

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

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The Choice of Moses

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 Coblenz..... (256) 232-3312
Joel Hamm (256) 278-1977
Larry Mitchell (256) 230-0185
Russ Wulfekuhl (256) 683-9396

Evangelist

David A. Cox..... (256) 233-8910
Cell: (256) 614-3757

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Market Street church.*

David A. Cox, Editor

God made man and gave him free will, the power to choose. From the garden of Eden, and throughout the scriptures we see various people making choices, some good and some bad. As we live on earth, we too will be faced with making decisions concerning things that are right and wrong. At the end of time, we will all give account for the choices we have made. It is important that we learn to make the right choices, which we choose that which pleases God. In learning to do this, we would do well to consider the choice that Moses made (Hebrews 11:24-25). Let us notice some lessons we can learn from the choice that Moses made.

Moses Refused Earthly Power and Prestige

From the text, we learn that Moses' choice involved his giving up the earthly power and prestige he had being "the son of Pharaoh's daughter." Power and prestige are driving forces behind many decisions that we make. Often decisions are based not on what is right, but rather one what it will make me. John said, "among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God" (John 12:42-43). When Moses made his decision, his concern was not for what power or prestige he would lose for doing right, but his concern was for what was right.

Moses Refused The Pleases of Sin

In Hebrews 11:25, we are told that Moses chose "to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season." Sin is deceptive. It will allure one to think that something sinful is not that bad. In Genesis 3, when Eve was tempted by the serpent to eat the forbidden fruit, she was enticed by its pleasantness. Many times people will commit sins by fooling themselves into thinking that it is pleasant and not so bad. Many have given themselves over to actions that they would have never thought of being involved in at one time. But they failed to see the deception of sin and the way in which it leads one into sin with terrible consequences. David was an example of such when he failed to see the danger in lusting after a woman he saw bathing. It led

him to commit fornication, lying, getting a man drunk, murder. All of this occurred because he did not see the deception of sin.

Moses Refused Earthly Possessions

In verse 26 of Hebrews 11, we are told “esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of reward.” We learn that the decision Moses made involved him leaving the riches or treasures that we for him as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter to stand with God and to lead His people. Many decisions in life involve the choice of things or riches. The rich young ruler was one that wanted to be acceptable to God, but when faced with the choice of pleasing God or keeping his wealth, he chose his earthly wealth (Mark 10:17-22). Jesus warned early in His personal ministry about the improper value placed on things of this earth. Notice he said, “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt and where thieves break through and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven...” (Matthew 6:19-20). When Moses was confronted with his choice, he made a choice for heaven and not earth.

In this, we see Moses made a choice that pleased God. “How did he do it” one may ask? It was because of his deep abiding faith in God and His promises. So then, if we are going to make the right choice as Moses did then let us develop a strong faith, which comes from God’s word (Romans 10:17). Let us read, study and live each day as God directs us through His word, then, we will be prepared as Moses was to make the right choice.

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Two Girls Want To Date Jerry

Bill Hall

Jerry is a bright young man with a great future. He is a Christian, genuinely dedicated to pleasing the Lord and preparing for heaven. Two girls recognize these great qualities and want to date Jerry, but their approach is considerably different.

The first girl tries to attract Jerry by worldly means. She relies on her physical beauty and “upto- date wardrobe. She turns on the charm anytime he is around and is

quite forward in his presence. She owns her own car and seeks to use that cherished commodity to the greatest possible advantage. She is a member of the church and attends regularly, but material values obviously outweigh spiritual values in her life. She had some good qualities, but she is placing much emphasis on outward appearance that it is difficult for one to penetrate the veneer to see her real character.

The second girl makes no obvious effort to attract Jerry at all, for her “meek and quiet spirit” could never allow her to be forward or flirtatious. In her effort to please God, she seeks to develop spiritual qualities in her life, and she would like to think that these spiritual qualities would make her attractive to a spiritual young man. Because she is Christ-like, she is warm, friendly, sympathetic, concerned, the kind of person one can feel close to, and she manifests these qualities in Jerry’s presence as she does toward all her acquaintances.

She does not possess the physical beauty of the first girl, but she is neat and wholesome in appearance and possesses a beauty from within, which “is very precious in the sight of God” (1 Peter 3:4).

Which girl is Jerry most likely to date? We are not sure. We have seen boys who, flattered by the attention of flirtatious girls, have made poor choices. And Jerry could make that mistake. But, knowing Jerry, we are quite sure that he will distinguish the girl who will make a great date from the one who will make a great wife, and will choose the later.

Two vital questions remain to be asked. Girls, which one of the two girls correctly depicts you? Boys, which would you choose for a date? Young people who love the Lord choose mates that will help them to go to heaven.

~via *The Word at West Fayetteville*, Fayetteville, North Carolina



Singing — *At the Gathering Place*

Sunday, July 24th
Following the our service

Come Join Us As We Sing Together

God's Invitation

Randy Harshbarger

Is it overstating the case to say that we have all made excuses at one time or another for not doing what the Lord expects us to do? Students are good at making excuses. Efforts to relieve oneself of culpability run the gamut from “the dog ate my homework” to “I overslept” to “I didn’t know we were having a test,” etc. You get the picture. The excuses brethren make are as varied and as ingenious as those made by unprepared scholars. “I couldn’t come to services; I had a bowling tournament.” “I couldn’t come to the gospel meeting; I was on vacation.” “I couldn’t come to midweek Bible study; my dog died.” On it goes.

In the parable of the great supper the Lord invites all who will to come to Him and feast of the spiritual food of the kingdom (Luke 14:15- 24). Those invited quickly began to make excuses as to why they would not accept the gracious invitation.

“And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come” (vv.18-20).

One excuse appealed to business first. Did this man buy the field sight unseen? Was it an absolute necessity to go right then and see the field? The second appealed to things—in this case, oxen. He didn’t plead any necessity; he simply wanted to go see his animals. Or, was that his real reason? The third made an appeal to his wife; he makes no excuse other than saying: I am not coming.

Jesus teaches us that some who needed to come were simply delaying their actual journey toward the great kingdom feast. Would it be true that after these three men took care of their “pressing obligations” they would then begin to follow Jesus? Most people who have thought just a little about the Lord do not reject Him outright; they simply put off doing what is right; they delay their coming. The danger is that one day the invitation will be withdrawn. That is one danger of earthly concentrations. Pursuit of this world to its ultimate end will result in the revocation of the invitation.

Do we reason that God is lucky to have us at His table and our coming to Him must be on our terms? Clearly,

those who made the excuses were the Jews (Luke 14:1ff). They were the very ones who so desperately needed the Savior but didn’t realize their need. Their refusal to bow before God indicated a problem with pride.

Their refusal to come and dine indicated a lack of understanding about their real need. Their belief was that the banquet was beneath them; they were self-seeking rather than God-seeking.

Note the use of “their” in the words above. Change “their” to “me” or “you.” Do you and I stubbornly refuse to come to the table? If so, Jesus is speaking to us. When God says: “I’m giving you a party,” we must get up and go.

-via *Stalling's Drive Bulletin*; Nachogdoches, Texas.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

JoAnn Gilbert	Cornelia Pepper
Ruby Dean Ezell	Joe Leopard
Reba Byram	Cindy Glass
Patsy Thomas	Irene Inman
Doris Lovell	Gilbert Hardy
Fredia Lowman	Wayne Gooch
Ann Bush	Shaun Carruth
Linda Jones	Charlie Christopher

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Ella Melvin	Gayle Ball
Mot Dollar	Jeanette Weir
Janice Cagle	Eli Williams
Gene Carpenter	Betty Hamm
Linda Ordonez	Charles Burns
Gladys Sandlin	Al Pollard
Ray Kennedy	Ava Brooke Campbell
Elizabeth Howard	Matt Poff
Phillip Harwell	Una King Currier
Shayna Tollison	Daniel Ogles
Anita Willis	Jenny Pickens
Diane Kilpatrick	Cindy Walker
Betty League	

In The Hospital:

Glenda Lankford; Athens-Limestone Hospital, rm. 218

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 61 William Thomas, rm. 70

