

# 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

### 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  
E-mail: david.a.cox@att.net  
Warren Glass.....(256) 233-6086

### 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*

Volume I

September 27, 2009

No. 39

## *When A Young Man Grows Old*

**Mark W. White**

Unless thwarted by the Lord's return, or an "untimely" death, all young people will eventually grow old. Regardless of how many creams and rinses are used, the aging process takes its toll on most members of the human family. Aging is an irreversible part of life, for if you live at all, you get older. The curse of our generation is an inordinate preoccupation with youth. No one wants to be old. At least, no one wants to look old. People do not mind feeling old as much as they detest looking old. But while the human family may take such a grim view of aging, the Bible does not so regard the aged. In fact, a special and significant honor is bestowed on the "hoary head" (Leviticus 19:32; Proverbs 16:31). God enjoins us to "rise before the gray headed and honor the presence of an old man". And "a silver-haired head is a crown of glory, if it is found in the way of righteousness."

When a young man grows old, there are some definite changes which take place. Solomon gives a detailed description of the aging process in Ecclesiastes 12:1-7. Old age is called the "difficult days" in verse one. These days of difficulty are brought through hampering physical maladies which make it hard to really enjoy living. When our hands are racked with arthritis; the legs cease to carry our weight; our teeth are few and brittle; and our eyes grow dim, it is a "difficult" day indeed (verse 3). Even worse, the slightest of noises awakens us and robs our tired bodies of needed rest. Our ability to make melody with a clear, strong voice is gone (verse 4). And we are now frightened easily by heights and are more prone to worry about the dangers in our path. Sexually, we are either powerless or completely devoid of desire. Our physical strength wanes, and even the weight of a "grasshopper" is a burden too heavy (verse 5). In the difficult days of old age, the "silver cord" (nerves) is loosened and the "golden bowl" (brain) is broken, and senility takes hold. The heart and circulatory system is "shattered" and "broken" and death is not far behind (verses 6 and 7). A more complete and graphic description of what happens when a young man grows old has never been penned! But Solomon was not writing to an old man about something he was already

experiencing in his aging body. There would be little value in telling an old man that his dusty frame was returning to the earth. He would know this without being told, being in the midst of the process himself. Solomon addresses the young who are not yet to this point of life. He said to the young, “**Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, before the difficult days come, and the years draw near when you say, ‘I have no pleasure in them’.**”

Solomon addresses the young man before he wastes the precious time of his youth on frivolity. He is hoping that the young man will listen to wisdom and do something constructive with his days of brightness and strength. Solomon urges that the young “**remember**” the Creator, but this involves more than a mere mental recall of God. Consider what God did when He “**remembered**” Hannah (1 Samuel 1:19). God did something for her. He gave her a son. Likewise, the young are to “**remember**” God by serving Him with the strength and vitality of their youth. This will also keep the young man from looking back on his youth with regret, as he remembers how he forgot God and wasted his time with vanities.

To be sure, it does not miraculously become easier to serve God as we get older. In fact, there is no time in life when worldly things automatically lose their appeal. Solomon advises that we get ourselves on target early in life. He labors to get us to see that it is ridiculous to put off commitment to God until later in life. While we may think the young deserve a chance to have their fling with life and settle down to spiritual things later, Solomon teaches just the opposite. In fact, age may work against us in our struggle to shun the world and obey God. And when we look back on a youth misspent - what a sad, empty, haunting gaze it will be.

-via *College View Columns*; Florence, Alabama

## Radio Program

### Every Sunday Morning

on WVNN – 770AM

8:30 a.m. - 9:00

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

## *Sold On The Gospel*

George Hutto

Don't you love it when you are absolutely sold on something? A car, a house, an idea, when you have absolutely no reservation about being in “over your head” - one hundred percent, hands down, no question, no second place, hook-line-and-sinker! That's the way it was for Ruth concerning her mother-in-law and Naomi's way of life.

“Entreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God; Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried; the LORD do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me” (Ruth 1:16-17). Whatever the Moabite life-style had to offer held no sway when compared to the Lord's way - no contest. Ruth was sold.

Oh, that all would be **sold on Jesus Christ and the gospel!** When King Agrippa explained that he was almost persuaded to become a Christian by Paul's exuberant proclamation of his own conversion, Paul said, “I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds” (Acts 26:29). The apostle was sold on surrendering to Jesus Christ, and he would eagerly sell others on the gospel! No apologies. No reservations. His former life respectability meant nothing when he considered what Christ had to offer! (Philippians 3). He was “gone.”

Another apostle, Peter, a witness of the resurrected Christ, was **sold on the Christian life.** After listing the “Christian graces,” he said, “Give diligence to make your calling and election sure; for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall; for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 1:10-11). He said, “*For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles - when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries*” (1 Peter 4:3).

The moral purity, the manners of the Golden Rule, the discipline, the high calling of Christ were the only possibilities for Peter. “Yet if any man suffer as a

Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf” (1 Peter 4:16). Fiery trials could not deter him. He had no time for anything other than the Lord’s business.

The apostles were **sold on the church**. It was “the fullness of Him who fills all in all” - the culmination of God’s plans through the ages (Ephesians 1:23; 3:9-11). Jesus had said that the greatest prophet was less than the least in the kingdom (Matthew 11:11), that the church would withstand the very gates of Hell (Matthew 16:18). It was purchased by the blood of Christ (Acts 20:28); the aggregate of all the saved (Acts 2:47); the “body of Christ.”

To persecute the church was to persecute Christ (Acts 9:4); 1 Corinthians 15:9), therefore, to be committed to Christ was to be committed to the church - as the apostles were.

