

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 Coblenz..... (256) 232-3312
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

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No. 43

Pleasing God By Faith

David A. Cox

"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 that diligently seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6).

We see here the necessity of faith if we are going to please God. The value of faith cannot be overestimated. If we are concerned about pleasing God, faith is a foundational element upon which we must please Him. Since faith is so crucial to our pleasing God, then we must ask, "Is everything man calls faith pleasing and acceptable to God?" The answer is simply, "no." In the world in which we live, it is not uncommon for peoples' concept of faith to be just the idea of mental assent. It is this kind of faith that James was speaking of when he said, "You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe — and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?" (James 2:19-20). Indeed, all understand that the faith the demons had will not save, but what kind of faith will please God?

Two Elements About a Pleasing Faith

In Hebrews 11:6, we learn two things about the kind of biblical faith that pleases God:

1. "Must believe" is a belief (firm conviction... trust...assurance) that God exists.
2. "Diligently seek Him," the action of seeking after God.

These two elements of faith may be emphasized in different verses, but they never contradict one another. In order to have a faith that pleases God, it will not be just faith in His existence, but a faith that motivates us to actively seek His will.

The Example of Abraham's Faith

Paul, in Romans 4, speaks of one who had this kind of biblical, God-pleasing faith. His name was Abraham. God told Abraham that his descendants would become a great nation, that all nations of the earth would be blessed through his family, and he would receive a promised land. Abraham, by faith, left his homeland and lived as a pilgrim and

sojourner on this earth, looking for the promised land. Abraham's faith is described as being strong, not weak, and staggering. By his faith, he was justified because his faith was not in just the fact that there is a God, but he diligently sought to do the will of God. In Hebrews 11, the writer reminds us of the faith of Abraham, doing what God told him to do, even if it might have seemed by human reasoning to be wrong. His faith was strong; he sought to do what the Lord wanted to be done.

The Teaching of Jesus

As we have seen in these passages, Biblical faith involves both belief and action. Jesus taught this in the sermon on the mount, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name? And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness'" (Matthew 7:21-23). It is quite clear that those Jesus told to depart had a belief (mental assent) in God, but it was not the Biblical faith required to please God. Jesus described this kind of faith that pleases God as the faith that "does the Father's will" or "diligently seeks Him." James described the faith that pleases God and saves man as an active, living, working faith and not just mental assent or "faith only" (James 2:14-24).

Let us be zealous to have the kind of faith that saves, which is the faith that comes from God's word (Romans 10:17). A faith that is more than just a feeling or an impulse, but that which is done in accordance with a "thus saith the Lord." Having a faith that rests upon the word of God, we can be assured that we have a faith that pleases God. Anything short of that will cause disappointment and grief (Matthew 7:22-23; 25:41-46).

Beacon of Truth

Radio Program

Sunday Mornings

on WVNN 770AM – 92.5 FM

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

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

Undue Emphasis on Self

Gene Taylor

The Bible has a lot to say about self and how one is to view himself in relation to God and others. If a person would follow its teachings, his attitude toward self would be what it should be and many of his problems would be solved and pressures eased. When one follows the course of the world and gives undue emphasis to self, he not only adds to his problems now but also places his soul in peril.

What are those problems one can expect if he is self-centered?

Self-centeredness. This occurs when a person is absorbed in self. No one enjoys a self-centered person. It is easy to see when others are self-centered. Sometimes, though, it is hard to recognize in self.

Self-conceit. This is an exaggerated estimation of one's own ability or powers, an overconfidence in self. When one is conceited, he is full of pride. God hates pride and resists the proud (Proverbs 16:18; James 4:6,10; Luke 18:14). We are not to think too highly of self (Romans 12:3).

Self-willed. One who is self-willed is stubborn, set on having his own way. One such person was Jonah. He knew the will of God but fled so he would not have to do it. The Jews who stoned Stephen were identified as "stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears" (Acts 7:51-53). That means that they stubbornly clung to their own will rather than submitting to the will of God.

Self-indulgence. This is giving free course to one's own passions and inclinations. Self-indulgence is a sin which leads one away from God. Demas, who had once been a faithful disciple and a dedicated co-worker of the apostle Paul, had forsaken the Lord and the apostle because he "loved" the present world and indulged himself in its pleasures (2 Timothy 4:10).

Self-righteousness. This is being righteous in one's own eyes. It was a trait of the Pharisees (Luke 18:9-14; Romans 10:1-3). It prompted them to accuse Jesus of eating with sinners (Matthew 9:10-12). They could see that everyone else were sinners but they could not see their own sins. To be pleasing to God, one must humbly acknowledge his own sinfulness.

Self-satisfaction. This is being pleased with who and what one is. The world seeks to instill this attitude in everyone. Great care is often taken so that nothing will damage the self-image of children. The satisfied person has reached his goal. He has no other worlds to conquer, no loftier heights to scale and no greater work to do. His journey can only be downward.

On the other hand, one cannot establish bounds for the person who is not satisfied with himself and his accomplishments. Sadly, even Christians are guilty of this sin. Their guilt is seen in acceptance of mediocrity in relation to Christ and their service to Him. The church at Sardis was rebuked for their indifference (Revelation 3:1f). Do not be self-satisfied. Be like Paul—always seeking to be better, always striving to do more (Philippians 3:13-14; 1 Corinthians 10:12).

Do not allow these problems to exist in your life. Let the Word of God be your guide and permit it to mold you in the image of Christ by denying self and living for Him.

