

# MARKET STREET

*"And this 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

Volume I

July 26, 2009

No. 30

## *Bears Are Always A Warning*

**Chuck Durham**

Several months ago the Attorney General of North Carolina cleared three young men, members of the Duke University Lacrosse team, of all charges of sexual assault. They had been accused of molesting an exotic dancer at a party for team members. There were rounds of relief expressed by the three young men, their parents, and their lawyers. Am I missing something, or are these young men to be feted by all Americans for this sordid affair?

What results were expected when testosterone-laden young men are entertained by an exotic dancer? Has anyone been shocked that they were even at such a party? Is this behavior to be applauded by their parents; by Duke University; and their fellow citizens? Appallingly few condemned it for what it was. One critic on a morning talk show referenced a Dean at Duke University issuing a letter two years prior to this incident stating that the Lacrosse team was a "train wreck waiting to happen." Every time I see something like this, I can't help shaking my head, asking, "What kind of parents did these young men have? What kind of coach-mentors guided these players? And where is the shame and blushing in our culture?"

*Were they ashamed because of the abomination they had done?  
They certainly were not ashamed. And they did not know how to blush... (Jeremiah 8:12)*

In the days of Elisha, on the road passing Bethel, a mob of boys verbally assaulted the prophet with derision and rebellion (2 Kings 2:23f). Elisha pronounced a covenant curse upon them (Leviticus 26:22) and two bears mauled forty-two of them. Tell me, where were their parents? These lads were taunting Elisha, the prophet of the Lord, yet no adult lifted a finger to stop it or condemn it. Please tell me how a society which has descended to such depths can ever recover? That small affair in the days of Israel spoke volumes about the nation's decline and destiny.

Never disregard such events in the life of any nation. They speak

### 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

Albert Bowers.....(256) 233-4847  
Jerry McGlocklin.....(256) 232-7620  
Kenneth Smith.....(256) 233-2050  
Bonnie Sutton.....(256) 232-2081

### Deacons

Marty Adams .....(256) 233-5147  
Rusty Brand .....(256) 233-7343  
Tim Craig .....(256) 233-4597  
Joel Hamm.....(256) 230-6223  
Bobby McGuire .....(256) 232-7887  
Frank Noblitt .....(256) 777-0725  
Stuart Wilson .....(256) 233-6291

### Evangelists

David A. Cox.....(256) 233-8910  
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### Visit Us On The Web

MarketStreet-church.org

### 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*

volumes of its lack of character and honor. To dishonor the prophet of the Lord is to dishonor the Lord Himself. Such action means one could care less for the prophet's word – which was the Lord's word!

Our great God is full of amazing grace and long-suffering. But we had better not make the fatal mistake of taking His grace for granted. Bears are always a warning: the time of grace is running out!

-via *Biblical Insights*; Vol. 9 No. 6; June 2009.



## *Coming In The Clouds*

**Matthew H. Allen**

*Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen.* (Revelation 1:7) The term coming “with the clouds” or “in the clouds” is used throughout the Bible as a symbol of the judgment of God. For example:

It is used in Isaiah 19:1; Ezekiel 30:3; 32:7 as those writers describe God's judgment against Egypt.

It is used in Ezekiel 34:12 to describe God's judgment against Israel.

It is used in Matthew 24:24-30 and Mark 13:24-30 to describe God's judgment against Jerusalem. Jesus would ride in on a “cloud of judgment” against Jerusalem as they (the Jews) had long rejected Him. Mark Stauffer has written, “*When Jerusalem fell, as prophesied by Jesus, the disciples saw in this desolation Jesus coming in the clouds, riding “upon a swift cloud” against Israel, as God had done in Egypt. The great power and glory of Jesus’ heavenly rule from God’s right hand with the rod of His strength and the rod of iron were seen and understood by the disciples.*” (Commentary of Mark, p. 323- 324).

Here in Revelation, John is saying Jesus would come in judgment against the Romans and ultimately He will come to judge all.

All judgment has been given to the Son (John 5:22). In one sense, the expression in Revelation 1:7 points to Jesus' coming against the enemies of the Christians in that time. Those who were persecuting Christians; subjecting them to prison, torture, and death would receive judgment from God. The message John received was intended to give Christians of his day hope! God would not allow the evil actions of their oppressors to go unpunished. I believe this passage also points to His final coming and judgment as evidenced by the rest of the verse. Note:

***Every Eye Shall See.*** There is a cross reference pointing to this phrase: Zechariah 12:10. John refers back to this passage here in Revelation 1 and also in John 19:37. Those who pierced Him would see Him come in judgment. (Some say this was fulfilled with the destruction of Jerusalem, which may be a possibility.) In the final judgment, all who have rejected Christ, persecuted His church, and turned their backs on Him will see Him. Remember, *every knee will bow* (Philippians 2:9-11). Some will bow to Him for His glory; and the majority will bow before Him to their own damnation. (Hailey, p. 103).

This passage also presents a dilemma for the pre-millennialist who insists of a “secret return” of Jesus. Nothing is indicated in this passage that His return will be secret! *all will know* — which parallels 2 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Acts 1:9-11.

***Who are the tribes?*** Could this be Jews; Greeks; and Romans who shared in His rejection and crucifixion? Could it not encompass all who have stood in opposition to His cause?

***There will be some who mourn His return!*** To “mourn” indicates the “beating of the head or breast in lamentation, suggesting a condition of utter hopelessness.” (Hailey, p. 103). Not everyone will be joyous when the Lord returns! John has said: Now, little children, abide in Him, so that when He appears, we may have confidence and not shrink away from Him in shame at His coming (1 John 2:28).

Are you prepared for His return? In Revelation 2:16; 3:11; 22:7; 22:12; 22:30 Jesus said I am coming quickly! At a time ripe for judgment He will come to judge the forces of evil and to defend His own people. Where will you stand on judgment? Obey the gospel today!

-via *New Living*; Brownsburg, Indiana

## *Imitating Christ In Attitude*

**Daniel Bailey**

In Philippians 2:5, the apostle Paul instructs the Christians in Philippi to “let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.” The NIV translates this command a bit more clearly: “Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.” If a person were in a particularly grumpy mood, perhaps complaining about an aspect of their job that grates on their nerves, a co-worker might say, “You need an attitude adjustment.” This common phrase simply means that if the situation were viewed from a different, more objective viewpoint, maybe things wouldn’t seem so bad. That’s what Paul instructs Christians to do; adjust your attitude to imitate that of Christ. We must strive to look at our lives and the situations we find ourselves in through the eyes of Christ; we need to adopt His attitude and outlook.

There are many scriptures to which one could turn to examine the attitude of Jesus in various situations. For example, in John 11, Mary and Martha send word to Jesus that their brother Lazarus is very sick. Christ makes known to His disciples that He will raise Lazarus from the dead (“wake him up”) so that they will believe in Him, and He will be glorified as the Son of God (John 11:4, 11, 14). But even though Jesus knows He has power over death, when he sees Lazarus’ sisters and friends lamenting and weeping over his death, Jesus weeps too. Jesus wept because He was moved with compassion toward the others. In Romans 12:15, the apostle writes: “Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.” Even if the sorrows and stresses that afflict our brethren don’t seem that important to us, we need to adjust our attitudes and always be ready to encourage one another and bear one another’s burdens (Galatians 6:3).

Perhaps most importantly, we need to imitate Jesus’ attitude toward serving God. In John 8:29 Jesus told the Jews that He would only do those things that please the Father. This attitude of humble obedience led Jesus to pray to the Father before He was betrayed, “...not my will, but Thine, be done” (Luke 22:42). Even though Jesus had the power to refuse the will of His Father, pleasing Him was His number one priority, even though it led Him to the cross. God gives all people the free will to make their own choices about

serving Him – we can either accept the entirety of His will, or we can reject it completely; there is no middle ground. There may be some aspects of living for Christ that just don’t thrill you. There may be aspects of worship or serving others that you would rather just leave alone or change to fit your own desires. But if that’s the case, God expects you to improve your attitude. God commands His children to imitate the attitude of Christ, and this includes bending our own will to humbly submit to Him in all things.

-via *Needmore Bulletin*; Haleyville, Alabama.

## *Gospel Meeting*

September 13-17, 2009

Jeff McCrary, Speaking

Market Street church of Christ  
514 West Market Street  
Athens, Alabama

## *News & Notes*

### **THE SICK:**

#### *In The Hospital:*

*Martha Faye Holt*; Athens-Limestone Hosp., rm. 223

*Matt Poff*; Huntsville Hospital

*Thomas Wayne Holt*; Huntsville Hospital, rm. 373

*Crutcher Harbin*; Huntsville Hospital, rm. 408

#### *At Home:*

Raymond Brown

Gwen Bullock

Polly Davis

Yvonne Sherbert

Angela Green

Jeff Waddell

Tony Corsbie

#### *Limestone Health Facility:*

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118

Mary Smith, rm. 85

Christine McGuire, rm. 57

J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E

Lorene Bradford, rm.117

Rosella Pugh, rm. 33

#### *Athens Convalescent Center:*

Betty Bates, rm. 17

#### *Limestone Manor:*

Ruth Owens, rm. 80

**Shut-In:**

Sarah Halbrook, Glade Retirement, Memphis, Tenn.  
Jimmy Killen, at home  
Reba Adams, at home  
Jerry Gilbert; at home  
Majorie Lambert, at home  
Albert & Mary Norton, at home

**MILITARY SERVICE:** Remember all those that are serving on foreign soil in the military for our country. Those who are among us or have connections to the Market Street church are:

- Cody Brown; Iraq
- Brandi Lawrence; Afghanistan
- Joel Smith; Iraq
- Whitney Smith; Japan

**SYMPATHY:** We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Rachel Grubbs** in the passing of her sister, **Mildred Sims**. She passed away on Thursday night. Her funeral will be this afternoon at Spry Funeral Home and her burial in the Roselawn Cemetary.

**OUT OF TOWN:** We have missed a number of our people recently due to their being out of town. Among these include: **Don and Linda Cleek** in Florida... **Lola Colwell** in Texas and Tennessee... **Nancy Abernathy** in Arkansas... **Frank and Ava Noblitt** in Tennessee.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** The **Wooley Springs church** is a beginning meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The speakers are as follows: Sunday morning – **Kasey Harbin**; Sunday evening – **Randall Hammock**; Monday – **Tony Hudson**; Tuesday – **Jeff May**; Wednesday – **Gary Patton**; Thursday – **Paddy Kendall-Ball**; Friday – **Phillips Owens**... The **Cartwright church** is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. **Lowell Sallee** is the speaker in this meeting.

**HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE AGE:** Last night we had our third High School/College Age study. We looked at the “*The Goodness of God*”. Our next study will be August 22nd and we will be looking at “*The Unchangeableness of God*”. Remember these studies and tell others about them.

**THE RECORD:** Attendance – Week of July 19th

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 115  
Morning Worship ..... 148  
Evening Worship..... 115

**Wednesday:** Bible Classes..... 94

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, July 26th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Kenneth Smith  
Song Leader ..... Stuart Wilson  
Prayer ..... Dwain Allfrey  
Preaching ..... Warren Glass  
Lord’s Supper  
Presiding ..... Stuart Wilson  
Assisting ..... Steven Bradley  
Serving ..... Hunter Cox..... Bonnie Sutton  
..... Gilbert Hardy ..... Larry Mitchell  
Closing Prayer ..... Tyler Cox

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Kenneth Smith  
Song Leader ..... Stuart Wilson  
Prayer ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Preaching ..... (Song Service)  
Lord’s Supper ..... Steven Bradley  
Closing Prayer ..... Rusty Brand

Other Assignments for Sunday July 26th:

Usher ..... Danny Johnson  
Work Sound System ..... Tim Craig

**Wednesday, July 29th:**

Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
Bible Reading..... (Proverbs 18:12-24)  
..... Landon Adams  
Prayer ..... Tim Craig  
Invitation ..... David Cox  
Closing Prayer ..... Marion Mitchell

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**Sunday, August 2nd:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Frank Noblitt  
Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
Prayer ..... Kenneth Smith  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord’s Supper  
Presiding ..... Stuart Wilson  
Assisting ..... Steven Bradley  
Serving ..... Hunter Cox..... Bonnie Sutton  
..... Gilbert Hardy ..... Larry Mitchell  
Closing Prayer ..... Marion Mitchell

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Frank Noblitt  
Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord’s Supper ..... Stuart Wilson  
Closing Prayer ..... Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for Sunday August 2nd:

Usher ..... Raymond Brown  
Work Sound System ..... Cory Nelson