

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

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David A. Cox, Editor

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No. 43

Learning From Abraham's Faith

David A. Cox

"Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains which I shall tell you" — (Genesis 22:2).

Life definitely has its times of challenges and trials. In Abraham's life, this command from the Lord to Abraham is perhaps the most challenging moment. Abraham, leaving his homeland must have been tough, but to offer your own son as a sacrifice would be much greater. Indeed, this is a pivotal example in the life of Abraham that we should learn much. This is the event that the Hebrew writer recalls in Hebrews 11 while giving us examples of the great men of faith. What can we learn from this?

Abraham's Relationship with God.

At the time of this test of Abraham, we are told that God called "Abraham" and that he replied, "Here I am" (Genesis 22:1). Abraham was close to God and attentive to His words. He was not hiding in the bushes as Adam and Eve were doing in the garden of Eden after eating the fruit God told them not to eat. Instead, Abraham was living a life to please God and to do what God asked of him. Abraham's life was a close relationship, and understood God's position and his position before God. Abraham did not argue, did not make excuses, but instead heard and heeded what he was told.

Faith in God Comes Before Natural Reaction.

Can you imagine the emotions that must have been stirred within Abraham to hear this command from God? The sacrificing of human flesh upon an altar would be repugnant to anyone. Still, the offering of one's own son upon the altar would be much more so. In the text in Genesis 22, we see Abraham following through with God's command as he takes a knife to slay his son. We observe the faith of Abraham triumphing over his natural reaction. Even in the face of his son when he inquired, "where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" (Genesis 22:7). Yes, we see that faith like Abraham will come before natural reaction.

Faith Was Prepared for this Trial.

When the trial came in Abraham's life, his faith was prepared to do the right thing. The problem with not overcoming the difficulties of our faith is that our faith has not been prepared. In Corinthians 10:13, we are promised that God will not bring trials upon man, which he cannot bear. Abraham had developed his faith and was able to overcome and please God.

May each of us learn from these lessons as Abraham shows us in developing a faith that will be strong in times of great trial.



Big God, Little Me

Russ Bowman

In the Old Testament book of Job, a recurring topic of discussion between Job and his friends is the power and majesty of God:

- “To God I would commit my cause, Who does great things and unsearchable, marvelous things without number.” (Eliphaz, 5:8-9)
- “God is wise in heart and mighty in strength... He removes the mountains... He shakes the earth out of its place and its pillars tremble; He commands the sun and it does not rise; He seals off the stars; He alone spreads out the heavens and treads on the waves of the sea... He does great things past finding out, yes wonders without number.” (Job, 9:4-10)
- “Can you search out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limits of the Almighty? They are higher than heaven—what can you do? Deeper than Sheol—what can you know? Their measure is longer than the earth and broader than the sea.” (Zophar, 11:7-9)
- “Dominion and fear belong to Him... Is there any number to His armies? Upon whom does His light not rise?” (Bildad, 25:2-3).

Perhaps Job best summarizes when he concludes, “Indeed these are the mere edges of His ways, and how small a whisper we hear of Him! But the thunder of His power, who can understand?” (26:14).

These men served a “big God.” Perhaps their understanding was due in part to their lifestyle, which was far more connected to the powers and mysteries of the natural world than ours. They did not inhabit grand mansions in massive cities, illuminated unceasingly by artificial light. They watched the sunrise and sunset and gazed upon the brilliance of starry nights. They watched storms cross the landscape, stood upon the shores of the sea, and saw all of the power and mystery of “nature,” believing that God was greater than and reigning over it all. Such observations prompted David to write, “When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained, what is man that You are mindful of him?” (Psa 8:3-4). While we have tended to insulate ourselves from the natural world with our technology, we still have occasional reminders of the power of the world around us, and we are made to feel small. I watched and listened as Hurricane Ike devastated the Texas coast a few years ago, and I felt completely helpless in the face of such power. Yet God has stopped storms, prompted earthquakes, halted the sun, and created the universe with the mere utterance of His voice. That makes Him pretty big, and reminds me that I'm pretty little.

Until we recognize God's power, wisdom, sovereignty, and majesty, we will not truly trust Him or consistently honor Him with our lives. However, when we begin to acknowledge Him in all of His glory (realizing how feeble and dependent we are), the seed of real faith begins to grow. His power and wisdom and majesty not only arrest us with awe, they attract us because we are made in His image and offered fellowship with Him.

What a truly humbling consideration, that a Being of such grandeur and knowledge and honor, would condescend to live as a man and die on a cross simply so that He could offer association to weak and powerless men! “Behold what manner of love” (1 John 3:1).

And yet, how pitiful when we are so consumed with inferior pursuits. I live in a small town. I see people every day trying so hard to be so important in such an unimportant place. People are sacrificing their souls to be numbered among the movers and shakers in a town that most of the world couldn't find on a map if their life depended on it. And all the while, the most awe-inspiring and impressive Being in existence rules the universe. Not only has He created me and the world around me, He sustains me, has sacrificed for me, and continues to provide for me, all with the hope in His

heart that I would aim to be associated with Him. Who cares if anyone in Lumberton, Texas knows me when I can be known by and associated with God Almighty! What honor or ambition can surpass the honor of being claimed as His own son or daughter? What can any man offer me that is greater than eternal life in a glorious realm where I am privileged to reign with the King Himself?

