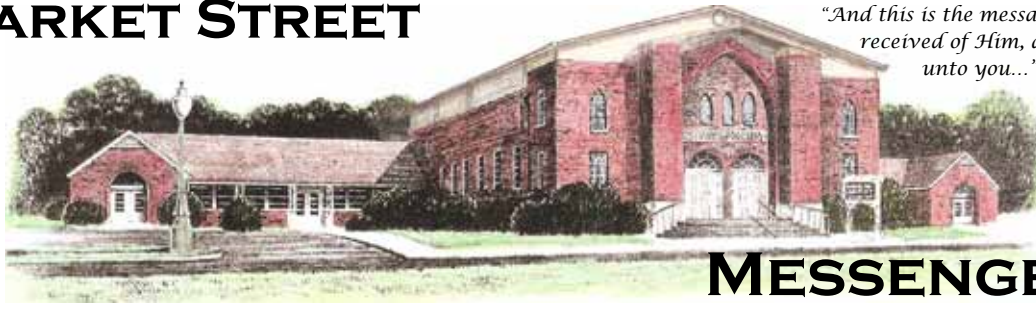


MARKET STREET



“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

Volume X

June 24, 2018

No. 25

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

Evangelists

Buc Chumbley (256) 777-1065
David A. Cox..... (256) 233-8910
Cell: (256) 614-3757

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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

How The Ephesians Were Saved By Grace

David A. Cox

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God has prepared beforehand that we should walk in them” (Ephesians 2:8-10).

Paul writing to the Ephesians told them that grace saved them. There is no doubt about it, Paul is clear, but the question is: Were they saved “wholly of grace” as many believe? This question can be answered quickly by looking into the Bible and seeing what the scriptures say about the Ephesians and their conversion.

They Heard and Believed

In Ephesians 1, Paul is speaking of the blessings enjoyed by the children of God and links these blessings to their having heard and believed the gospel (Ephesians 1:13). The gospel they heard and believed was referred to as the “gospel of your salvation.” The gospel they had heard and believed was the same gospel that Paul spoke of when he wrote to the church at Rome (Romans 1:16). It was the same gospel Paul had preached to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 15:1-4). The Hebrew writer stresses the necessity of belief, “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 who diligently seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6). Paul writes to the Romans, “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). Clearly, the Ephesians’ salvation was of grace, of course, but it also involved their hearing and believing the gospel.

They Repented

Speaking to the Ephesian elders, Paul spoke of their “repentance toward God” (Acts 20:21). Looking back to the conversion of the Ephesians after they had heard the preaching of Paul, the scripture says, “many who believed came confessing and telling their deeds. Also, many of those who practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all...” (Acts 19:18-19). The Ephesians here did something

that is essential for their salvation, they repented or changed. Jesus said, “I tell you nay; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3). God expects a man to repent (to change) if he is going to be saved (Acts 17:30-31).

They Were Baptized

In the conversion of the Ephesians when Paul preached to them concerning the fact that they should believe on Christ Jesus the scriptures record, “when they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Acts 19:5). The Ephesians had done the same thing that the Romans did in their conversion (Romans 6:3-4) and the same thing those at Pentecost did (Acts 2:38, 41, 47). They did what Jesus said was necessary for man to be saved (Mark 16:16).

The Ephesians were saved by grace when they had complied with the conditions God had given. Yes, by all means, the Ephesians were saved by grace, but not “wholly of grace”; there is a difference. Today, we are saved by grace the same way. We must follow God’s instructions, by faith in doing the things God tells us to do to receive His grace. Salvation is not of works, for there is nothing anyone could ever do that would merit the salvation of God. However, each one must comply with the conditions God has given to come into contact with God’s grace and be saved.



Building A Life That Will Last

Paul Earnhart

The Preacher had preached His sermon, and His invitation to action, already begun, is now concluded. The road has been forking continuously throughout the discourse—two kinds of righteousness—two kinds of treasure—a broad and a narrow way—hypocrisy or simplicity—this world or the next—our will or God’s. The choice has been clearly and powerfully drawn.

It is not looking good or sounding pious or doing “something wonderful” in Jesus’ name that takes one to the kingdom of God. It is obedience—obedience as an expression of absolute trust. In His concluding appeal, the Lord has already painted two pictures to illustrate

this fact. He now gives His hearers the third and last.

“Everyone therefore that heareth these words of mine, and doeth them, shall be likened unto a wise man, who built his house upon the rock: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the wind blew and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon the rock. And every one that heareth these words of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, who built his house upon the sand: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the wind blew and smote upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall thereof” (Matthew 7:24–27).

The Two Builders. In these verses, the Lord introduces us to two builders. We can discover the difference in them by observing the similarities. Both these men had the same wish—to build a house—a place to live, a place of shelter and security. Each built his house and if the two were dissimilar, it is not noted. Both houses were tested by the same storm. At last, the only discernible difference in these two builders and their houses is the foundation on which they chose to build—one on the rock, the other on the sand. And before the deluge fell, both men seemed to have succeeded admirably.

This story suggests that whatever the house is, all men are seeking to build it. It could be called “success” or “happiness” or “peace of mind” or “fulfillment.” It stands for the common longings of the human heart, longings which are not necessarily wrong in themselves but a part of the way God made us. *“He has set eternity in their hearts”* (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

The differing foundations stand for the way we try to fulfill our desire for happiness. So far as the Son of God is concerned, there are only two foundations on which to rest our aspirations for ultimate fulfillment—submitting to His will, or rebelling against it. The first house will stand, the second will fall.

The Two Foundations. The wise builder took the time to dig to solid footing (Luke 6:48). It was laborious and time-consuming, but his house and all he was to put into it, even his own life, were at stake.

He took the long look and considered more than present sunny skies. It was the inevitable storm for which he built.

The fool built for the moment and without foresight. Whatever could be done with little effort and achieve quick results attracted him. He presumed that the way things were was the way they would always be. The idea that his house might be severely tested appears never to have entered his mind. He doubtless had his

house up and furnished before his struggling neighbor had even completed his foundation.

Building Before the Storm. It is important to realize that in our Lord's story there is a time when any differences in these two builders will be hard to see. Both will appear to have succeeded—houses standing firm and unshaken. In fact, the fool, having saved himself so many rigors, may seem even to have the better of it. And it is in the midst of this time, before the storm, that we must decide how to build our own spiritual houses. Of course, it will be easy enough to see the difference after the tempest, but that will be too late to mean anything. It is now, in the calm before the cataclysm, that we must act out of faith. We must prepare for the deluge in dry weather. We must run from Sodom before even the first sign of the firestorm.

To the careless eye, the practical difference between the children of God and the children of this world will be difficult to see. Both will suffer reverses, know heartaches, fall ill, and die. For this reason thoughtless people will always struggle to see the distinction between true righteousness and Pharisaic hypocrisy—between the narrow way and the broad one—between the true prophet and the zealous impostor. That is the reason that an attitude of humility and honesty is so vital for those who want to survive the storm of divine judgment. We must have the meekness of spirit which will enable us to see ourselves for what we are, and the Son of God for who He is.

The day is coming when the differences which tend to escape the attention of the unthinking will be starkly evident. Speaking of that day of reckoning in His explanation of the Parable of the Tares, Jesus promises that "Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father" (Matthew 13:43). Even the blindest of men will see the difference then. We need the eyes to see it now, and to order our lives accordingly.

~via *Lifelines*; Greenville, Indiana.



News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Margaret Vaughn	Virginia Meyer
Marcella Coblenz	Peggy Pepper
JoAnn Gilbert	Cornelia Pepper
Bobbie Adcock	Doris Lovell
Linda Jones	Wayne Reyer
Ann Bush	Damien Powers

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Irene Inman	Jeanette Weir
Janice Cagle	Patsy Thomas
Priscilla Tucker	Ella Melvin
Bobby McLemore	Cindy Glass
Matt Poff	Susan Cox
Elizabeth Howard	Al Pollard
Linda Ordonez	Wayne Wooldridge
Cindy Walker	Phillip Harwell
Gene Carpenter	Charles Burns
Betty Christopher	Una King Currier
Ava Brooke Campbell	Wayne Gooch

