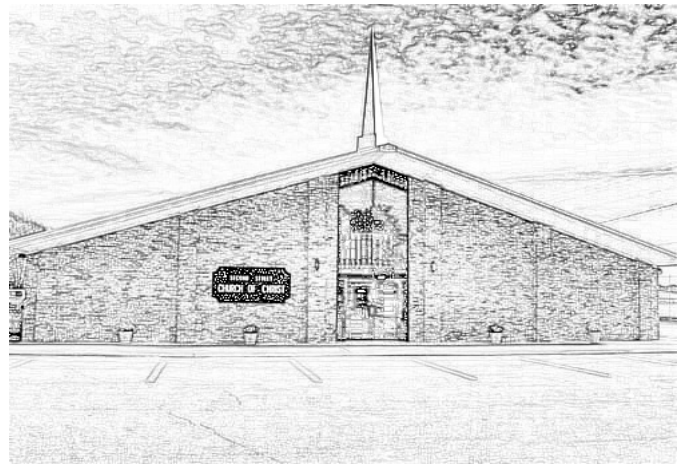


Second Street Church of Christ



February 12, 2017

Love for truth is love for Jesus

MINISTER

Adam Cozort

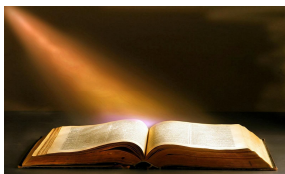
662-663-0231

Office

662-454-9429

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SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Bible Class....9:00am
Sun. Morn. Worship.10:00am
Sunday Evening.....5:00pm
Wed. Evening.....7:00pm

***Endeavoring to keep
the unity of the Spirit
in the bond of peace.
Ephesians 4:3***

We think truth is hard and unpleasant. For the most part, man's truth is exactly that. God's truth, however, is sweet and blessed. It is something to be loved and cherished.

Love for truth is important because it has to do with eternal salvation. Rejecting love for truth results in loss of salvation, 2 Thessalonians 2.10: "They perish because they did not accept the love of the truth in order to be saved" (HCSB).

In the context of this verse, although some things are difficult to understand, several principles appear clearly.

First, the truth can save. This truth is the gospel, the Good News of Christ, Ephesians 1.13; Colossians 1.5-6; Galatians 2.5, 14. It is all that Christ taught and accomplished, especially his suffering on the cross. It is the "doctrine of Christ" 2 John 9-10. So we ought to love the truth, because only it can bring us eternal salvation.

Second, there are forces and influences in the world that want to deceive us and keep us from believing the truth. We ought not to be naive about evil. The devil is the father of lies who does not hold to the truth and who wants to keep others from it as well, John 8.44.

But the Evil One is not more powerful than the Most High. "The Lord will destroy [him] by the breath of his mouth and wipe [him] out by the manifestation of his arrival" 2 Thessalonians 2.8 NET.

At the same time, the devil is able to remove us from the Way, if we permit

*some reject the truth
and will be
condemned as a result*

(Continued on page 2)

Announcements

Welcome Visitors!! You are our honored guest, and we are glad you came our way! We invite you back to our evening services at 5:00 and Wednesday Bible study at 7:00 pm.

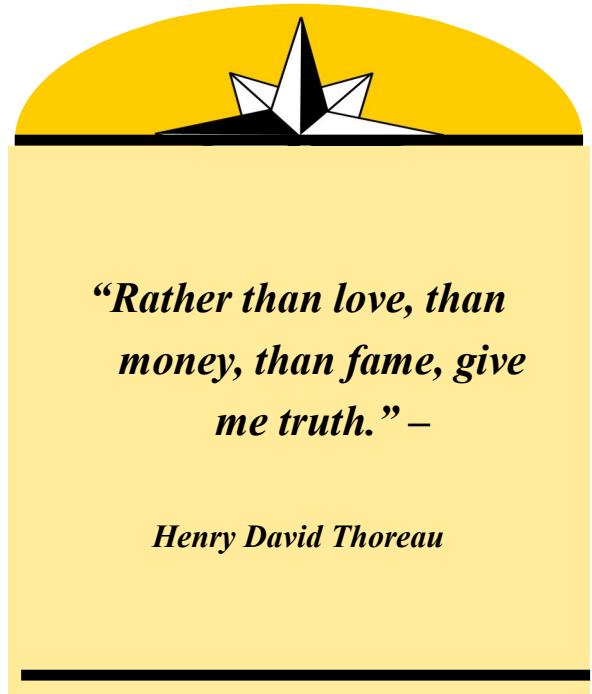
Ladies Fund is due to Rajama.

Monthly Singing hosted by Jeffrey & LaSha Feb 28 at 6:00pm at Higginbottom Family Restaurant in Dennis.