Its members must be pure (1 Corinthians 5) Its worship must be sincere and scriptural (1 Corinthians 1). Its leadership must be above reproach. (1 Timothy 3; Titus 1). Its mission is nothing less than God ordained. (Matthew 28:18-20) Its members must conform their very way of thinking for its advancement. (Romans 12:1-2) They must be sold!

The church is the pearl of great price which members must be willing to buy at the cost of everything and anything (Matthew 13:46). No regrets. No turning back (Luke 9:62).

The apostles were also **sold on the doctrines**. When Paul was confronted with the notion of adding Jewish compromises to simple gospel obedience, he said, “To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the truth of the gospel might continue with you” (Galatians 2:5). John wrote, “We are of God; he that knoweth God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error” (1 John 4; 6). Peter warned “...Beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from our own steadfastness” (2 Peter 3:17).

They knew the truth and its saving power (John 32-32), and they were sold on it! No compromises. No additions. No subtractions (Revelation 22:18-19). Christ’s doctrines, or none (Galatians 1:6-9).

Some things are sacred and unworthy of a price tag: the welfare of our children, a woman’s virtue, and the

power of public service. For this reason we have laws against the exploitation of children, prostitution, and the selling of public office. We will never go wrong investing in sacred things. Of the fruit of the Spirit the Bible says, “Against such there is no law” (Galatians 5:23).

Jesus said, “For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?” (Matthew 16:26). Investing in the profane will cost a person his or her soul. It is a fool’s game.

Here are the things a person can dive into “*head first*”: the gospel, the church, the Christian life, and the doctrines. These things are sacred.

Imagine bidding at an auction with no limit on your bidding. The high bid will always be the winner with God’s business (Matthew 19:29-30). Bid confidently. Don’t hesitate. Never look back.

God already has your number.

-via *Tidings*, Russellville, Alabama

## News & Notes

### THE SICK:

#### *In The Hospital:*

*Bayless Romine*; HealthSouth - Huntsville, rm. 203

*Heather Adams*; St. Jude - Memphis, Tenn.

#### *At Home:*

Polly Davis

Lola Colwell

Bernice Thomas

Wayne Garner

Tim Dean

James Craig

Molly Weeks

Marie Welden

Matt Poff

Tony Corsbie

Jeff Waddell

Henrietta Word

#### *Athens Convalescent Center:*

Betty Bates, rm. 17

#### *Limestone Health Facility:*

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118

Albert Norton, rm. 111

Gladys Johnson, rm. 112

Mary Norton, rm. 111

Lorene Bradford, rm. 117

J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E

Rosella Pugh, rm.

Mary Smith, rm. 85

*Limestone Manor:*

Ruth Owens, rm. 80

*Shut-In:*

Sarah Halbrook, Glade Retirement, Memphis, Tenn.

Jimmy Killen, at home

Reba Adams, at home

Majorie Lambert, at home

Jerry Gilbert, 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:

Brandi Lawrence; Afghanistan

Joel Smith; Iraq

Whitney Smith; Japan

**WORK GROUPS:** Tonight is the night for Work Group 4 to meet. If this is your group, remember to meet with your group tonight following our evening service.

**HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE STUDY:** Last night we continued our High School/College Studies. We will have other studies on October 17th and November 14th. We are studying "God's Purpose For Me".

**NURSERIES AVAILABLE:** There are two nurseries available for those who will need them. One is in the west wing and the other in the east wing.

**BIBLE CLASS QUARTER:** Beginning next Sunday, we will begin a new quarter in our Bible classes. There will be a new curriculum for the children's classes. Also, there will be a class "Bible 101" taught by *Rusty Brand* which will meet on Sunday mornings in Room 22. Also, the **ladies class** will resume with *Linda Cleek* teaching it. The auditorium classes will continue on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. On Sunday morning, *Warren Glass* will be teaching the epistle of **James**. On Wednesday evening, *David Cox* will be teaching the book of **Acts**.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** The *Chapman Acres church* in Huntsville is engaged in a gospel meeting this week through Wednesday. *Allen Dvorak* will be the speaker.

**THE RECORD:** Attendance – Week of September 20th

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 121

Morning Worship ..... 147

Evening Worship..... 112

**Wednesday:**

Bible Classes..... 104

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, September 27th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Kenneth Smith  
Song Leader ..... Jack Cannon  
Prayer ..... Frank Noblitt  
Preaching ..... Warren Glass  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Assisting ..... Joel Hamm  
Serving ..... Tyler Cox ..... Delmer Carter  
..... Raymond Brown ..... Cory Nelson  
Closing Prayer ..... Tyler Cox

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Kenneth Smith  
Song Leader ..... Jack Cannon  
Prayer ..... Frank Noblitt  
Preaching ..... Song Service  
Lord's Supper ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Closing Prayer ..... Landon Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday September 27th:

Usher ..... Marty Adams  
Work Sound System ..... Tim Craig

**Wednesday, September 30th:**

Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
Bible Reading ..... (Proverbs 21:21-31)  
..... Danny Johnson  
Prayer ..... Joel Hamm  
Invitation ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Closing Prayer ..... Wayne Vaughn

**Sunday, October 4th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer ..... Bonnie Sutton  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Kenneth Smith  
Assisting ..... Rusty Brand  
Serving ..... Ronnie Locke ..... Tim Craig  
..... Hunter Cox ..... Delmer Carter  
Closing Prayer ..... Dwain Allfrey

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper ..... Kenneth Smith  
Closing Prayer ..... Wayne Vaughn

Other Assignments for Sunday October 4th:

Usher ..... Russ Wulfekuhl  
Work Sound System ..... Cory Nelson