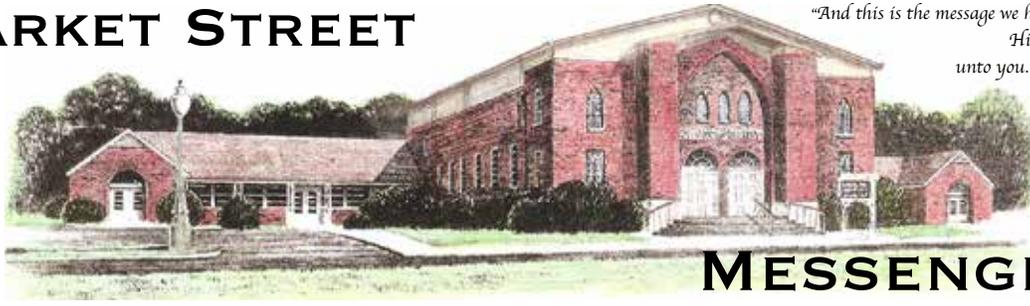


MARKET STREET



"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

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No. 48

Lessons From Moses' Choice

David A. Cox

"By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin" (Hebrews 10:24-25).

Man, since the beginning of time, has been given free will, the power to choose. The Hebrew writer refers to Moses' choice to serve God in his life. God was pleased with this choice, and it is mentioned here as an example for us to learn from. Let us notice three things that Moses gave up to serve God.

Moses Refused Earthly Power and Prestige

First, we see Moses' choice involved his giving up the earthly power and prestige he had being "the son of Pharaoh's daughter." Power and prestige are driving forces behind many decisions that we make. Often decisions are based not on what is right but rather on what I can gain. In Jesus' day, John mentions that "among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God" (John 12:42-43). Moses' decision was made not for what power or prestige he would lose for doing right, but his concern was for what was right.

Moses Refused The Pleasures of Sin

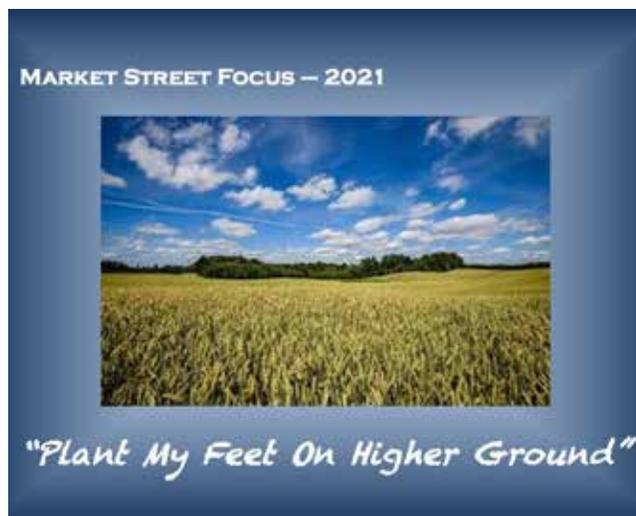
Second, we see that Moses chose "to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season." Sin is very deceptive. It will allow someone to think that something sinful is not that bad. In Genesis 3, when Eve was tempted by the serpent to eat the forbidden fruit, she was enticed by its pleasantness. People often commit sins by fooling themselves into thinking that it is pleasant and not so bad. Many have given themselves over to actions that they would have never considered being involved in at one time. But they fail to see the deception of sin and how it leads to terrible consequences. David was an example of such when

he could not see the danger in lusting after a woman he saw bathing. It led him to commit fornication, lie, get a man drunk, and murder. Why did David do this? All because he did not see the deception of sin. However, Moses refused to be deceived by sin.

Moses Refused Earthly Possessions

The Hebrew writer said Moses refused the riches in Egypt. We are told Moses esteemed “the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.” Moses’ decision involved him leaving the riches or treasures that he had as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter to stand with God and to 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 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. Notice He said, “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven...” (Matthew 6:19-20). When Moses was confronted with this choice, Moses refused the earthly riches for the heavenly treasures.

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. So then, 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 in His word. Then, we will be prepared as Moses was to make the right choice.



Gratitude Not Grumbling

L. A. Stauffer

People who think life revolves around them or that the world owes them a living seldom say—“thanks.” Thanksgiving is a character quality—a heartfelt, soul-filled feeling of gratitude for what others, including God, have done for us. Whether it concerns an event or favor we can do for ourselves is beside the point.

Who can forget the nine lepers whom Jesus healed of a debilitating disease that separated them from their families and society (Luke 17:11-19)? Here were men who could not go home, kiss their wives or hug their children, yet when they were healed and could return to the synagogues for worship and to their homes to live with their families—they never even said thanks. Not a one of the nine returned to say thanks or show in some way appreciation to Jesus. Furthermore, we Christians must never forget the mindset of Gentiles in the first century who no longer glorified God and never gave thanks (Romans 1:21).

The apostle Paul urged brethren who make supplications and requests to God for their needs to do so with “thanksgiving” (Philippians 4:6-7). He reminds God’s people who need God’s blessings and ask Him for help that they must also be mindful to thank Him for the abundance of blessings He provides for them daily. Paul when he commands brethren to sing psalms and hymns of praise to God tells them also to include offers of thanksgiving (Ephesians 5:19-20).

