

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 VIII

September 18, 2016

No. 38

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
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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

Does It Make Any Difference?

David A. Cox

Often when talking to people about religious matters and what the Bible teaches, someone will say, "It doesn't make any difference what one believes and practices." The thought is that all who are religious are going to heaven, and what is believed or practiced in religion is of no significance. We must ask, "Is this true? Does it make any difference what one believes and practices in religion?"

It Makes A Difference What We Believe

It is evident from scripture that it does make a difference what is believed to please God. In Hebrews 11:6 we read, "But without faith, it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." This verse clearly teaches that it makes a difference if we believe and probably no one would deny this. But this verse places an importance on what one believes. Please notice:

1. ***He must Believe That God Is.*** He must believe that God exists. The Psalmist declares, "The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork" (Psalm 19:1). Believing that God is, means to believe in the existence of God, understanding the power which He possesses over the creation, and the honor, glory, and allegiance that belongs to Him.
2. ***God is A Rewarder of Those That Diligently Seek Him.*** To be rewarded by God requires one to search the word of God which reveals the mind of God to us. We must study to know the things that please Him.

The pleasing faith in seeking God comes from God's Word (Romans 10:17). As we look to the Word of God, we learn that we must believe several things:

1. We must believe in Christ and who He is and the work He did in saving man (John 8:24; 20:30-31).
2. We must believe in the resurrection of Christ (1 Corinthians 15:1-4; Romans 10:9-10).
3. We must believe the authority that Christ has (Matthew 28:18-

20; Ephesians 1:21-22).

4. We must believe the gospel of Christ and our faith must be activated to obey (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:27-38; James 2:14-26).

In answer to the question, "Does it make any difference what we believe?" The answer is, "Yes, it does." If one believes in God and who He is, but fails to seek Him, then he will not please God; his faith will be lacking things God requires.

It Matters What We Practice

Some believe that God is a loving God who will not allow any to be lost. They may determine that no one will spend eternity in hell. It is true that God is a loving God (John 3:16), and He does not want anyone lost (2 Peter 3:9; John 3:16), but God is a rewarder of those that have faith and diligently seek His will. Even though God loves and desires all men to be saved, in His justice He will only save those whose faith is practicing what His will is (Matthew 7:21). Please notice a couple of examples:

1. *Noah*. In Genesis 6:8, we are introduced to Noah as one that "found grace in the eyes of the Lord." The record continues to say, "Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God" (Genesis 6:9). Noah was a man that pleased God. Why? Because he was a righteous man and he "walked with God." "Walked with God" implies that Noah was one that diligently sought after the Lord's will. Looking to the Scriptures, Noah is one the patriarchs mentioned for his faith in Hebrews 11. The individuals referred to in this chapter are the men of old that pleased God "By Faith." What are we told here about Noah that caused his faith to please God? "By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith" (Hebrews 11:7). The example of Noah's faithfulness is seen in the building of the ark. In Genesis, we have the instructions given to Noah as to how God wanted the ark built. Specific instructions were given as the size, the number of levels, the kind of wood to use, the one window and the one door. Concerning Noah and these instructions we read, "Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did" (Genesis 6:22). It is with that faithful adherence to God's will

that Noah pleased God and was found faithful.

2. *Abraham*. In Romans 4:3 we are told, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." What caused Abraham's faith to please God? The Hebrew writer says, "By faith, Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going" (Hebrews 11:8). Again, at the command of God to offer up his only begotten son, Isaac, he obeyed (Hebrews 11:17-19). Paul described the kind of life that Abraham lived as one that "staggered not at the promise of God...but was strong in faith" (Romans 4:19-20). It was Abraham's faithfulness to what God told him to do that caused him to be pleasing to God.

What Is the Application?

Surely, all would agree that it made a difference in what Noah and Abraham believed and practiced. As a matter of fact, what they believed determined what they practiced. They believed that God is and that God is "a rewarder of those that diligently seek Him." For this reason, they diligently sought the will of God and faithfully obeyed Him and did what He told them. No one surely would think that Noah would have pleased God if he had changed the instructions he was given to build the ark, or if Abraham had determined that it did not matter what God told him to do concerning leaving his homeland and the offering of Isaac as a sacrifice. If Noah and Abraham had rebelled and not done what God told them, they would have displeased God.

With this in mind, we must recognize that it does make a difference what we believe and practice. Let us look diligently and continually to God's word and do what God tells us to do to please Him; not to others and their opinions, or to what we desire and like.

Beacon of Truth

Radio Program

Every Sunday Morning

on WVNN

770AM – 92.5 FM

8:30a.m. - 9:00a.m.

Market Street church of Christ

Lessons Learned From A Barbeque Grill

Ralph Walker, Jr.

I got a new grille this year. Not a gas one, either. An old-fashioned charcoal grille. I love the way food tastes and smells cooked on a charcoal grille. I don't like the way I smell when I use it.

I think most people who opt for gas grilles do so for the convenience. The big frustration of a charcoal grille is the lighting of the coals. I was working on that this week when I got a few thoughts that might help us all.

First, the key to lighting the coals is lighter fluid - how much to use and how long to let it soak in. If you soak the coals and let them sit five minutes, they are more than likely to burn.

Second, I always stack the coals in a pyramid to get them started. The reason for that is pretty obvious - coals huddled together take heat from each other, and the whole bed of coals gets hot. That stray lump of charcoal which falls off the heap and sits along in the corner of the grille doesn't do anything but stay black and cold. All the others are turning gray with a deep red glow inside.

My Point?

Christ has got to live in us. We can't just squirt a little bit of gospel truths on each other and expect we'll burn with the zeal of God. In Acts 2:46 the disciples continued with one mind "day by day." The noble Bereans examined Scripture "daily." We need to be soaked in truth to burn with God's light.

Third, We need each other. I need to feed off your fire, and you probably need to do the same with the "charcoal" sitting on your pew today. If there is a good reason to be with the saints as often as the church assemblies, it is watching that cold lump of charcoal, only getting colder because it is removed from the heap. Hebrews 10:24 says we are to consider stimulating each other to love and good deeds. We do that when we assemble together, verse 25 says.

Nothing like a charcoal grille. Nothing like the Word and the people of God.

~via *Stanley Avenue Bulletin*; Andalusia, Alabama.

Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Drew Ogles
Steve Usery
Joe Leopard
Doris Lovell
Irene Inman
Wayne Bolton
Ann Bush
Shaun Carruth
Linda Jones

Joyce McGlocklin
Patsy Thomas
Reba Byram
Cindy Glass
Gilbert Hardy
Wayne Gooch
Al Bush
Charlie Christopher
Janet Jones

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Ella Melvin
Jeanette Weir
Janet Jones
Eli Williams
Linda Ordonez
Al Pollard
Elizabeth Howard
Phillip Harwell
Shayna Tollison
Anita Willis
Diane Kilpatrick

Gayle Ball
Janice Cagle
Cindy Walker
Gene Carpenter
Charles Burns
Ava Brooke Campbell
Matt Poff
Una King Currier
Daniel Ogles
Jenny Pickens

In The Hospital:

Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab. - Huntsville

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 61	William Thomas, rm. 70
Judith Groce, rm. 10-B	Dorothy Draper, rm. 104
Matty Murray, rm. 2	Helen Trousdale, rm. 30
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 38
Terry Camp, rm. 82	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Gayle Mills, rm. 15	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Mable Crafts, rm. 39	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Joyce Martin, rm. 92	

Limestone Health Facility:

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 55

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Robert & Mot Beasley, at Merrill Gardens, Madison
Hazel Brooks, Nursing Home In Pulaski, Tennessee
Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
Wynell Casteel, at home
Marjorie Dunnivant, at Brookdale Farms, Huntsville
Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison
Carl Hargrave, at granddaughter's home in Hartselle
Essie Hardison, at home

Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

OUT OF TOWN: *Marion Mitchell* is in Florida visiting with family.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Delmer Carter and the family* in the passing of Delmer's brother-in-law, *Dewayne Pointer*. Dewayne passed way on Wednesday afternoon. There will be a graveside service this afternoon at 2:00 at he Limestone Memorail Gardens.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES BIBLE CLASS:

The Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Class will resume meeting on Tuesday morning, September 27th at 10:30 a.m. If you are a lady and are available to meet and study the word of God, I am sure that you would enjoy being a part of this class.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Mt. Zion church* is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speakers for the meeting will be as follows: *Sunday morning – David Cox; Sunday evening – Trenton Barksdale; Monday evening – Daniel Tucker; Tuesday evening – Brendan Walker; Wednesday evening – Nathan Brackeen...* The *Somerville Road church* in Decatur is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker for the meeting will be *Allen Dvoark*.

PREACHING TODAY: This morning it is good to have *Warren Glass* here to preach in my absence this morning. Brother Glass worked with the church here from 1999 to 2011. He will be preaching during the Bible classe period and the morning worship.

OUR MEETING THIS WEEK: This past week the *Market Street church* was enagaged in a gospel meeting with *Andrew Roberts* preaching. The focus of this meetitng was *Exploring Islam and Christianity*. Brother Roberts did his work well and many who came expressed how much they learned about the religion of Islam and how to approach those of that faith. I know that all who came were edified and strengthened.

NURSING HOME SINGING: Remember the singing at the Athens Rehabilitation and Senior Care on Tuesday afternoon at 5:30.

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.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for the week of Sept. 11th*

Sunday: Bible Classes 148

Morning Worship 176

Evening Worship 131

Wednesday: Bible Classes 115

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, September 18th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer..... Marcus Morris
Preaching..... Warren Glass
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Keith Hinkle
Assisting Russell Melvin
Serving Tony Thomas Kenneth Adams
..... Matthew Vaughn..... Bart Brown
Closing Prayer Kenneth Smith

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer..... Jordan Lovell
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Keith Hinkle
Closing Prayer Mike Ogles

Other Assignments for Sunday, September 18th:

Ushers..... Danny Johnson/Marty Adams
Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, September 21st:

Song Leader A.J. Price
Bible Reading..... Galatians 4:1-11
..... Dan Reed
Prayer..... Bonnie Sutton
Invitation..... David Cox
Closing Prayer James Johnson

Sunday, September 25th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer..... Dan Reed
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Dwaine Allfrey
Assisting Terry Andrews
Serving Seth Todd David Terry
..... Steve Usery..... Marion Mitchell
Closing Prayer Harvey Nixon

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer..... Jason Conn
Preaching..... Song Service
Lord's Supper Dwaine Allfrey
Closing Prayer Keenon Currier

Other Assignments for Sunday, September 25th:

Ushers..... Larry Mirchell/Heath Dollar
Work Sound System..... Landon Adams