# **April 2019**

# MSBC NEWS

## A CONNECTION TO GOD & EACH OTHER

#### Soli Deo Gloria

# From The Pastor

#### **BEWARE OF WHAT YOU WANT TO HEAR**

For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions... (2 Timothy 4:3)

How do they get away with it?

So many scoundrels and abusers have taken over our pulpits and churches. They pervert the Scriptures and teach false doctrine all the while cheating and stealing and abusing those entrusted to their care. And yet, local churches not only allow them, but actually hire and pay them to destroy their souls. How does this keep happening? It seems that after every exposure and attempts at reform, there is a new batch of abusers ready to get to work.

I have heard it said somewhere: "The one constant in all your failed relationships is you." That's meant to be funny, but there is some truth in this and it actually provides insight into the problem of false teachers in the church. What if the problem is not the existence of false teachers, but the demand for false teachers? What if the problem is not them, but you and me? This seems to be what Paul is getting at in 2 Timothy 4:3:

"People...having itching ears...will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions."

In other words, people love false teachers and they hire them to tell them what they want to hear. Furthermore, they do not endure sound teaching because it is not what they want to hear. To help see this more clearly, here is a simple breakdown of the Gospel Message in the Scriptures vs. the popular teaching and preaching of the world and in our churches:

SOUND TEACHING IN SCRIPTURE	POPULAR TEACHING IN THE WORLD
God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – is the Creator and Sustainer of Everything. All things were made by Him and for Him. His is the Power and the Kingdom and the Glory forever. (Matt. 28:18-20; Romans 11:33-36; Col. 1:15-20)	God loves me and has a wonderful plan for my life. Therefore, life is about the pursuit of my dreams. It's about finding my great purpose and my best life now.

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God...There is no one righteous...no one who does good. The heart is deceitfully wicked and I am a great sinner who deserves death and hell for my selfish pride and rebellion. (Romans 3:9-23; Ephesians 2:1-3; Jeremiah 17:9)

People are basically good. I am a good person. I'm not perfect and I make a lot of mistakes, but I have a good heart and I'm trying my best...

There is nothing I can do to escape God's wrath. But out of His great love and mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to die for my sins and conquer death and hell for me. He came to save sinners of whom I am the worst! Jesus has done everything to redeem me and bring me back to God. I am not worthy and can add nothing to what He has done. "Thank you, Lord!" (Rom 5:6-11; 1 Tim. 1:15-17)

I can do whatever I set my mind to. I may not be living the blessed and victorious life that I want, but with a little help from Jesus and my favorite teachers, I can find and apply the secrets that will put me over the top. Jesus is a wise and wonderful friend and a good example, but I'm the one who needs to walk the walk.

If I am to be forgiven and receive eternal life, I don't need to do good works and prove my worth, I must simply repent, renouncing my sinful and selfish ways, and calling on and trusting Jesus as my Lord and Savior. If I do not repent and believe, I will remain condemned and spend eternity in Hell away from the blessed presence of the Lord. (John 3:16-18; Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 10:9-13)

I do not need to repent. God loves me just the way I am. Trusting Jesus is fine, but not necessary. Good people (like me) from any religion or walk of life will get to heaven eventually. Hell, if it exists at all, is only for the really bad people like Hitler and Osama bin Laden and maybe Donald Trump...

As you can see, the Gospel (first column) is indeed good news, but it is also hard news. It forces us to face the bitter truth about ourselves especially in how weak and wicked we really are and how much we need a Great Savior. The second column may ignore the Scriptures and diminish the glory of God and the work of Christ, but it feels so much better and more natural than the first.

What shall we conclude from this exercise? If we are to deal seriously with the plague of false teachers in the world and in our midst, we would do well to first tend to our own ears. In other words, beware of what you want to hear!

God bless,

#### **CHAPEL RENOVATIONS**

If you have any questions or concerns regarding chapel pews and/or the chapel itself, please direct them to...

Ruth Anne Fuller and/or Christine John. We want to make sure all your concerns will be considered!

M. Lack





Please send newsletter articles to our Communications Assist, Dorothy at her special address: <a href="mailto:msbccom37@gmail.com">msbccom37@gmail.com</a>

The deadline for the May newsletter items is Tuesday, April 23, 2019.



**Purpose**: To lead and serve MSBC in worship through music.

Please contact Pastor Michael John for more details – mejohn.msbc@gmail.com or 978-388-0930

# **PRAYER CORNER**

Please contact church office to have your request and/or results printed in the newsletter at 978-388-0930 or email <a href="mailto:msbcsec@verizon.net">msbcsec@verizon.net</a>.