“From where then does wisdom come?... God understands the way to it, and He knows its place... When He made a law for the rain, and a path for the thunderbolt, then He saw wisdom and declared it; He established it... And He said to man, ‘Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom’ (Job 28:20-28). He is truly a big God. And I am so very little.

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

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Jewel Dean Kennemer	Bonnie Sutton
Larry Tucker	Carol Dean
JoAnn Gilbert	Doris Lovell
Ann Bush	Larry Morris
Judy Whitt	Kelli Gordon
Jerry Hinkle	

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:

Bobbie Adcock; Athens - Limestone Hospital, rm. 210
Marcus Dean; Huntsville Hospital, ICU

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
 Alan Thornton, Limestone Lodge
 Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Jewel Dean Kennemer is recovering from a recent fall she suffered... *Bonnie Sutton* is waiting to go the doctor about his back... *Jerry McGlocklin* is doing well following his surgery last week... *Frank Melton* is scheduled for cornea surgery in Birmingham on Tuesday. He will go the home of his niece in Chattanooga to convalesce and will return home on November 9th... *Dan Reed* had surgery on Wednesday of this past week and is doing well... *Larry Tucker* had surgery on Thursday morning for two herniated disc in his neck and all went well... *Brenda Eden* was able to be back at services this past Sunday... *Justice Gentry* has been diagnosed with Perthes Disease. He will be getting a second opinion for treatment in Birmingham on November 18th... *Danny Holt and Larry Holt's cousin, Marcus Dean*, is in ICU at Huntsville Hospital. He is battling cancer and they are preparing him to begin treatments.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Joel, Sharma, Clayton & Ragan Hamm* in the passing of *Joel's father, Norman Hamm*. He passed away early Saturday morning. The arrangements are incomplete at this time... We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Nancy Abernathy* in the passing of her brother-in-law, *Richard Harper*. He passed away last Saturday in Birmingham. There was a graveside service on Thursday morning in Trussville. May the Lord bless Nancy and all the family during this time of sorrow.

SUE HOLT TAYLOR (1949 – 2020): With deep sadness we note the sudden passing of sister *Sue Taylor*.

She had recently moved to Athens from West Limestone and identified with the church at Market Street. Sue loved the Lord and loved her family. We have all benefitted from our association with her. There was a graveside service last Wednesday afternoon at the Elk View Garden Cemetery. May the Lord bless Joel, Jarrad and all the family at this time.

SERVICE CHANGES: This morning we are beginning to meet in our Bible classes at 9:45 on Sunday morning and on Wednesday evening at 7:00. We will be assembling for our Sunday worship services at 10:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The teachers teaching this quarter of Bible classes are listed on the bulletin boards in the east and west wings. There is always a need for teachers, if you would like to teach a class, please see Tommy Coblentz.

LIVE-STREAMING : It has been seven months since we have met in our Bible classes. At that time, we began live-streaming Bible studies and lessons. We started live-streaming our Sunday morning services last October on Facebook Live. The streaming was done for those who were unable to assemble could join in on our service. It was never imagined that it would become so crucial in the year that was to come. Through all of this, I have seen great value in being able to live-stream lessons. As we move to the future, we begin to assemble together and meet in our classes; I may plan additional streaming studies through Facebook and Zoom. Of course, these streaming lessons have lacked what we get from assembling together, but there is much value in them. I appreciate many of you who have faithfully joined the studies and the kind and gracious comments you have made about them. May the Lord bless us as we move back to normality, and may we all be stronger in our resolve to serve the Lord.

PARKING LOT: The work on the parking lots continues. The work on the east lot is making good progress. The work on the other lots will be following soon.

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 25th:*

Sunday: Bible Classes
 Morning Worship 113
 Evening Worship

Remember Our Bible Study Periods

Sunday Morning at 9:45 a.m.
 Wednesday Evening at 7:00 p.m.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, November 1st:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
 Song Leader Hunter Cox
 Prayer..... Larry Mitchell
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Marty Adams
 Assisting Marcus Morris
 Serving Charles Vaughn Sam Gregory
 Heath Dollar Harold Davis
 Closing Prayer Danny Holt

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
 Song Leader Tony Thomas
 Prayer..... Larry Holt
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper Marcus Morris
 Closing Prayer Dan Reed

Other Assignments for the week of November 1st:

Ushers..... Russ Wulfekuhl/Danny Johnson
 Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, November 4th:

Song Leader Bob Broadus
 Bible Reading Harold Davis
 (James 3:1-12)
 Prayer..... Steve Usery
 Invitation Tommy Coblentz
 Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Sunday, November 8th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Tommy Coblentz
 Song Leader Albert Haraway
 Prayer..... Keith Hinkle
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Larry Holt
 Assisting Mike Ogles
 Serving Kenneth Adams..... Keenon Currier
 Matthew Vaughn..... Matthew Usery
 Closing Prayer Kenneth Smith

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Tommy Coblentz
 Song Leader Bob Broadus
 Prayer..... Tony Thomas
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper Larry Holt
 Closing Prayer Danny Holt

Other Assignments for the week of November 8th:

Ushers..... Danny Johnson/Marvin Putman
 Work Sound System..... Marty Adams