

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

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

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
Cell: (256) 614-3757

Visit Us On The Web

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

Volume XII

May 10, 2020

No. 19

“What is Truth?”

David A. Cox

During the trial of Jesus, Pilate asked Jesus, “What is truth?” (John 18:38). It is a question that has been asked many times. It is asked because many believe truth is what they want it to be. We live in a world that is given to relativism and subjectivism. The attitude of life is there are “no absolutes,” and that truth will change, bend and twist to fit the time and circumstance. But in the world in which we live, that makes no sense. The standard of weights and measures are absolute, so there are absolutes. Let’s consider what the Bible says about truth in the moral realm.

Truth is Absolute. The scriptures teach that truth is absolute. Jeremiah is told, “Run to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem; See now and know; And see in her open places if you can find a man, If there is anyone who executes judgment, who seeks the truth, and I will pardon her” (Jeremiah 5:1). The Lord is looking for a righteous man that walks in truth. The wise man warns us, “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death” (Proverbs 14:12). Again, Jeremiah warns us, “It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps” (Jeremiah 10:23b). These verses point to the fact that there is the absolute truth that God has revealed. In John 4:23, Jesus states, “But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.” One cannot read these verses and think that truth is just whatever one thinks or feel that it is. With that being the case, why would anyone think that whatever you think is truth, is truth?

How Can We Determine What Is True?

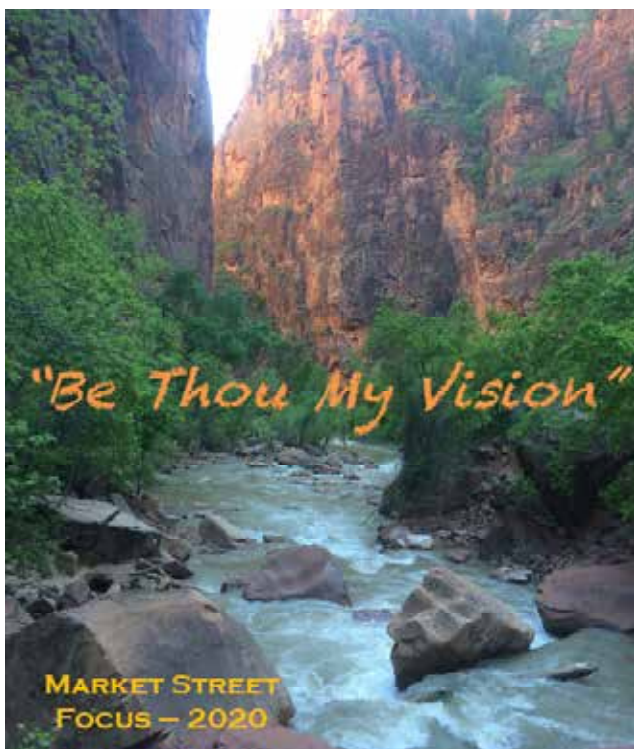
Look to the Right Source. Jesus said, “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth” (John 17:17). The source of truth is the Bible, the word of God. We need to take our Bible and read them, study it openly, honestly, and carefully. We must examine what we believe to be right with what the Bible teaches. If what we believe does not match with what the Bible says, then we must understand that “God is true,” and we must accept what is taught in scripture.

Look for the Truth. An excellent example of this type of people who were looking, longing, and searching for the truth were the Bereans. “These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether the things were so” (Acts 17:11). We must be “fair-minded” like the Bereans in searching and looking for the truth, not just accepting it because good ol’ brother so-and-so said it. Let us be seekers of the truth and coming to know what the truth is.

Love the Truth. To really know the truth and to profit from it, we must love it. Paul spoke of those that thought they were right but were deceived because “they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved” (2 Thessalonians 2:10). May we profit from the truth, receiving the love of the truth in our lives.

Live the Truth. Jesus said, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:31-32). We need freedom from the bondage of sin that Jesus gives to His disciples. Let us then live the truth in our lives, so that we can indeed be His disciple.

Let it be our great desire to ever live as the truth of God’s word directs. May we then love the truth, look for the truth from the right source, and hold firmly to the truth.



Putting Something On

Ryan Goodwin

C.S. Lewis once said, “All mortals tend to turn into the things they are pretending to be.” Those who see themselves as bad or worthless will only live up to that perception. They feel that they will never be anything more than what they are at that moment – faulty, broken, mishandled, abused, resentful. There are others, however, who gaze into the spiritual mirror and see the glory of Jesus Christ looking back at them, if only dimly. They perceive their potential for good and holiness, and try to live up to the example given to us in Jesus.

When Paul said, “Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ” (1 Corinthians 11:1), he was pointing Christians in a different direction from the rest of the world. While most people imitate an athlete, a celebrity, or an influential political figure – all humans, regardless of status – the Christian looks to the heavenly realm for his role model. Everybody seeks to imitate something or someone. Everybody has a treasure they value. Yet the warning is to choose that treasure wisely! “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures upon the earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven... for where you treasure is, there will your heart be also” (Matthew 6:19-21). You must choose your treasure well because it will take your heart with it!

“They followed vanity and became vain” (2 Kings 17:15). Sin is empty, and it will make us empty! The idea is that they became like the gods they worshipped. They bowed down to nothingness and became nothing. The real tragedy was that the followers of the empty religion were living without substance! Their personalities became trivial, and their characters lacked depth. An old saying goes, “Deep down, he’s shallow.” Ask yourself:

Do I ever have new ideas anymore?

Am I taking all of my cues from somebody else?

When was the last time I had an original thought?

Is my “persona” or image in somebody else’s mold?

Why do I practice a certain religion?

Why do I hold certain views on the Bible?

“And they became as detestable as that which they loved” (Hosea 9:10). The writer is pointing out that what

you give yourself to is what you end up resembling (Psalm 115:8). If it is an abomination to God, then so are you!

You Have To Put Them On

In order to become the great Christians we ought to be, we have to put on the right things (demeanor, character, speech). We cannot wait around for God to put it on for us. At first, these things may feel unnatural or awkward, just like a new shirt, new shoes, new car, new house, or a new job. But you may wake up one day and realize that they have become as much a part of you as your very body. You have to work past the stage of discomfort if you ever want to make real spiritual progress.

“Let us therefore lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light” (Romans 13:12).

“But put on the Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 13:14).

“That, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self... and put on the new self” (Ephesians 4:22,24).

~via *East Shelby Church of Christ*; Collierville, Tennessee.

while it probably sounds utterly impossible [not to mention catastrophically miserable and nearly pointless] to most of us, the simple-sounding concept of endurance is one that is familiar to Bible believers.

Pages upon pages of the New Testament encourage Christians to endure through difficult passages of our lives in Christ. They are written to Christians who faced every form of persecution, and the encouragement was the same every time: Always keep walking with the Lord. Don't give up and don't give in. Hold fast to your convictions and follow him as king in everything. When it hurts, when others falter, when you doubt, and when the world hates you because you stand for the truth... endure. Keep rowing.

“Let the treasures of the trial form within me as I go. And at the end of this long passage, let me leave them at your throne.”

(Jesus, Draw Me Ever Nearer by Keith Getty)

~via *Eastland church of Christ*, Louisville, Kentucky



Endure

Dan Lankford

In December, a group of six men rowed across the Drake Passage—a 500-mile stretch of ocean from the southern tip of South America to the closest point in Antarctica. For 13 days straight, three men would row for 90 minutes while the others tried to rest in the cold and wet, and then they switched for the next 90 minutes. Forty-foot waves continually threatened to capsize the boat, the water temperature was only barely above freezing, and the men were delirious from sleep deprivation when they arrived. And yet, through all of the adversity, they endured. And they are the first men that anyone knows of to cross this particular portion of the world's oceans with only human power.

It is a remarkable story of endurance—one that shows what the human will and body are capable of when trained properly and pushed to their limits. And

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

JoAnn Gilbert

Bobbie Adcock

Doris Lovell

Loretta Warner

Alvis McLemore

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 Carrier

Matt Poff

Gene Carpenter

Carrie Warner

Kevin Belue

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 33 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:

Virginia Meyer, rm. 69 Bettye Harrison, rm. 59
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:

Helen Blankenship is return to the doctor this week ...
Larry Tucker's mom, Joyce Tucker, continues at home
...**Betty Lovell** continues her therapy at home and is making good progress.

MEN'S BIBLE CLASS: The *Men's Bible Class* is scheduled for Monday, May 18th. We will be studying "Say Thank You" It is episode 66.

THANK YOU NOTE: The Bible promises that no matter what we are facing, you are never alone. We found this so comforting during Marion's illness and death. Your outpouring of love and concern have been so comforting to us during this difficult time. Our sincere thanks for everything that was done for us, the prayers, food, abundance of cards, calls, visits, and texts, have been a source of comfort to all of us. We are sorry we couldn't have a visitation, but we are so thankful for so many of you who came to the cemetery. We ask for your continued prayers on behalf of our families, and we thank God for all of you.

In Christian Love,
Betty, and Ken Pepper,
Joel, Sharma, Clayton and Ragan Hamm

OUT OF TOWN: **The Stiles:** *Chuck & Benita* are in Vicksburg, Mississippi with Chuck's work...**Christian Usery** continues his nursing work in Long Beach, California.

Remember Our Study Period

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, May 10th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Larry Tucker
Song Leader Albert Haraway
Prayer..... Marcus Morris
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Joel Hamm
Assisting Larry Mitchell
Serving Tony Thomas Russ Wulfekuhl
..... Sam Gregory Landon Adams
Closing Prayer Danny Holt

Evening Worship

Announcements.....
Song Leader
Prayer.....
Preaching.....
Lord's Supper
Closing Prayer

Other Assignments for the week of May 10th:

Ushers..... Terry Andrews/Dwayne Allfrey
Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, May 13th:

Song Leader David Barnett
Bible Reading Landon Adams
..... Hebrews 10:26-31
Prayer..... Kenneth Smith
Invitation Hunter Cox
Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Sunday, May 17th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Marcus Morris
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer..... Keith Hinkle
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Terry Andrews
Assisting Larry Holt
Serving Clayton Hamm Harold Davis
..... Matthew Usery..... Tommy Burns
Closing Prayer Roger Hammonds

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Marcus Morris
Song Leader Tony Thomas
Prayer..... Nathaniel Adams
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Terry Andrews
Closing Prayer Harold Ash

Other Assignments for the week of May 17th:

Ushers..... Danny Holt/Steve Usery
Work Sound System..... Landon Adams