~via *Drawing Nearer To God*; College Station, Texas.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Ruby Dean Ezell	Harvey Nixon
Vicki Stringer	Helen Blankenship
Shirley Miller	JoAnn Gilbert
Doris Lovell	Justice Gentry
Diane Kilpatrick	Janice Cagle

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Donna Wright	Tommy Burns
Priscilla Tucker	Peggy Pepper
Vicki Stringer	Freddie Mae Elmore
Nikki Ogles	Anita Wheeler
Lona Jackson	Judy Vaughn
Jeanette Weir	Lloyd Adams
Phillip Harwell	Cornelia Pepper
Carrie Warner	Cindy Walker
Kenneth Fisher	Barry DeFoor
Al Pollard	Charles Burns
Matt Bassford	

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Elease Barksdale, rm. 23B
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Connie Brock, rm. 62	

Limestone Health Facility:

Bettye Harrison, rm. 59	Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 38
Frances Bowers, rm. 67	Ann Bush, rm. 75
Alice Roberson, rm. 49	Bobby Ogles, rm. 13

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Bobbie Adcock; at home
 Nell Barksdale; at home
 Marci Bassett; Limestone Manor
 Deanie Britton; Limestone Lodge
 Gwen Bullock; at granddaughter's in Huntsville
 Barbara Carter; Traditions
 Unaking Currier; Riverside Sr. Living, Decatur
 Irene Inman; at home
 Stan Stanford; at home
 Jimmy Stroud; Valley View, Madison
 William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison
 Alan Thornton; Limestone Lodge
 Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

Updates:

Leigh Ann McGlocklin had laser surgery on her eye Thursday...*Tony Thomas* went to the doctor this past week and they determined that he did not need surgery at this time...*Harvey Nixon* has been unable to be out as he recovers from his surgery for kidney stones...*Vicki Stringer* was released from the hospital this past week and is at home. She will begin her next treatment on November 1st...*Ruby Dean Ezell* is continuing to wait for her scheduled doctor's appointment for her back on Thursday...*Tommy Burns* is being treated for his cancer...*Priscilla Tucker* continues to be treated for her cancer...*Ewell Smith, Rita Smith's husband*, is continuing his radiation treatments. Remember our expecting mothers *Casey Curry, Lynsey Adams*, and *Laura Adams*, in your prayers.

CARD WRITING: The card writing group will meet tomorrow morning at 10:30, to write and mail out cards. Please join them in the morning.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES CLASS: The Tuesday morning Ladies' Bible class is meeting each Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. The class is studying the *"Authority of the Scriptures."* The class meets in the West Auditorium.

PICTURES MADE: Pictures are continuing to be

made after services. If you need to get your picture made, go to room 22 in the east wing.

REBECCA LOU HOLMES SIMS (1924 — 2021):

It is with deep sadness that we note the passing of sister *Rebecca Sims*. Sister Sims passed away Monday at her home. Sister Sims was a long-time member of the Market Street church and loved the church. Sister Sims's Graveside service was Friday afternoon at the Athens City Cemetery. We extend our deepest sympathy to her niece and nephew, *Gayle Ball, Crutcher Trousdale* and *all her family*. May the Lord bless them at this time.

BABY SHOWER: The ladies have planned a Baby Shower for *Lynsey Adams* on November 7th at the Deer Trail Clubhouse from 2:00 to 3:30. Landon and Lynsey's baby, Jessie Marie, is registered at:

Amazon — Target — Posh Mommy

WEDDING: There is a wedding invitation posted in the vestibule for the wedding of *Elizabeth Usery & Garrett Mixon*. The wedding will be on November 6th at 3:00 p.m. The wedding will take place at Peaceful River Hideaway. The address is 17374 Lakeside Estates Road, Athens. They are requesting RSVP at:

WWW.THEKNOT.COM/GARRETTANDELIZABETHMIXON

OUT OF TOWN: *The Holts:* Larry & Shelia are at Lake Martin this weekend... ***The Hinkles:*** Keith & Angie are back home after being on vacation in the Blue Ridge mountains... ***The Coblentz's:*** Tommy & Marcella have been on vacation in Kentucky this past week... ***The Broadus's:*** Bob & Phyllis continue on vacation to New Mexico... ***The Coxes:*** Hunter, Heather & Beckett are in Gatlinburg, Tennessee this weekend... ***Dale Adcock*** is in Texas visiting with family.

THE RECORD: Attendance for week of October 17th:

Sunday:	Bible Classes	113
	Morning Worship	137
	Evening Worship	101
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	91



Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, October 24th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Stephen Lynn
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Kenneth Smith
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harold Ash
Assisting	Larry Tucker
Serving	Matthew Usery Charles Vaughn
.....	Matthew Vaughn... Christian Usery
Closing Prayer	Keith Hinkle

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Stephen Lynn
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Harvey Nixon
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Harold Ash
Closing Prayer	Roger Hammonds

Other Assignments for the week of October 24th:

Ushers.....	Tommy Coblentz/Larry Mitchell
Work Sound System.....	Landon Adams

Wednesday, October 27th:

Song Leader	Larry Holt
Bible Reading	Clayton Hamm
.....	(John 5:1-15)
Prayer.....	Frank Melton
Invitation	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer	Dan Reed

Sunday, October 31st:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Keith Hinkle
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harvey Nixon
Assisting	Stephen Lynn
Serving	Keenon Currier Marvin Putman
.....	Clayton Hamm Russ Wulfekuhl
Closing Prayer	Marcus Morris

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Bob Broadus
Prayer.....	Larry Mitchell
Preaching	Young Men
Lord's Supper	Harvey Nixon
Closing Prayer	Harold Ash

Other Assignments for the week of October 31st:

Ushers.....	Marvin Putman/Heath Dollar
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt