

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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No. 11

Saved By The Grace of God

David A. Cox

Among those that regard the Bible as God's word, there is almost unanimous agreement that man is saved by the grace of God. In fact, it would be very difficult for one to find a person who would contend that people are not saved by the grace of God. However, there are vast differences among professed believers regarding how people are saved by grace.

What Is Grace?

Grace is defined as unmerited favor. It is a benefit bestowed upon one who does not deserve it. Those who need it can do nothing to merit it. If grace was given as a payment of a debt or something one had earned, it would not be grace.

We Are Saved By Grace

The scriptures teach that man is saved by grace. "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). Many will claim that we are saved "wholly of grace"; that it is God who saves us and that really, there is nothing for us to do. But we must notice that is not what the passage says. Notice the passage says we are "saved by grace through faith." What part does faith have to do with our being saved by grace? Let us notice some examples where the Bible shows us what grace through faith means.

The Case of Noah. In Genesis 6, we read about the wickedness of man during the life of Noah. It was so wicked that God determined that He was going to destroy the earth. But in verse 8, we read, "But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord." Here God's grace was extended to Noah to save him from the destruction of the earth. Was it automatic? No. Was there nothing Noah was expected to do? No. The following verses in Genesis 6 give a list of explicit instructions God gave Noah to do. The Hebrew writer says, "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen yet, moved with fear prepared an ark to the saving of his house" (Hebrews 11:7). Did Noah in obeying God's command negate God's grace? No! Without the grace of God, Noah would have perished in the flood.

The Children of Israel. In Numbers 21:4-9, we have the children of

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 Coblenz..... (256) 232-3312
Jerry McGlocklin..... (256) 232-7620
Kenneth Smith..... (256) 777-6737

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

Evangelist

David A. Cox..... (256) 233-8910
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Market Street church.*

David A. Cox, Editor

Israel after they are out of Egyptian bondage. They are murmuring and complaining. God sends fiery serpents that bit the people, and they began to die. God then tells Moses that he is to make a serpent of brass and put it on a pole. The cure for the people was as they looked upon that serpent of brass. Was God's grace extended to the children of Israel who were sure to die as a result of being bitten by the fiery serpents? Yes, most certainly. God did not owe them anything, but His grace extended to them an opportunity to be saved. Did they have to do something? Yes. What if they had not looked on the serpent of brass on the pole, would they have lived? No. Was the power in the serpent of brass on the pole to cure them, or was it the power of God? The power to cure them was in God. Indeed, we see again that God is extending His grace, but something was required to access that grace.

Application. We have looked at two examples where God extended His grace, but something was required to access the grace. They were saved by grace through faith. Many more examples of God's grace through faith are found in God's Word. Now, what about our being saved from sins today? Should we assume that since salvation is by grace that there is nothing we can do or should do? Absolutely not! If we are saved by grace through faith today, we will do what God has told us to do in His Word. We will: Believe (Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24); Repent (Acts 2:38); Confess (Acts 8:37; Romans 10:10); Be Baptized (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38); Live faithful to Him (Revelation 2:10). Doing the things God commands us is not earning or meriting our salvation any more than Moses, and the children of Israel earned their salvation. But in our obedience, we access the grace of God through faith, by which we are saved. To God, be the glory.



Gospel Meeting

April 26-29, 2020

Gerry Sandusky, Speaking

**MARKET STREET
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA

The Power of a Good Reputation

Mark McCrary

And the sons of Heth answered Abraham, saying to him, 'Hear us, my lord: You are a mighty prince among us; bury your dead in the choicest of our burial places. None of us will withhold from you his burial place, that you may bury your dead.'" (Genesis 23:6)

The follower of God set his or her mind to do what is right for one simple reason: it is right. It doing right, we are pleasing to the Lord.