Brethren, when gratitude to God for life, health, family, earthly blessings, spiritual blessings, and an innumerable host of good things is missing from our hearts and lives, we lack a vital spiritual quality that opens our hearts to whining and grumbling about displeasures and disappointments in life.

Bible students are not left to guess about what God thinks of His people when they complain and gripe about life under the sun and the trials, troubles, and disappointments they face. Who can forget the accounts of Israel’s wanderings in the wilderness and the amazing amount of complaints they uttered against God?

The nation saw the mighty works of God in His deliverance of them from Egyptian bondage and the

provisions He made to feed them during their travels in the wilderness, yet they constantly complained about the hardships of life they faced. Surely, God had confirmed His love for them and His will to provide their needs. Yet they murmured against Him time after time.

First, there was a lack of water when they thought it ought to be provided; then there was the desire and demand for something besides manna; and finally the monotony of quail day after day after day. All of this, as life in general, was a test of their faith and trust in God. Life on a cursed earth and in a world of ungodliness has never been a utopian paradise. Life under the sun has its challenges and its struggles, including sickness, pain, deprivation, and heartaches.

Paul, of all men, faced these and many other hardships (see 2 Corinthians 11:16-28). Yet he was not consumed by them to the point of complaining to God. The apostle was in a prison cell awaiting trial when he wrote: "Do all things without murmuring and questioning" (Philippians 2:14). His point is that despite life's "uneasy pathway" we have hope in Christ that should express itself in "peace that passes all understanding" and "joy unspeakable" (Philippians 4:7; 1 Peter 1:8).

So, brethren, as we offer prayers and make requests of God, let us do it with thanksgiving and eliminate the whining and complaining. Genuine gratitude will and must eliminate and replace grumbling. We have all things through Christ who strengthens us.

~via *The Kirkwood Bulletin*; Kirkwood, Missouri.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

James Adams	Betty Pepper
Lona Jackson	Meredith Parks
Judy Vaughn	Vickie Brown
Helen Blankenship	Betty Pepper
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

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	

Limestone Health Facility:

Frances Bowers, rm. 67	Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 38
Bobby Ogles, rm. 13	Ann Bush, rm. 75
Alice Roberson, rm. 49	

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

Updates:

James Adams is taking some medication and waiting to see a cardiologist ... *Harold Ash* had a PET scan done on Monday and will get the results on December 6th ... *Judy Vaughn's sister-in-law, Jeannie Felker*, is going to a doctor tomorrow in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at Shields & Shields Cancer Center concerning the surgery for growth in the eye... *Priscilla Tucker* received a good report from her PET scan on Monday ... *Helen Blankenship* learned from her heart tests last week that they are going to treat her with therapy. She will be setting that up this week ... *Erwell Smith* completed his round of radiation treatments last week for his cancer... *Tommy Burns* continues being treated for his cancer... Remember our expecting mothers *Lynsey Adams*, and *Laura Adams*, in your prayers.

CARD WRITING: The card writing group will meet Monday morning to write and mail out cards. Please join them in the morning.

BETTYE L. HARRISON (1930 — 2021): It is with great sadness that we note the passing of sister *Bettye Harrison*. Bettye passed away on Tuesday at the Limestone Health facility. Bettye was a very encouraging and sweet lady. She was a longtime member of the Market Street church and always loved the people here. Bettye was always faithful and served in any way she could. The last several years she became limited in what she was able to do. Her health continued to decline to the point that she had to leave her home and live in assisted and healthcare facilities. Bettye’s funeral was Saturday afternoon at the McConnell Funeral Home. Her body was laid to rest in the Roselawn Cemetery. May the Lord bless all of the family of Bettye Harrison at this time.

DOOR TO DOOR: Plans are being made to go out on Saturday morning, December 4th, to knock on doors to meet and invite people to services. We will plan to meet at 10:00 a.m. Hope you can join us.

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.

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: *The Ashes:* *Harold and Barb* are in Indianapolis, Indiana this weekend visiting with family ...*Leah Richardson* has been in Lakeland, Florida with her family for Thanksgiving ...*Christian Usery* is in Nashville working.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for week of November 21st:*

Sunday:	Bible Classes	111
	Morning Worship	150
	Evening Worship	97
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	98



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 28th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Larry Tucker
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord’s Supper	
Presiding.....	Larry Holt
Assisting	Marcus Morris
Serving	Griffin Holt..... Danny Johnson
.....	Heath Dollar Roger Hammonds
Closing Prayer	Tommy Burns

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Stephen Lynn
Prayer.....	Harvey Nixon
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord’s Supper	Larry Holt
Closing Prayer	Roger Hammonds
Other Assignments for the week of November 28 th :	
Ushers.....	Marvin Putman/Danny Holt
Work Sound System.....	Landon Adams

Wednesday, December 1st:

Song Leader	Bob Broadus
Bible Reading	Landon Adams
.....	(John 6:15-21)
Prayer.....	Christian Usery
Invitation	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer	Wayne Vaughn

Sunday, December 5th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Kenneth Smith
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord’s Supper	
Presiding.....	Joel Hamm
Assisting	Larry Tucker
Serving	Keenon Currier..... Marvin Putman
.....	Matthew Vaughn..... Hayden Pierce
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Jerry Baker
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord’s Supper	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer	Dan Reed
Other Assignments for the week of December 5 th :	
Ushers.....	Larry Mitchell/Keith Hinkle
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt