragan have been out of town this week on vacation... *The Lovells:* Jordan, Heather, Aiden and Rylee have been on vacation this week.

BARBADOS BENEVOLENCE: Last Sunday, I mentioned the need of sister *Lorna Sealy*. She lost her house and everything in it due to a fire several weeks ago. The *church at Hindsbury Road* has done what they can to relieve her needs. However, there is no insurance to replace the belongings and her house. The money needed to build her house is about \$5,300. Sister Sealy, as I mentioned, is a faithful sister who lives some distance from the meeting-house, but often provides transportation as she can for others. She has worked in sitting with the sick and those unable to care for themselves. Several years ago she was given a fairly lucrative property in St. James. She gave this property to the *Trents church* for them to have a meeting place. I was asked to write about this need.

Many have already responded, but if you would like to participate in this, please give the money to one of the elders or me.

WORK GROUPS: Work Group one will be meeting this evening after our evening service. If you are in group one, remember to meet with your group.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *New Hope church* is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Friday. *Sewell Hall* will be the speaker in this meeting... The *Pleasant Valley church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday evening. The speaker in this meeting will be *David Thomley*... The *Jennings Chapel church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening. The speaker in this meeting will be *Eric Reynolds*.

SINGING: There will be a singing on Friday night at the *Jackson Heights church* in Columbia, Tennessee. *Tim Stevens* and *Gary Braswell* will be leading the singing.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of July 19th

Sunday:	Bible Classes.....	148
	Morning Worship	194
	Evening Worship.....	123
Wednesday:	Bible Classes.....	116

Bible Study



Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.
 Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, July 26th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Tyler Cox
Prayer	Dan Reed
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Keith Hinkle
Assisting	Tony Thomas
Serving	Stefan Fudge..... Seth Todd
.....	Danny Johnson James Johnson
Closing Prayer	Landon Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer	Tommy Coblenz
Preaching	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Keith Hinkle
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 26th:

Usher	Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System	Terry Andrews

Wednesday, July 29th:

Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Bible Reading.....	(1 Corinthians 7:25-34)
.....	Jason Conn
Prayer	Dwayne Allfrey
Invitation	Tommy Coblenz
Closing Prayer	Tommy Burns

Sunday, August 2nd:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Joel Hamm
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer	Dan Reed
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Larry Mitchell
Assisting	Keith Hinkle
Serving	David Terry Steve Bradley
.....	Marvin Putman Bart Brown
Closing Prayer	James Johnson

Evening Worship

Announcements	Joel Hamm
Song Leader	Tyler Cox
Prayer	Bonnie Sutton
Preaching	Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper	Larry Mitchell
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, August 2nd:

Usher	Paul Hasting
Work Sound System	Nathaniel Adams