There are two types of worldly people with which we will interact on a regular basis. One type will hate us (John 15:18); at best they will ridicule us (1 Peter 4:4). They dislike what we stand for, and the moral standards by which we try to live. It doesn't matter how kind or caring we try to be; they oppose light and those who try to follow light. Jesus reminded us in Matthew 5:11-12, "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

But, there's another type of people we encounter on our journey through this world: people who appreciate others of principle and character. People who don't share our exact values, but appreciate those who live by values. Genesis 23 tells of the death of Sarah, Abraham's wife. Abraham went to the Hittites, the inhabitants of this region of Canaan, seeking to buy a place to rest her body. The Hittites, who owed Abraham nothing, responded with great respect and admiration in 23:6. They referred to Abraham as a "mighty prince." The English Standard Version translates this as "a prince of God." What follows in 23:7-15 is a beautiful back and forth between Abraham and people who obviously respected him—Abraham asking to buy the land, the Hittites wanting to give the land to him. Why would they want to do such a thing? Because of his character and the way he lived.

What's the take away for us today? When we strive to live a godly life, people will notice. We never know how our influence will be accepted. Consequently, our behavior toward others is not to gain good favor (else we may change if we don't get the results we want), but to be a "light" to the world (Matthew 5:14-16) and please

God first (Matthew 6:33; 22:37-38). Other's approval should come from an observance of our character which has been shaped by God. Some won't appreciate the way we live because in living the way we do, we tell them that we disagree with the way they live. However, some people will appreciate us, respect us and treat us kindly as a result. In the final analysis, how they treat us isn't important. How we live is.

Let's apply this to our lives.

~via *Applying God's Word*; Louisville, Kentucky.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Gina Werka	Barbara Carter
Dale Adcock	Margaret Carter
Steve Usery	Vicki Stringer
JoAnn Gilbert	Arvid McGuire
Helen Blankenship	Bobbie Adcock
Doris Lovell	Loretta Warner
Alvis McLemore	Yvonne Strickland
Ann Bush	Lloyd Adams
Joyce Tucker	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Donna Wright	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 Currier
Matt Poff	Gene Carpenter
Carrie Warner	Kevin Belue

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Marion Pepper; Madison Hospital; ICU - No visitors
Jessica Bost; Huntsville Hospital -
Norman Hamm; Millenium - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 3 Mattie Murray, rm. 2
 Valeria Dalton, rm. 7 Connie Brock, rm. 62
 Brenda Wilson, rm. 77 Christine Hudson, rm. 77
 Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36

Limestone Health Facility:

Mot Beasley, rm. 117 Bettye Harrison, rm. 59
 Virginia Meyer, rm. 64 Alice Roberson, rm. 49

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Elease Barksdale, Limestone Lodge
 Deanie Britton, Limestone Lodge
 Frances Bowers, Limestone Manor
 Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
 Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison
 Irene Inman, at home
 Stan Stanford, at home
 William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison
 Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Gina Werka surgery scheduled for Tuesday was postponed till she could see another doctor. The doctor scheduled a needle biopsy for Monday ... *Dale Adcock* continues to recover from her ankle surgery at home... *Steve Usery* is to see the doctor on Monday concerning his upcoming knee surgery ... *Ross Melvin* learned from the doctor on Monday that he still has some pnueumonitis in his lungs... *Helen Blankenship* had her heart procedure done on Thursday and it went well. She came home from the hospital on Friday... *Vicki Stringer* had treatments last week and is feeling better this week... *Margaret Carter* is still running a low fever and has has not been able to be out.

GOSPEL MEETING: The *West Madison church* in Pulaski, Tennessee is beginning a gospel meeting and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Trenton Barksdale*.

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.

OUTOFTOWN: *The Stiles: Chuck & Benita* continue to be in Mississippi with Chuck's work... *Christian Usery* is in Long Beach, California with work.

MEN'S BIBLE CLASS: The *Men's Bible Class* will be meeting tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. We will be studying "Say Thank You" It is episode 66.

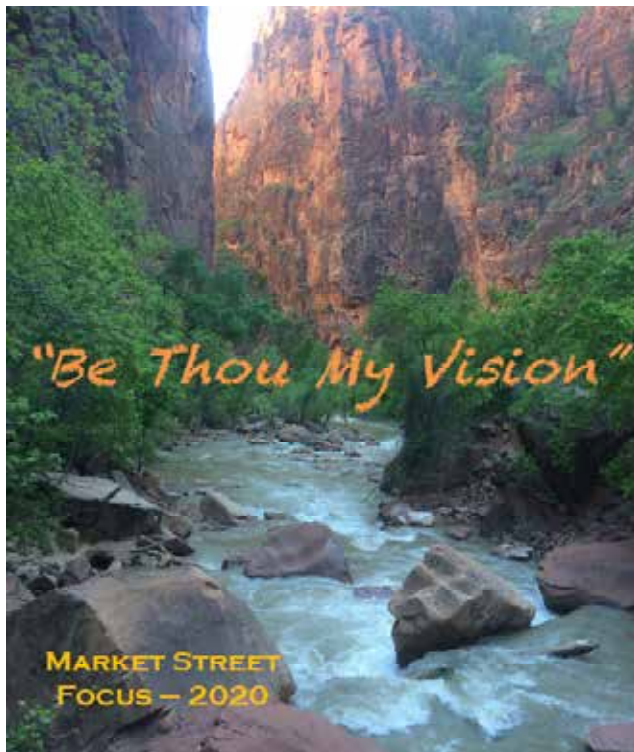
BONNIE SUTTON RESIGNS: Last Sunday morning, Bonnie Sutton resigned as an elder of the Market Street church. Bonnie was appointed as an elder in May

2008. Before that time, he had served as a deacon at Market Street. Except for about five years, Bonnie has served as an elder or a deacon of the church here. since 1965. Of course, serving in these capacities, one must meet qualifications and be selected by the congregation and then appointed in order to serve. It speaks volumes that Bonnie has served through these years. With the passing of his wife, Beverly, the question of the fact that an elder must be the husband of one wife. Bonnie considered this and decided that the right thing to do would be to step down from serving as an elder. Bonnie still loves the church here at Market Street as he has throughout the years and will continue to be a part of the church here. We appreciate Bonnie for his desire only to do the things to help the work of the Lord and focus his mind upon heaven as his home. May the Lord continue to bless Bonnie.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Steve & Vicki Stringer* in the passing of Steve's mother, *Helen Irene Stringer*, who passed away Wednesday night. The funeral was Saturday morning at the Berryhill Funeral Home in Huntsville. She was laid to rest in the Huntsville Memory Gardens. May the Lord bless Steve and Vicki at this time.

THE RECORD: *Average Attendance for February:*

Sunday:	Bible Classes	136
	Morning Worship	183
	Evening Worship	114



Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, March 15th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Larry Holt
Prayer.....	Harvey Nixon
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Hunter Cox
Assisting	Albert Haraway
Serving	Christian Usery
	Harold Davis
	Sam Gregory
	Tim Griswold
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Smith

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	David Barnett
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Hunter Cox
Closing Prayer	Harold Ash

Other Assignments for the week of March 15th:

Ushers.....	Heath Dollar/Landon Adams
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews

Wednesday, March 18th:

Song Leader	David Barnett
Bible Reading	Tony Thomas
	Hebrews 10:26-31
Prayer.....	Kenneth Adams
Invitation	Albert Haraway
Closing Prayer	Marion Mitchell

Sunday, March 22nd:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Bob Broadus
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Marcus Morris
Assisting	Albert Haraway
Serving	Matthew Vaughn....
	Landon Adams
	Heath Dollar
	Charles Vaughn
Closing Prayer	Roger Hammonds

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Bob Broadus
Preaching	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Marcus Morris
Closing Prayer	Bill Eden

Other Assignments for the week of March 22nd:

Ushers.....	Danny Johnson/Marvin Putman
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt