

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

Volume XIV

January 9, 2022

No. 2

Judge Not, Really?

David A. Cox

"Judge not, that you be not judged" — (Matthew 7:1)

People will often quote Matthew 7:1 when discussing religious matters and what the Bible teaches. They will explain that we are told not to judge the right or wrong of various practices in religion. Is this what this verse is teaching? What does the Bible say about judging?

First, making such a statement about this verse takes a passage out of its context and says something that the passage does not teach. In Matthew 7, we read, "Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye but do not consider the plank in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye,' and look, a plank is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First, remove the plank in your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye" (Matthew 7:1-5).

Reading this passage, all will admit that it prohibits judging, but does it forbid all judging or a certain kind of judging? From the context, it is evident that a particular type of judging is under consideration and not all judging. In verse 2, Jesus teaches that our judgment will be based on how we judge others. Jesus follows with an example of judging another, not based on the righteousness of a matter, but a fault-finding type of judgment. He speaks of the fault-finding brother having a worse problem but not seeing his problem and finding the slightest problem with his brother. This kind of judging is wrong! Jesus calls the one that judges in this way a hypocrite. This hypocritical, fault-finding type of judging should never be seen among followers of Christ. Instead, love should characterize the life of a Christian by living out the description of love in 1 Corinthians 13:3-8. When people exemplify such love in their lives, it will eliminate the hypocritical, fault-finding type of judging condemned in Matthew 7.

What about judging in matters of religion. Should a Christian do this? Notice Jesus continues to say, "Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you into pieces" (Matthew 7:6). Immediately following this passage concerning the fault-finding judging, Jesus tells his disciples to make a judgment. Jesus here taught not to give that which is holy to the dogs. The disciples would be required to judge to distinguish between impure and unclean. In verse 15, Jesus said, "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits" (Matthew 7:15-16a). Who are the wolves? How do we know who they are? Jesus said we "know them by their fruits," which require the disciples to make judgments concerning righteousness. Remember that Jesus is teaching them to make these judgments in the same chapter that He said, "Judge not, that you be not judged."

Some judgments are necessary. Paul told the church at Corinth to judge a man among them involved in sin. Paul said he had "judged already" concerning the case (1 Corinthians 5:1-5). Paul asks them to make a "righteous judgment," which is what Jesus taught us that we should make (John 7:24). What is "righteous judgment"? It is a judgment based upon the commands of God. The psalmist said, "for all your commandments are righteous" (Psalm 119:172b).

May we all learn what Jesus was teaching in Matthew 7 about judging. We should not be involved in fault-finding, hypocritical judging and recognize that Jesus allowed judgments based upon the Word of God.

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

Psalm 19: God Speaks

Guy Roberson

David proclaimed this message of God's existence in what is one of the most treasured psalms and one of the world's most beautiful poems. C. S. Lewis called this Psalm, "the greatest poem in the Psalter and one of the greatest lyrics in the world."

As I read this beautiful Psalm, I picture David, the shepherd boy tending his sheep, looking into the heavens, and communing with God, and the Father speaking to him in the heavenly bodies. The Holy Spirit moved upon him to record this remarkable message (2 Peter 1:21).

The spectacular stars witnessed to David the existence of the Creator and His glory. Paul may have had this Psalm in mind when he wrote Romans 1:18-32. Paul said, "...Because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse" (Romans 1:19, 20).

The nature of this general revelation revealed to man in the heavens would be great enough, but we also have some profound statements about its nature and extent. Consider verses 2 and 3 where the psalmist says of the heavens that "day after day they pour forth speech and of the skies that night after night they display knowledge." He is telling us that the skies reveal the glory of God every single night of the week, every week of the year, year after year, and they have done this since Creation. I love the hymn based on Psalm 19 by Joseph Addison:

- What though in solemn silence all move round this dark terrestrial ball?
- What though no real voice nor sound, amidst their radiant orbs be found?
- In reason's ear they all rejoice, and utter forth a glorious voice;
- Forever singing, as they shine, the hand that made us is divine."

When David penned the phrase "it pours forth speech (v. 2) the Hebrew text is much stronger than in the English: literally it is "a gushing spring that copiously pours forth the sweet, refreshing waters of revelation."

It is my opinion that the general revelation, God

speaking through nature and revealing Himself as the great Creator, points us to the grace of God displayed in the Bible, beginning at verse 7. This psalm makes a significant distinction between natural and special revelation. In discussing the witness of the skies, David used the name God (El), which is a general name that means strong, powerful one. When he discussed the witness of the Scripture, He referred to God as the Lord—Yahweh or Jehovah—His personal name. While nature, general revelation, reveals there is a God, who is powerful, intelligent and who created everything, the Scriptures reveals who this God is and His incredible love and plan for humanity.

In verses 1-4 David tells us that the heavens speak of God's glory. The Hebrew word (kabode) means weightiness or heaviness and can be described as honor, splendor, or greatness. Therefore, to give glory to God is to assign Him the weight of honor He is due. God's glory is the theme of the sermon of the skies and tells us that God manifested in Creation is universal. Everyone throughout the world has been given this magnificent message from God: "there is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world" (vv. 3-4).

David then spoke of the glory of the Sun (vv. 4-6) as the crowning achievement of God's creation. It is important to understand that David wrote poetically, not scientifically. David compared the sun to a vigorous young man, as a bridegroom coming forth from his pavilion, and also as a champion athlete rejoicing to run his course. In each of these comparisons he was emphasizing youthful strength, energy, and physical joy. C. S. Lewis was right when he pointed out that the key line is "nothing is hidden from the sun's heat. This line links the witness of the physical creation to the witness of the Scriptures which begins in the next verse (v. 7).

~via *Walnut Street church of Christ*; Cary, North Carolina.



Remember Our Bible Study Periods

Sunday Morning at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evening at 7:00 p.m.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Doris Fisher	Marty Adams
Jennifer Threet	Kolton Hardison
Ruby Dean Ezell	James Adams
Betty Pepper	Donna Wright
Shirley Miller	JoAnn Gilbert
Doris Lovell	Diane Kilpatrick

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

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	Charles Burns
Cindy Walker	Kenneth Fisher
Barry DeFoor	Al Pollard
Matt Bassford	Jeannie Felker
Sadricia Wilson	

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	Janice Moody, rm. 93

Limestone Health Facility:

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 38	Bobby Ogles, rm. 13
Alice Roberson, rm. 49	Ann Bush, rm. 75

Shut-In or Away From 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

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Sadricia Wilson; Seattle, Washington

Updates:

Peggy Pepper continues to have trouble with her knee and she is limited in what she can do. She is doing therapy at home ... *Doris Fisher* is doing better after having the reaction to the medicine she was given ...

Gina Werka is improved from her case of bronchitis... **James Adams** continues to not be doing well and is unable to be at services... **Jennifer Threet** has not been able to be out at services. Keep Jennifer in your prayers... **Tommy Burns** will take his last treatment this week and will have surgery on January 25th to remove the port... **Jackie Cox's niece, Sadricia Wilson**, has gone to Seattle, Washington to take some treatments for her cancer... **Theresa Tucker's brother and Doris McGuire's son-in-law, Ben Harrison**, was taken to the hospital for a possible stroke on Wednesday. The tests results show that there is no sign of a stroke and he is at home ... **Keith Hinkle's daughter, Amy Hargrove**, spent several days in the hospital due to her diabetes and complications. She was released on Thursday night and is now at home ... Remember our expecting mother, **Laura Adams**, in your prayers.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Dale Adcock and all the family** in the passing of her sister **Teresa Claunch**. She passed away Thursday night. The arrangements are not complete at this time.

CARD WRITING: The card writing group will meet tomorrow morning to write and mail out cards. If you would like to participate in this, please join them in the morning at 10:30.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES CLASS: The Tuesday morning Ladies' Bible class meets each Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. We begin a new study this Tuesday morning. The class will be studying the "*The Christian in a Secular Age.*"

OUT OF TOWN: **Joe Hinkle** is back home after being in Florida for an extended visit... **Cecily Baker** has been in Arkansas this week.

THE RECORD: Attendance for week of January 2nd:

Sunday:	Bible Classes.....	91
	Morning Worship.....	120
	Evening Worship.....	100
Wednesday:	Bible Classes.....	72



Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, January 9th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Harvey Nixon
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Tony Thomas
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Jerry Baker
Assisting	Keith Hinkle
Serving	Matthew Vaughn..... Luke Vaughn
.....	Charles Vaughn ... Nathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer	Stephen Lynn

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Harvey Nixon
Song Leader	Griffin Holt
Prayer.....	Marcus Morris
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Jerry Baker
Closing Prayer	Larry Mitchell
Other Assignments for the week of January 9 th :	
Ushers.....	Danny Johnson/Christian Usery
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt

Wednesday, January 12th:

Song Leader	Stephen Lynn
Bible Reading.....	Kenneth Adams
.....	(John 7:25-39)
Prayer.....	Joel Hamm
Invitation.....	David Cox
Closing Prayer	Roger Hammonds

Sunday, January 16th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Harvey Nixon
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Larry Tucker
Assisting	Marcus Morris
Serving	Heath Dollar Matthew Usery
.....	Hayden Pierce Danny Johnson
Closing Prayer	Christian Usery

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Prayer.....	Marty R. Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Jerry Baker
Closing Prayer	Wayne Vaughn
Other Assignments for the week of January 16 th :	
Ushers.....	Larry Mitchell/Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews