

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
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Athens, Alabama 35612
Phone (256) 232-1525

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The Fear of the Lord

John Pollard

The bible speaks quite a bit concerning the fear of the Lord or fearing the Lord. It is a requirement for God’s people to fear Him: “Now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require from you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and love Him, and to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the Lord’s commandments and His statutes which I am commanding you today for your good?” (Deuteronomy 10:12-13).

The idea of fearing the Lord relates to having the utmost respect for Him or the showing of reverence which is duly deserved by Him as the Creator and sustainer of the world and everything within. God rewards those who have this kind of attitude about Him and He guards their hearts and minds with a peace which surpasses all understanding (Philippians 4:7).

The bible tells us that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10). We all seek a sense of higher learning and understanding, but ultimately we cannot achieve this without coming to God in reverence and keeping His commandments with respect. Yes, it is true we can get a high-quality education from the best universities but that will not impact our eternal destinations. Knowing God and fearing the Lord, however, has the information we need to make it to Heaven.

In the same vein, the fear of the Lord is described as being more valuable than wealth: “Better is a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and turmoil with it” (Proverbs 15:16). We are blessed to live in a country where we have good jobs and make good money and we get to enjoy luxuries and pleasures at will. However, the fear of the Lord far exceeds any of these things and that is what must take precedence in our lives as God’s people.

The children who fear the Lord will be protected by Him. He is our refuge and our strength and God knows there are times when we need Him so desperately but if our fear of Him is not where it’s supposed to be, we may be disappointed at the outcomes. May we always seek to honor God with the respect and reverence He deserves. May we teach our families, friends and neighbors concerning the importance of fearing the Lord.

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) 503-8843
Tommy Coblentz.....(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

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*is published in the interest of New Testament
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Market Street church.*

David A. Cox, Editor

“The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person” (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

~via *Zanesville Church of Christ*, Zanesville, Ohio.



Not Man's Gospel

John M. Duvall

The apostle Paul was a strong teacher of the word of God. Paul did not tow the party line. He did not preach what others told him to preach. The apostle Paul preached the gospel which came to him by the revelation of Jesus Christ. Let all Christians learn from Paul's example.

Consider Paul's former life in Judaism. Paul was instrumental in violently persecuting the church, trying to destroy the church of God. He was well respected among his Jewish peers. Paul was truly “zealous . . . for the traditions” of his fathers. You might say Paul, before his conversion to Christ, towed the party line of the traditions of Judaism. He held so strongly to the traditions of the leaders, he was willing to see innocent people thrown into jail for believing in Jesus Christ.

However, the paradigm by which Paul lived changed greatly after his conversion. Paul recognized the Lord had set him apart, calling him by His grace. The Lord revealed Jesus to Paul so Paul could preach to the Gentiles. Take notice that Paul did not turn to the other apostles for understanding and knowledge. Instead, Paul traveled to Arabia and then back to Damascus. After a span of three years, Paul went to Jerusalem. Instead of Paul turning to the apostles and asking, “What must I be believing and teaching?” he instead turned to the Lord. As Paul wrote, “For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ” (Galatians 1:11-12, ESV; cf. Ephesians 3:3). Paul stopped preaching what man told him to preach. He now began preaching what God told him to preach.

All who profess to believe in Jesus Christ must stop

believing what they are told to believe, and start believing what the Bible teaches. Many fallacies, misunderstandings, and even doctrinal errors persist because some people choose to believe what they are told to believe. It is like the man saying, “Don't confuse me with the facts.” Some people do not want to be confused by what the Bible teaches.

No Christian should be satisfied with the statement, “This is what we have always believed” or “Just take my word for it.” Consider the following reasons why all Christians must always ask for Bible verse and Bible scriptures:

1. God, not man, has given us all things which pertain to life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3).
2. All scripture has come from God, not man, and equips us for obedience (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
3. God, not man, has given us a pattern of sound words to follow (2 Timothy 1:13; Titus 2:1).
4. God has never given man permission to alter His word. Regarding the law which God gave to Moses, He said, “You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you” (Deuteronomy 4:2, ESV). The end of the book of Revelation contains the following warning: “I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book” (Revelation 22:18-19, ESV). Even the prophets of old spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit (2 Peter 1:20-21).

If we follow the example of the apostle Paul, then we will neither bind where the Bible does not bind nor loose where the Bible does not loose. If we are going to say something is wrong, then we must have Bible authority or teaching. As we said earlier, God does not give us the authority to add to or take away from His word. If we say to someone, “Well, this is wrong or that is wrong,” then we need to stand ready to show the supporting Bible verses in their proper context.

There is a need for evangelists, pastors (elders) and teachers (Ephesians 4:11). God has given us these roles “for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to

the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ” (Ephesians 4:11-13). However, those who teach are to teach God’s word. They are not to bind or loose which God has not bound or loose. They do not teach their own doctrine and positions. Their role is to share God’s word, to teach God’s word to other fellow Christians.

Just as the apostles set out to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and not man’s gospel, so should we establish within our hearts the desire to believe and follow only the doctrine and teachings of Jesus Christ and His apostles.

~via *In Remembrance*, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.



The Right Thing for the Best Reasons

Dan Lankford

Why do you do the right thing? On the occasions when you go out of your way to help someone, or when you consciously choose to resist temptation to do what God commands, or when you give a gift... What’s your reason? Do you seek a reward? Do you want to be repaid? Do you hope for notoriety? Are you trying to increase your influence and hold sway over others for some later purposes?

Or do you ever just do the right thing because it’s the right thing?