Scripture & Song tonight followed by fellowship meal.

Bear Stuffing Tuesday night.

Valentine Dinner Tuesday night 6:00pm at Wallace's activity building (Belmont Café). The men will be cooking and serving the ladies.



(Continued from page 1)

it. This is why the Scriptures provide constant warnings to watch and to resist temptation.

Third, some reject the truth and will be condemned as a result. God permits people to be deceived. He respects our free will. We must choose, and God respects our choice. To believe a lie means that a person believes that the lie is true. Whoever rejects the truth delights in evil, 2 Thessalonians 2.10.

Fourth, the appropriate response to the truth is faith, 2 Thessalonians 2.12-13. This includes obedience to the gospel, 2 Thessalonians 1.8, for faith is not mere intellectual acceptance of truth, but the committing of life and future to the truth. Faith includes doing the will of God, Matthew 7.21-23, obeying Jesus and doing all that he orders, Hebrews 5.9; Matthew 28.20.

Fifth, today we possess the truth transmitted by Christ's apostles, in their writings, 2 Thessalonians 2.15. No one living today speaks by inspiration. We have the letters of the apostles, the writings of the first-century prophets. In the New Testament is all God's revelation about Christ and the salvation which he accomplished. In his wisdom, God determined that his covenant with man would be preserved by means of a written document, the New Testament.

So how do we have love for the truth? By knowing and living it. By dedication to the reading and study of the Bible. By sharing it with those who still need to hear it. By glorifying God in it, as did our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Because love for the truth is love for Jesus, John 14.6.

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By Whose Standards?

In 1992, Dennis Lee Curtis was arrested for armed robbery in Rapid City, South Dakota. In his wallet, police found a list of rules Curtis had written for himself—guidelines for his robberies. For example, he wrote:

- “I will not kill anyone unless I have to.”
- “I will take cash and food stamps—no checks.”
- “I will not rob mini-marts.”
- “If I get chased by cops on foot, I will get away. If chased by vehicle, I will not put the lives of innocent civilians on the line.”
- “I will rob only seven months out of the year.”
- “I will enjoy robbing from the rich to give to the poor.”

***God’s Word is THE
standard of judgment.***

This may seem odd, but Dennis Lee Curtis was a thief with some standards. But when he stood before the court, the judge did not consult Curtis’ list of rules. He pulled out the laws of the state by which to judge him, by which to convict him. In the same way, when we stand before God, He won’t consult man-made rules and standards. He will judge us by His unchanging Word.

Jesus said, “He who rejects me and does not receive My words has that which judges him; the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day” (John 12:48). Observe: by God’s standards we are ALL guilty of sin. “As it is written; ‘There is none righteous, no, not one’ ...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:10, 23).

But the GOOD NEWS is that God is not only willing to forgive us, He has made a costly Provision for our salvation from sin. “For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

On the cross, Jesus, the Son of God, paid the price for our redemption from sin. “He Himself is the propitiation [or “atoning sacrifice”] for our sins, and not for our sins only but also for the whole world” (1 John 2:2). Those who accept His offer of salvation through obedience, will receive the forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life (Ephesians 1:7; Romans 6:23).

Let’s be sure to live by God’s standards, not our own. For God’s Word is THE standard of judgment.

David R. Sargent

Mobile, AL

Bulletin Digest

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study **9:00am**
Worship **10:00am**
Evening **5:00pm**

Wednesday

Bible Study **7:00pm**

Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is*
for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Psalms 133:1

The process of becoming a Christian is
the same as it was over 2000 years ago!
To become a Christian, one must:

Hear the Gospel - Rom. 10:17

Believe the Gospel - Heb. 11:6

Repent of Sins - Luke 13:3

Confess Christ - Rom. 10:10

Be Immersed Into Christ - Acts 2:38

Live a Faithful Life - Rev. 2:10

None of these alone will make you a
Christian. These commands are from
God and must be obeyed from the heart
to become a Christian.

Prayer List

Paula Wanner	Dianne Vandagriff
Faye Johnson	Cassie Tierce
Phillip Pharr	Elizabeth Posey
Stephanie Moore	Fred Webb
Larry Sartain	Flora Wanner
Carolyn Holcomb	Ellie Sander
Lou Dodson	Shane Stevens
Lynn Sander	Brenda Leatherwood
Tim Denson	Jim Johnson
Debra Brewer	David James
Jimmy Searcy	Aletha Ray
Betty Williams	Tim Thomas
Margie Pharr	Lena Hammett



February Birthdays

Edna 2/3
Johnathan 2/7
Alan 2/11
Wallace 2/11
Larry 2/16
Wendell 2/19

February Anniversaries

Jim & Faye 2/28

Sympathy