

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 IX

October 29, 2017

No. 44

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

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 233-5147
Tommy Coblenz..... (256) 232-3312
Jerry McGlocklin..... (256) 232-7620
Kenneth Smith..... (256) 777-6737
Bonnie Sutton (256) 232-2081

Deacons

Joel Hamm (256) 278-1977
Danny Holt (256) 206-2746
Larry Mitchell (256) 230-0185
Marcus Morris..... (256) 232-8871
Russ Wulfekuhl..... (256) 683-9396

Evangelists

Buc Chumbley (256) 777-1065
David A. Cox..... (256) 233-8910
Cell: (256) 614-3757

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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

Can One Fall From Grace?

Robert Jackson

This is a very serious question that needs to be settled in the minds of religious thinking people. First, we must make our appeal to the word of God for the answer. Secondly, the answer can be understood. I realize that some can cloud the issue with their mishandling of the Scriptures. Yet, the truth is clear. Let us consider the following things:

Consider 1: One must first be in grace. It is evident that in order for one to fall from grace that he must first be in grace. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God" (Romans 5:1-2). A careful study of this reveals how one has access to the grace of God. When one obeys the faith, he becomes a child of God, and thus stands in the grace of God. Paul stated it another way in 2 Corinthians 5:17: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." The man in Christ is a new creature. He is a recipient of the grace of God. The man who is baptized upon his faith in Christ becomes a child of God (Galatians 3:26-27). He is in grace.

Consider 2: Can he fall? If one cannot fall from the grace of God, then the writers of the Word, guided by the Holy Spirit, wasted much space and time in teaching one how not to fall. Notice 1 Corinthians 15:2, "If ye keep in memory." What if they forget? Would they still be in grace? Look at Hebrews 10:26: "For if we sin wilfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins." Here we are taught that one can wilfully turn from Christ as a sacrifice. The apostle Peter said that if the child of God did not add certain things to his faith, he would fall (2 Peter 1:5-11). In 1 Timothy 4:1, it plainly states that one will fall: "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils." Was Paul wrong? Was the Spirit wrong in guiding Paul? No. The truth is that one can fall from grace.

Consider 3: The consequences of falling from grace. It would do us all good to stop and consider the grave consequences of departing from the

faith. It means that one is out of fellowship with God. He is missing the joy and peace of mind that comes from serving God. He has brought shame and disgrace to himself and to the name of God. He lives daily in fear of death, knowing that he will fall under the condemnation of God. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit" (Romans 8:1).

If the doctrine be true that one cannot fall, just think of the time wasted in teaching people how to live. I grant that it would be a very easy doctrine to believe, but it is just not in harmony with the teaching of our Lord. It is true that some fall, and then come back. Others fall and never come back. "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost" (Hebrews 6:4).

I believe that a person with an open mind and an open Bible can see that one can fall from grace.

~via *Christianity Magazine*; Vol. 1 No. 6, June 1984.

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Laboring For The Lord

Harold Hancock

It is important that we work for the Lord. Paul said, "For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love" (Galatians 5:6). Faith without works is dead! (James 2:26).

Paul commended the Thessalonians for their "work of faith, labour of love, and patience of hope in the Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 1:3). The word "labor" means "laborious toil" or "toil resulting in weariness" (W.E. Vines Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words). The Thessalonians did so much work for the Lord that they sometimes got tired!

Some know what it is to work hard enough to get tired. Many do it every day on a secular job. Others get tired while working around the house or in the yard. How many of us work so hard for the Lord that we get tired?

Paul said, "And let us not be weary in well doing"

(Galatians 6:9). Someone has said, "Christians should get weary in their work, but not of their work!"

Jesus told the church at Ephesus, "I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou has tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted" (Revelation 2:2,3). Again, this is "laborious toil" or "toil resulting in weariness." The Ephesians worked hard enough for the Lord to get tired, but they did not faint or get tired of the work.

Work hard for the Lord — visit the sick (Matthew 25:36), restore the fallen (Galatians 6:1), support the weak (1 Thessalonians 5:14), exhort the brethren daily (Hebrews 3:13), help instruct the young and young in faith, teach the lost, and prepare yourself for the coming of the Lord (Matthew 24:44). If you get tired, rest for a moment. Jesus told His apostles, "...Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place and rest a while." (Mark 6:31). But do not quit the work of the Lord nor retire from His work. Do not "rust" while resting.

Like Jesus, we too must "work...while it is day: the night cometh when no man can work" (John 9:4). We must be "stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord," and know that our "labour is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58). John heard a voice from heaven that said, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them" (Revelation 14:13). Labor for the Lord and do not grow tired of the work.

~via *Good News*; Lufkin, Texas.

Seventh Annual Singing

February 23, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.



MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST
514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA

Truth and Religion

Cecil F. Cox

Indifference toward the truth is shocking, even tragic! We hear people saying, "It doesn't really matter what you believe." We hear, "The important thing is that you be honest and sincere." I would not minimize the importance of being honest and sincere, but these traits of character would not guarantee that what I believe and practice in religion is acceptable to God. Consider the early life of the apostle Paul (Saul of Tarsus). He said, "I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth" (Acts 26: 9). In Acts 23:1 we read where Paul said, "Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day." He did what he thought was right; he was honest and sincere, but he was wrong in what he did. Religion, like anything else, must have a basis or foundation upon which to stand. In the religion of Christ this basis is the **truth**. Truth cannot be stretched, and still be truth. Truth is not elastic. The modern conception of the Truth is that it can be and must be stretched to include all the ideas and faiths of men, many of which are contradictory.

One great failure I see among many religious people today is that of failing to recognize the value and importance of the Truth. Men today elevate human wisdom to the place of the Truth. The importance of the Truth can be seen in the following:

1. **Christ came to bear witness unto the Truth.** "To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Everyone that is of the truth heareth my voice" (John 18:37).

2. **The Holy Spirit came to reveal the Truth.** "Howbeit, when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself but whatsoever he shall hear that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come" (John 16:13).

3. **The Truth makes free.** "And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).

4. **Our religion is vain without the Truth.** "But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" (Matthew 5:9).

Many other passages could be given to show the importance of the Truth, but these should be sufficient to stimulate our thinking. In religion we must not wander

from the Truth. A vital question that each person must ask himself: "Can I believe what I believe, and practice what I practice in religion and not be walking in the Truth?"

What is Truth?

People today may ask, as Pilate of old, "What is truth?" To some, truth is what Mother and Daddy believed and practiced. Of course, those who would imply this would not do so in every field of their activity, only in religion. To others, truth is that which the theologians have handed down through the councils of men. To others, the Truth is that which is contained in the Creed of their respective denominations. But let it be pointed out that the councils and creeds of men set aside and contradict each other. What then is truth? Jesus, speaking to the Father, said, "...thy word is truth" (John 17:17). The simple conclusion to which we arrive is this: unless a doctrine or practice is taught in God's Word, the Bible, it is not the truth. Now then, with this standard, measure your faith and practice. Things foreign to the Word of God, which was spoken through Jesus Christ, is error. "Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, hath both the Father and the Son" (2 John 9).

I beseech you to take your stand upon the Bible, the Word of God, not the Bible and the councils of men; not the Bible and the creeds of men, but upon the Bible and it only as your guide in religion. "If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God" (1 Peter 4:11).

~via *Gospel Guide*; Vol. 34 No. 9, September 2002

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

514 West Market Street

Athens, Alabama

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Ann McLemore	Nancy Abernathy
Helen Blankenship	JoAnn Gilbert
Patsy Thomas	Doris Lovell
Ann Bush	Wayne Gooch
Cindy Glass	Bryan Harwell

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Joe Leopard	Irene Inman
Janice Cagle	Jeanette Weir
Priscilla Tucker	Bobby McLemore
Jenny Pickens	Ella Melvin
Phillip Christopher	Everette "Bud" Dollar
Linda Ordonez	Wayne Wooldridge
Cindy Walker	Brittany Bates Carter
Gene Carpenter	Charles Burns
Betty Christopher	Una King Currier
Al Pollard	Ava Brooke Campbell
Elizabeth Howard	Matt Poff

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Helen Trousdale, rm. 43	Nelva Reed, rm. 61
Matty Murray, rm. 2	Dorothy Draper, rm. 73
Oneal Martin, rm. 81	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Joyce Martin, rm. 73	Mable Crafts, rm. 39
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Christine Hudson, rm. 77

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Robert & Mot Beasley, at Riverside Sr. Living, Decatur
Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
Marjorie Dunnivant, at Brookdale Farms, Huntsville

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 tonight.

OUT OF TOWN: *Jim Whitt* is in Germany with his work...*David Cox* is in Grenada working with the brethren there.

SINGING AT NURSING HOME: Remember the singing at *Athens Rehab & Senior Care* on Tuesday evening at 5:30.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Kim Rogers* and all the family in passing of Kim's aunt, Linda Jones. Her funeral was Firday, October 27, 2017 in Kennedy, Alabama.

Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, October 29th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Steve Usery
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Ashton Gatlin
Preaching.....	Buc Chumbley
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Larry Holt
Assisting	Dwaine Allfrey
Serving	Landon Adams..... Clayton Hamm
.....	Mike Ogles..... Charles Vaughn
Closing Prayer	James Johnson

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Steve Usery
Song Leader	Tyler Cox
Prayer.....	Marty Adams
Preaching.....	A. J. Price
Lord's Supper	Larry Holt
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 29th:

Ushers.....	Danny Holt/Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews

Wednesday, November 1st:

Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Bible Reading	1 Timothy 1:1-11
.....	Russ Wulfekuhl
Prayer.....	Larry Holt
Invitation.....	Buc Chumbley
Closing Prayer	Larry Mitchell

Sunday, November 5th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Terry Andrews
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Tommy Coblentz
Assisting	Mike Ogles
Serving	Marvin Putman..... Matthew Usery
.....	Roger Hammonds..... Heath Dollar
Closing Prayer	Arvid McGuire

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Ashton Gatlin
Prayer.....	Harvey Nixon
Preaching.....	Buc Chumbley
Lord's Supper	Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer	Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for Sunday, November 5th:

Ushers.....	Danny Holt/Keenon Currier
Work Sound System.....	Nathaniel Adams