For Christians, it’s obvious that this is the best tack for all of us to take. Jesus often condemned those who do spiritual things just for the praise, reward, or payment that it might bring them. He said of some of those people that while they may receive glory from men, that’s the only reward they will get—they won’t be rewarded by God in Heaven (Matthew 6:1). In another place, he reminded us that our attitude should be that of a diligent servant who works hard for his master, expecting no praise in return. “So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.’” (Luke 17:10).

The church, throughout history, has been made up of plenty of people who have, in fact, done great acts

of service for others without expecting to be noticed or praised. We know the names of some, but just by virtue of their thinking and acting this way, there must be thousands more of whom history has no memory. And yet, the world is a better place because of their godliness. Thank God for that kind of heart.

Do the right thing for the sake of the right thing, even if you do it in secret. “And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.” (Mt. 6:4, 6:6, 6:18)

~via *Unity In Action*, Louisville, Kentucky.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Gina Werka	Peggy Pepper
Pat Nixon	JoAnn Gilbert
Loretta Warner	Doris Lovell
Kennedy Pepper	Bobbie Adcock
Ann Bush	Lloyd Adams

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Donna Wright	Arvid McGuire
Freddie Mae Elmore	Nikki Ogles
Anita Wheeler	Lona Jackson
Janice Cagle	Judy Vaughn
Ella Melvin	Jeanette Weir
Cornelia Pepper	Wayne Wooldridge
Cindy Walker	Kenneth Fisher
Al Pollard	Charles Burns
David Collier	Phillip Harwell
Una King Carrier	Matt Poff
Susan Cox	Brittany Bates Carter
Gene Carpenter	

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Myrtle Ruth Barnett; Athens-Limestone Hosp. - 205
Norman Hamm; Millenium - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Mattie Murray, rm. 2	Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
Dorothy Draper, rm. 73	Eva Lovell, rm. 117
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Christine Hudson, rm. 77

Limestone Health Facility:

Robert Beasley, rm. 109

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Mot Beasley, at City Center, Decatur
 Deanie Britton, Limestone Lodge
 Frances Bowers, Limestone Manor
 Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter’s in Huntsville

Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison
 Bettye Harrison, Traditions
 Irene Inman, at home
 Virginia Meyer, Shepherd Living, Madison
 Stan Stanford, at home
 William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison
 Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Donna Wright will begin her treatment next week... **Gina Werka** continues to be sick and is not able to be out ... **Myrtle Ruth Barnett** continues to make slow progress. They have stopped the dialysis due to her improved kidney function. She still is very weak... **Deanie Britton** has moved to the Limestone Lodge, room 37.

GOSPEL MEETINGS/VBS: The Anderson church will be engaged in a VBS this week each morning at 10:00. The speaker in the adult class will be *Nick Woods*... **The Eastside church** in Red Bay will be engaged in a meeting this week through Friday with services at 7:00 p.m. *Bob Hutto of Pelham* will be doing the preaching... **The Brookhill church** in Killen will begin a Vacation Bible School on Thursday and it will continue through Saturday. The Speaker in the Adult class will be: *Thursday at 7:00 p.m. – Justin Roberson; Friday at 7:00 p.m. – Don Miller; Saturday 10:00 am. – Kenny Moorer; Saturday at 11:00 a.m. – David Cox.*

OUT OF TOWN: The Hamms: Joel, Sharma & Ragan have been out of town on vacation... **The Peppers: Marion and Betty** have been out of town on vacation... **Ida Nell Griffin** is in Ohio visiting her brother this week... **Jim Whitt** has been at Fort Rucker with his work ... **The Holts: Danny & Debra** have been in the Grand Cayman Islands on vacation... **The Bates: Don & Kay** were visiting with family in Atlanta, Georgia last weekend... **Chuck Stiles** is in the United Arab Emirates with his work.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Theresa Tucker** in the passing of her cousin, **Diane Robinson**, this past Thursday morning. Her visitation and funeral will be this afternoon at the Rogersville Funeral Home.

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

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of June 30th:

Sunday:	Bible Classes	152
	Morning Worship	182
	Evening Worship	114
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	109

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, July 7th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
 Song Leader Tommy Burns
 Prayer..... Marty Adams
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Tommy Coblentz
 Assisting Marcus Morris
 Serving Roger Hammonds .. Clayton Hamm
 Nathaniel Adams... Matthew Usery
 Closing Prayer Danny Holt

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
 Song Leader Joel Hamm
 Prayer..... Harvey Nixon
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper Tommy Coblentz
 Closing Prayer Bill Eden

Other Assignments for the week of July 7th:

Ushers..... Heath Dollar/Danny Johnson
 Work Sound System..... Will Chumbley

Wednesday, July 10th:

Song Leader Bob Broadus
 Bible Reading Kenneth Adams
 Philippians 3:1-11
 Prayer..... Dan Reed
 Invitation Mike Ogles
 Closing Prayer Bonnie Sutton

Sunday, July 14th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Larry Holt
 Song Leader Joel Hamm
 Prayer..... Russell Melvin
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Keith Hinkle
 Assisting Larry Tucker
 Serving David Terry Sam Gregory
 Harold Davis Steve Usery
 Closing Prayer Jerry McGlocklin

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Larry Holt
 Song Leader Albert Haraway
 Prayer..... Dwaine Allfrey
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper Keith Hinkle
 Closing Prayer Kenneth Smith

Other Assignments for the week of July 14th:

Ushers..... Larry Mitchell/Russ Wulfekuhl
 Work Sound System..... Landon Adams