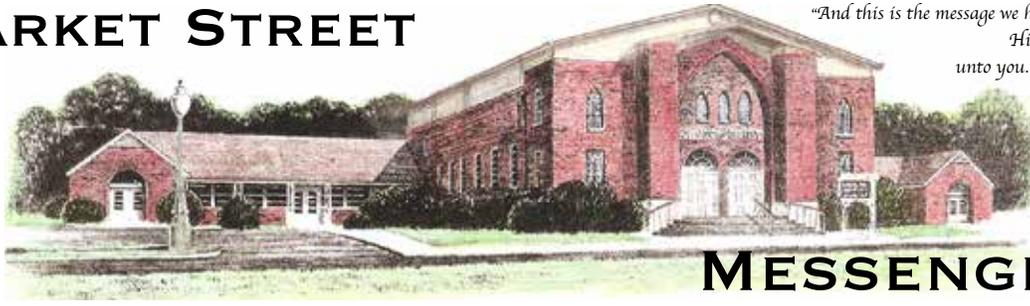


MARKET STREET



“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 XII

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No. 41

Esteeming the Reproach of Christ

David A. Cox

“Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he looked to the reward” — (Hebrews 11:26).

What do you value most in life? The choices you make will speak volumes to the things you value the most. In Hebrews 11:24, we are told that Moses chose to “suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin.” The choice of Moses speaks the things that Moses treasured in life. Why did Moses make this choice? The scriptures tell us it was because what Moses valued was based on faith in God. Faith will not see the suffering, but joy in pleasing God. Let us consider a couple of lessons for us from Moses’ example.

Choose the Spiritual Over the Physical. We are told, “esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt.” Moses’ decision involved him leaving the riches or treasures that were for him as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter to stand with God and lead His people. Many decisions in life involve the choice of things or riches. The rich young ruler wanted to be acceptable to God, but when faced with the choice of pleasing God or keeping his wealth, he chose his earthly wealth (Mark 10:17-22). Jesus warned early in His personal ministry about the improper value placed on things of this earth. In the sermon on the mount, Jesus taught, “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt and where thieves break through and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven...” (Matthew 6:19-20). When Moses was confronted with his choice, he made a choice for heaven and not earth.

Moses’ Choice Pleased God. We see Moses made a choice that pleased God. “How did he do it” one may ask? It was because of his deep abiding faith in God and His promises. If we are going to make the right choice as Moses did, let us develop a strong faith, which comes from God’s word (Romans 10:17). Let us read, study, and live each day as God directs us through His word; then, we will be prepared as Moses was to make the right choice.

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

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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

Seeing the reward that is ahead is where our focus needs to be. Moses' choice pleased God because he did what God desired. Let us learn to "esteem the reproach of Christ" in our lives and make our decisions in our lives that will manifest it.



Consistency

Ken Weliever

Oscar Wilde is credited with saying that "Consistency is the hallmark of the unimaginative."

Wilde's point was that consistent living can become a wearisome repetition of sameness day after day. Such consistency can degenerate into a life that is dull. Boring. Trite. Listless. Languid. And essentially lifeless.

In response, an unknown author issued this challenge to get out of the consistency rut.

So stop getting up at 6:05. Get up at 5:06.
Walk a mile at dawn. Find a new way to drive to work. Switch chores with your spouse next Saturday. Buy a wok. Study wildflowers. Stay up alone all night. Read to the blind. Canoe at midnight. Don't write to your Congressman; take a whole scout troop to see him. Learn to speak Italian. Listen to two hours of uninterrupted Mozart. Leap out of that rut. Savor life. Remember, we pass this way only once.

Indeed consistency can become a weakness instead of a strength. In this regard, Emerson wrote, "A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds." To grow is to change. To mature. To evolve in our thinking. Not to be held captive of ideas and applications that are outdated or incorrect in order to remain consistent. Abraham Lincoln, when criticized for a change in his position on an issue, purportedly retorted, "I would rather be right than be consistent."

However, there is a consistency that is worth our concentrated and consecrated effort and energy. Consistency of character. Of conduct. Of principle. Of

purity. Of values. And virtues. This consistency is based on God's standard of righteousness and truth. Francis Bacon was right when he wrote, "Consistency is the foundation of virtue."

Jesus frequently condemned the hypocrisy of the Pharisees who were guilty of inconsistency. "They say and do not" (Matthew 23:3). However, even the best of us realize we fight a battle of consistency between our words and our deeds. Between our beliefs and our behavior. Between our virtues and our vices.

The apostle Peter knew this struggle all too well. He boasted that he would never deny Jesus, yet hours later did the very thing he never dreamed of doing. Three times. Later Peter preached the gospel to Gentiles and defended their right of citizenship in the Kingdom (Acts 10-11). Yet, later Peter was publicly chastised by Paul for disassociating with Gentiles for fear of the Jews's opinion. In fact, even Barnabas, the son of encouragement, fell prey to this temptation (Galatians 2:11-13).

"O consistency, thou art a jewel." Whether Shakespeare actually said this or not is open to debate, but Chuck Swindoll was right, consistency is a jewel worth wearing. An anchor worth weighing. A thread worth weaving. And a battle worth winning.

The consistency of a consecrated life will keep the conscience pure. Ensure our motives are honorable. Allow us to influence others. Foster our friendships. Keep our commitments. Support our families. Serve our brethren. And always champion Truth.

Consistency of beliefs and behavior are well illustrated in a story told by George Mansfield who told about four scholars who were arguing over Bible translations.