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Elvie Coffman; Maury Regional Hosp.—Columbia, Tenn.
Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Dorothy Draper, rm. 73	Mattye Murray, rm. 2
Joyce Martin, rm. 63	Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Christine Hudson, rm. 77

Limestone Health Facility:

Stan Stanford, rm. 105

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Robert & Mot Beasley, at City Center, Decatur
Frances Bowers, Limestone Manor
Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison
Carl Hargrave, at granddaughter's home in Hartselle
Irene Inman, at home
William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison
Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Peggy Mitchell had some trouble with her heart rhythm this week and spent a couple of days in the hospital ... *Margaret Vaughn* has been unable to be at services this week as she has been sick with pneumonia... *Peggy Pepper* is at home following her surgery for her ruptured ap-

pendix... *Elvie Coffman* who attended here several years ago after moving here from Arizona, suffered a stroke this past week at her home in Columbia, Tennessee... *Damien Power, Danny & Larry Holt's nephew*, is doing really well following his open heart surgery last week.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Brenda Jones and all the family* in the passing of Brenda's husband, *John "Jack" Jones*. His funeral was on Thursday afternoon in Huntsville... We also want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Cornelia Pepper* in the passing of Cornelia's sister, *Yu-Vawn Blakely*, last Saturday night. Her funeral was Thursday afternoon at Limestone Chapel.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Bethel church* in Bethel, Tennessee is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The speakers in this meeting will be: *Sunday - Bobby Graham; Monday - Jeff May; Tuesday - Lowell Sallee; Wednesday - Jonathan Perz; Thursday - Allen Dvorak; Friday - David Cox.*

LECTURES: The *Truth Lectures* will be at *Athens Bible School* beginning tomorrow evening. There will be evening sessions on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. The evening sessions will begin with 30 minutes of singing prior to the lecture. The morning sessions will begin on Tuesday morning and will continue through Thursday morning. The times, speakers and topics are on a flyer in the vestibule.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Tuckers: Larry & Theresa* are out of town this week on vacation... *Jim Whitt* has been in Kentucky with his work this week... *The Wulfekubls: Russ, Lisa & Ali* have been out of town this week.

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

THE RECORD: *Attendance for the week of June 17th*
 Sunday: Bible Classes 147
 Morning Worship 199
 Evening Worship 131
 Wednesday: Bible Classes 104

Gospel Meeting

September 16-19, 2018

(Sunday through Wednesday)

Paul Sheehan, Speaking

**MARKET STREET
 CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, June 24th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Larry Holt
 Song Leader Hunter Cox
 Prayer..... Jerry McGlocklin
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... A. J. Price
 Assisting Marcus Morris
 Serving Tony Thomas Matthew Usery
 Matthew Vaughn.... Clayton Hamm
 Closing Prayer Harold Ash

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Larry Holt
 Song Leader Ashton Gatlin
 Prayer..... Harold Ash
 Preaching..... Song Service
 Lord's Supper A. J. Price
 Closing Prayer Keenon Currier

Other Assignments for the week of June 24th:

Ushers..... Heath Dollar/ Danny Johnson
 Work Sound System..... Terry Andrews

Wednesday, June 27th:

Song Leader Tyler Cox
 Bible Reading Mark 4:21-34
 Russ Wulfekuhl
 Prayer..... Tommy Coblentz
 Invitation David Cox
 Closing Prayer Danny Holt

Sunday, July 1st:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Marty Adams
 Song Leader Joel Hamm
 Prayer..... Bonnie Sutton
 Preaching..... Buc Chumbley
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Tommy Coblentz
 Assisting Terry Andrews
 Serving Keenon Currier..... Christian Usery
 Russ Wulfekuhl Kenneth Adams
 Closing Prayer Russell Melvin

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Marty Adams
 Song Leader Tyler Cox
 Prayer..... Keith Hinkle
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper Tommy Coblentz
 Closing Prayer Mike Ogles

Other Assignments for the week of July 1st:

Ushers..... Larry Mitchell/Danny Holt
 Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams