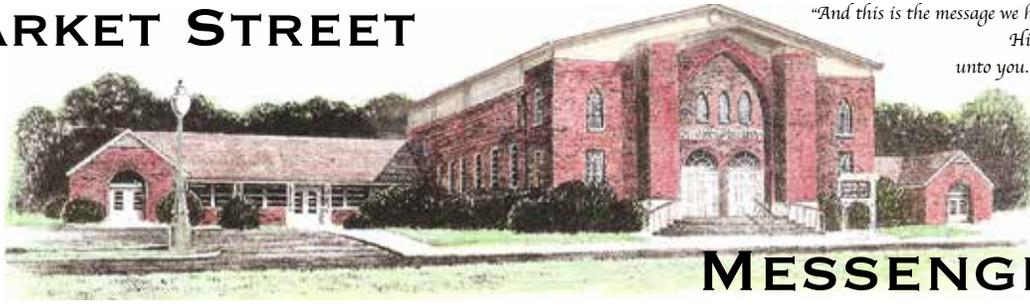


MARKET STREET



"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

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David A. Cox, Editor

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No. 36

God's Wonderful Love

David A. Cox

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." — (John 3:16)

Martin Luther called this verse "the heart of the Bible, the gospel in miniature." Indeed, this verse gives us a brief summation of God and His great love for man. Let us focus our attention on God's great and wondrous love.

The Characteristics of this Love.

- *It is Eternal Love.* "God so loved the world..." the text tells us. When did His love begin? It was not at the cross, or in the garden, or in the manger. God speaking through His prophet Jeremiah tells us, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness, I have drawn you" (Jeremiah 31:3). We see the love of God in the creation of the world as He prepared it for man to dwell on the earth in a perfect environment.
- *It is Compassionate Love.* God's love for the world was not a love based on favor or a sense of obligation. It was a love pouring from compassion and mercy for man. Think of the coming of Christ into the world that He had created (John 1:1-3) and the wickedness and rejection that He endured. Yet, the love of compassion and mercy compelled Him to give His life for the world.
- *It is Unspeakable Love.* The statement "For God so loved" is not defined in scripture with words. Any attempt to try would fall short of the expansiveness of God's love. Paul speaks of the width, length, depth, and height of love that passes knowledge (Ephesians 3:18). John expresses this characteristic of love as he writes, "Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us" (1 John 3:1).

The Indication of this Love.

The love of God is seen in that "He gave His only begotten Son." God sends His Son to earth and lives as a man to pay the penalty for sin

that was required. It took a perfect sacrifice to purchase the redemption of man, and the Son of God came to be stricken, smitten, and afflicted for sin. What a magnificent manifestation of the love of God.

The Purpose of this Love.

The purpose of this love is so “that whoever believes in Him would not perish but have everlasting life.” The desire of God was and is to save all men, which is seen in the word “whoever.” All that will accept Jesus and submit their lives to the will of God will have everlasting life. To live with God in a perfect place free from all the death, tears, pain, sorrow, or crying of this life.

How blessed we are to have such love freely poured out for us. God loves us. He has shown us this love and given us the reason why He loves us. But each person must respond to this love. God will not force anyone to love Him back. He wants us to choose to love Him back. Do you love God? Are you submitting your life to His will?



The Just Shall Live By Faith

Larry Jones

Four times in the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit spoke this: “*The just shall live by faith.*” An eternal principle since the beginning, the statement declares the way man must live to please God. In each case where it is written, we can see, by way of contrast in the context, an emphasis upon a particular aspect of the principle. Let’s consider each.

“Behold the proud, his soul is not upright in him; but *the just shall live by his faith*” (Habakkuk 2:4). In this context, the Lord first describes the Chaldean whose estimation of self is distorted by his pride, and as a result, his soul is not right before God. The same is true of all today who believe they exist and are sustained without God and don’t need God. In contrast to the proud, the Lord says that the righteous or just man will live by his faith. Faith comes by hearing the word of God, and living

by faith means ordering one’s beliefs, thoughts, words, and deeds by that revealed word of God. The principle that the just shall live by faith is seen in the beginning in Genesis 2 when man was divinely instructed by his Creator. Obedience to God would please God, but disobedience would bring God’s condemnation. Satan appealed to Eve’s pride in his enticement of her, and the Scripture says that she believed the tree was “desirable to make one wise” (Genesis 3:6) – and “make wise” was not the wisdom of God. Neither Eve nor Adam acted by faith in this case, and as a result they were not just or right with God. True both then and now: The one who walks by faith, not the one who walks in his own pride, is just or righteous.

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘*The just shall live by faith*’” (Romans 1:16-17). In Romans, Paul shows the gospel to be a system of justification by faith in Jesus Christ as opposed to the works of the law of Moses. But he goes on to explain to the Jew that obedient faith has always been what pleases God. Paul referred back to the eternal principle in Habakkuk that the just shall live by faith. In the gospel dispensation, one is justified – declared righteous – through faith, and that is an obedient faith, in Jesus Christ. In Romans, there is an emphasis upon the gospel of Christ being God’s plan for making man righteous by faith in Christ.

“But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for ‘*The just shall live by faith*’” (Galatians 3:11). Not justified by what law? The law that was “four hundred and thirty years after” (3:17) the promise to Abraham – that is, the law of Moses. Here Paul again refers to the eternal truth that the just shall live by faith as an argument against any who would want to be justified by the law of Moses, and some in the churches of Galatia were contending for a binding of the law of Moses. But there could be no justification by the law of Moses. Justification can only be had through faith in Jesus Christ, and thus the just shall live by faith. So in this context, Paul is emphatically stating that justification cannot be had through the law of Moses but only through faith in Jesus Christ.

“Now the just shall live by faith; but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition, but of

those who believe to the saving of the soul” (Hebrews 10:38-39). In this context, the author is exhorting and spurring on the Hebrew Christians, and us by necessary inference, to continue and to finish the race that we have begun. He reminds those Christians that they have already endured a great struggle and must not cast away their confidence. They needed to endure a while longer. The contrast is made between shrinking back – defecting from the Lord, casting off their faith – and continuing to live by faith – continuing to walk according to the revealed word of God. The emphasis here is that to be saved eternally, one must keep walking, living by faith.

The principle “*the just shall live by faith*” is just as true today. Beware of the pride of life – walking by your own rule; instead, humbly walk by faith, living according to the revealed word of God. Remember that justification is by faith in Jesus Christ, and the gospel is that message. Outside of obedient faith in the gospel of Christ, one cannot be declared by God just or righteous. And finally, do not abandon your commitment to Christ but continue to walk by faith and endure to the end of your life so that “you may receive the promise,” (Hebrews 10:36), which is “an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven” (Hebrews 10:34).

~via *Moscow Bulletin*; Moscow, Idaho.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Betty Pepper	Ruby Dean Ezell
Joe Hinkle	Don Bates
Pat Nixon	Courtney Farris
Sherry Davis	Gayle Ball
Shirley Miller	JoAnn Gilbert
Doris Lovell	Justice Gentry
Diane Kilpatrick	Janice Cagle

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Mike Ogles	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	Eleese Barksdale, rm. 23B
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Connie Brock, rm. 62	Shelia Barrett, rm.

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

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Mike Ogles; Huntsville Hospital

Updates:

Margaret Carter had a CT scan done this week on her growth. She is to have a Pet Scan on Friday at CCI... **Mike Ogles** is in the Huntsville Hospital and had surgery to stop his bleeding on Friday. He is scheduled to go to Nashville to begin the CAR-T process. They will remain in Nashville until it is complete ... **Donna Wright** is not able to take her treatments at this point. She is needing to gain some weight before they will resume ... **Sherry Davis** is doing well following her surgery... **Gayle Ball** is in the middle of her in-home therapy... **Ruby Dean Ezell** is not able to be out due to back problems ... **Alan Thornton** is scheduled to have cataract surgery on Thursday... **Kolton Hardison** is scheduled to have a scope done for his eating issues on September 17th at UAB Children’s Hospital... **Priscilla Tucker** continues to be treated for her cancer ... **Nancy Abernathy’s nephew, Mike Ermert**, had a double lung transplant last Sunday and another surgery on Tuesday in Birmingham. He is doing well ... **Ewell Smith, Rita Smith’s husband**, will begin his treatments on Wednesday and continue for 9

weeks ... *Kerry Cox's mother, Fredia Lowman*, received a overall good report from her recent surgery ... *Shelia Clark's brother-in-law, Mike Townsend*, is doing well following his heart valve replacement surgery in Nashville and now in rehab in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee ... Remember our expecting mothers *Heather Cox, Casey Curry, Lynsey Adams*, and *Laura Adams* in your prayers.

CARD WRITING: The card writing group will meet next Monday morning, September 13th at 10:30, to write and mail out cards. If you want to do this, please join them next Monday 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.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Peggy Pepper* in the passing of her niece, *Debbie Martin*. She passed away last week and was buried on Tuesday in Montgomery. May the Lord bless Peggy and all the family at this time... We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Jo Nell Campbell* in the passing of her grandson-in-law, *Chris King*. He passed away last week. His funeral was Thursday morning at Limestone Chapel. May the Lord bless Jo Nell and all the family at this time.

BABY SHOWER: The ladies have planned a Baby Shower for *Casey Curry* next Sunday, September 12th. It will be at the Deer Trail Clubhouse from 2:00 to 3:30. Dustin and Casey's baby is registered at:
www.babylist.com/baby-casey-curry

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.

OUT OF TOWN: *Brenda Haraway & Doris Fisher* are in Lexington, Kentucky this weekend... *The Stiles: Chuck & Benita* are in Vicksburg, Mississippi... *Opal Conn* is in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for week of August 29th:*

Sunday: Bible Classes 107
 Morning Worship 129
 Evening Worship 100
 Wednesday: Bible Classes 82

Remember Our Study Periods

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

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, September 5th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Marty R. Adams
 Song Leader Stephen Lynn
 Prayer..... Keith Hinkle
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Harold Ash
 Assisting Larry Tucker
 Serving Sam Gregory Keenon Currier
 Marvin Putman Clayton Hamm
 Closing Prayer Kenneth Smith

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Marty R. Adams
 Song Leader Tony Thomas
 Prayer..... Terry Andrews
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper Harold Ash
 Closing Prayer Larry Mitchell

Other Assignments for the week of September 5th:

Ushers..... Marvin Putman/Heath Dollar
 Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, September 8th:

Song Leader Griffin Holt
 Bible Reading Kenneth Adams
 (John 3:1-25)
 Prayer..... Tommy Coblentz
 Invitation Hunter Cox
 Closing Prayer Roger Hammonds

Sunday, September 12th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Keith Hinkle
 Song Leader Hunter Cox
 Prayer..... Larry Tucker
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Joel Hamm
 Assisting Larry Mitchell
 Serving Charles Vaughn ... Nathaniel Adams
 Kenneth Adams.... Marvin Putman
 Closing Prayer Jerry Baker

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Keith Hinkle
 Song Leader Stephen Lynn
 Prayer..... Harvey Nixon
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper Joel Hamm
 Closing Prayer Keenon Currier

Other Assignments for the week of September 12th:

Ushers..... Danny Johnson/Tommy Coblentz
 Work Sound System..... Marty R. Adams