One said he preferred the King James Version because of its beautiful, eloquent old English. Another said he preferred the American Standard Bible for its literalism, the way it moves the reader from passage to passage with confident feelings of accuracy from the original text. A third man preferred Moffatt because of its quaint, penetrating use of words, the turn of a phrase that captures the attention of the reader.

After giving the issue further thought, the fourth scholar admitted, "I have personally preferred my mother's translation. When the other scholars chuckled, he responded, "Yes, she translated it. She translated each page of the Bible into life. It is the most convincing translation I ever saw."

The counsel of John Maxwell will greatly help us translate truth into life. "Small disciplines repeated with consistency every day lead to great achievements gained slowly over time."

~via *The Preacher's Word*; Homosassa, Florida.

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Storm Tossed or Storm Tested?

Jason Hardin

The wicked of this world have loud megaphones and a multitude of eager listeners. Don't walk in cadence with their advice.

The way of sinners is popular, downhill, and full of shiny promises. Don't stop and stand in that way.

If you're looking for attention, society always has room for another mocker. Joining the chorus will probably result in a bump of *likes* and followers. But that's not where you ought to be sitting.

There are some crowds we have no business joining, some paths we shouldn't be taking, and some seats in which we should never sit. Listen: "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night" (Psalm 1:1-2).

On what will you meditate this week? What will fill your downtime attention? What will occupy your mind and percolate in your heart? If you want to be "like chaff that the wind drives away" (1:4), listen to the advice of the wicked, stand in the pathway of sinners, and pull up a chair with the crowd of mockers.

But if you want to be more than wind-blown, aimless chaff, God is willing to make you "like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season" (1:3). How? Delight in his law. Meditate on his word. Think about God, day and night.

We're glad you're here today and we hope you'll join us in praising this awesome God. But what about this

week? Will you be more like storm-tossed chaff or a storm-tested cedar? It depends upon the source of your delight and the meditations of your heart.

~via *Good News From Charlestown Road*; New Albany, Ind.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Dale Adcock	Margaret Carter
Kerry Cox	Larry Tucker
Mitzi Carruth	JoAnn Gilbert
Bobbie Adcock	Doris Lovell
Ann Bush	Larry Morris
Judy Whitt	Kelli Gordon
Jerry Hinkle	Roger Jackson
Jessie Lovell	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Donna Wright	Loretta Warner
Vicki Stringer	Freddie Mae Elmore
Nikki Ogles	Anita Wheeler
Lona Jackson	Judy Vaughn
Jeanette Weir	Janice Cagle
Cornelia Pepper	Ella Melvin
Wayne Wooldridge	Carrie Warner
Cindy Walker	Kenneth Fisher
Al Pollard	Charles Burns
David Collier	Phillip Harwell
Una King Currier	Lloyd Adams
Gene Carpenter	

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Kelli Gordon; Crestwood Hospital - Huntsville
Norman Hamm; Millenium - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15 Elease Barksdale, rm. 22A
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77 Connie Brock, rm. 62
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36 Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7

Limestone Health Facility:

Bettye Harrison, rm. 59 Alice Roberson, rm. 49
Deanie Britton, rm.

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Marci Bassett, Limestone Manor
Frances Bowers, Limestone Manor

Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
 Barbara Carter, Traditions
 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:

Dale Adcock received a good report from her MRI this week and is scheduled for surgery on Wednesday at the Huntsville Surgery Center...**Sue Taylor** has surgery scheduled for this Friday...**Larry Tucker** has two herniated disc in his neck that will require surgery. The surgery is scheduled for October 28th at Athens-Limestone Hospital...**Brenda Eden** has a broken bone in her right foot. She went to the doctor on Thursday. She will be in a boot for three weeks and then a walking boot for three weeks...**Charles Parks** hurt his back last weekend and is now doing better...**Kerry Cox** has made steady improvement this week following her being diagnosed with the virus...**Helen Blankenship's brother, Jessie Lovell**, had surgery on Tuesday to remove a kidney at Athens Limestone Hospital.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Judy Brown and all the family** in the sudden passing of her sister, **Wanda Johnson Eaves**, this past Tuesday in Tennessee. There are was a graveside service at the Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Prospect, Tennessee. May the Lord bless the family at this time.

SERVICE CHANGES: The Elders have decided to suspend Sunday and Wednesday evening services through the month of October.

OUT OF TOWN: The Stiles: *Chuck and Benita* are in Vicksburg, Mississippi...**Christian Usery** continues in Montgomery working.

THE RECORD: Attendance for week of October 4th:

Sunday: Bible Classes
 Morning Worship..... 125
 Evening Worship.....
 Wednesday: Bible Classes.....



Remember Our Facebook Study

Wednesday Evening at 7:00 p.m.
 Market Street Private Group Page

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, October 11th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Marcus Morris
 Song Leader Larry Holt
 Prayer..... Marty Adams
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Harvey Nixon
 Assisting Joel Hamm
 Serving Clayton Hamm Russ Wulfekuhl
 Tony Thomas Tommy Burns
 Closing Prayer Keenon Currier

Evening Worship

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

Other Assignments for the week of October 11th:

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

Wednesday, October 14th:

Song Leader
 Bible Reading

 Prayer.....
 Invitation.....
 Closing Prayer

Sunday, October 18th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Tommy Coblentz
 Song Leader Tommy Burns
 Prayer..... Bonnie Sutton
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Larry Holt
 Assisting Keith Hinkle
 Serving Marvin Putman ... Nathaniel Adams
 Landon Adams.. Roger Hammonds
 Closing Prayer Kenneth Adams

Evening Worship

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

Other Assignments for the week of October 18th:

Ushers..... Larry Mitchell/Heath Dollar
 Work Sound System..... Marty Adams