# **American Gospel: In Christ Alone**

All are welcome. Invite family and friends! Sundays, March 31, April 7 and 14 6:00-7:30 pm in Friendship Hall

March 31...The Gospel vs. Moralistic Preaching

April 7...The Gospel vs. Prosperity Preaching (Part I)

April 14...The Gospel vs. Prosperity Preaching (Part II)

## **EASTER SCHEDULE**

#### **PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP**

Sunday, April 14 at 10:00 am

#### **MAUNDAY THURSDAY COMMUNION & MEAL**

Thursday, April 18th from 6:00-8:00 pm

All are welcome to join us for a fully catered meal followed by music and communion together as we commemorate the Last Supper together.

Sign up at church, or call office at 978-388-0930 to let us know how many are attending.

#### **GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER & MEDITATION**

Friday, April 19th from Noon-3:00 pm

The Sanctuary will be open for those who wish to pray and meditate on the Passion of Christ. Feel free to come and go as you please during this time. Scriptures will be read every half-hour.

#### **EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE**

Sunday, April 21 at 6:00 am

Easter worship begins bright and early as we meet at the Jetty at the end of the Salisbury Reservation (Free admission)

#### **EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP & COFFEE HOUR**

Sunday, April 21 at 10:00 am

#### **MEETINGS:**

### April 13, 2019 - Work Day, 9 - 12 pm

(at the Church, help MOD Squad with Spring Spruce up, lunch included)

# **Tuesday Prayer Group**

Meeting on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Tuesdays of the Month

Begins April 16, 23, 30, In Church Library, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

We welcome anyone (man or woman) who is seeking to pray with others or are in need of a prayer for a specific concern. Come as needed.

# April 28, 2019 - Pot Luck Lunch & Quarterly Business Meeting, 12 pm (in Friendship Hall)

April 28, 2019 - Bible Reading Club, 6:00 PM

(at the Church)

# Ongoing:

Wednesdays - Youth Group

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Men's Bible Study 7:00pm	Women's Bible Study 11:00am Youth Group 6-8pm		Bible Study for All 9:00am	
American Gospel 6:00-7:30pm Friendship Hall	<b>&amp;</b>	Men's Bible Study 7:00pm	Women's Bible 10 Study 11:00am Youth Group 6-8pm	11	Bible Study for All 9:00am	Work Day! 9-12pm, lunch included
Palm Sunday 14 Worship 10:00am American Gospel 6:00-7:30pm Friendship Hall	15	Prayer Group 11:30-1pm Men's Bible Study 7:00pm	Women's Bible 17 Study 11:00am NO Youth Group, School Vacation Week	Communion Meal, Please Sign Up 6:00-8:00pm	Bible Study for All 9:00am Prayer & Meditation 12-3pm, Sanctuary	20
Sunrise Service, Salisbury 6:00am Easter Service 10:00am	22	Prayer Group 11:30-1pm Men's Bible Study 7:00pm	Women's Bible 24 Study 11:00am  LAST Youth Group 6-8pm until Sep.	25	<b>26</b> Bible Study for All 9:00am	27
Quarterly Business Meeting 12:00pm Bible Reading Club 6:00pm	29	Prayer Group 11:30-1pm Men's Bible Study 7:00pm	1	2	8	4

# **Nursing Home Ministries**

Amesbury, MA Every Sunday at 9:00 am; Second Wednesday and Third Thursday at 2:30 pm, Merrimack Valley Health Center, 22 Maple Street,

Every Sunday at 1:00 pm, Heritage Towers, 180 Main Street, Amesbury, MA Fourth Wednesday at 3:00 pm, Maplewood Center, 6 Morrill Place, Amesbury, MA Fourth Wednesday at 2:00 pm, Port Center, 113 Low Street, Newburyport, MA For more information on calendar events, please contact Dianne Cole, msbcsec@verizon.net

# MARKET STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

37 Market Street Amesbury, MA, 01913

# NEWSLETTER **April 2019**



**SOLI DEO GLORIA** *TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY* 

# **WORSHIP WITH US**

FIND US

Sunday's at 10:00 - 11:30 am

Cable TV:
ActTV12

Thursdays 4:30 pm & Fridays 9:00 am

Haverhill 22

Sundays at 7:30 am & 5:00 pm

PortMedia 10

Thursdays 4:30 - 6:00pm

Radio:

WSEW 88.7 FM - Sundays 9:00 am "Unchanging Grace" www.wordradio.net

See page 3 for bible studies/small groups.

www.msbcnews.org

**Sermons Archive:** 

www.msbcnews.org/sermons

Facebook: Market Street Baptist Church

**CONTACT US** 

Phone: (978) 388-0930 Rev. Michael John (Pastor) mejohn.msbc@gmail.com

Dianne Cole (Office Admin) msbcsec@verizon.net

**OFFICE HOURS** 

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Friday 11:00 am - 2:00 pm