

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

Volume I

November 22, 2009

No. 47

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

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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

Do Miracles Occur Every Day?

Leon Mauldin

What does the Bible teach regarding miracles? Is it true, as some claim, that miracles are happening every day?

In reality, even during Bible times miracles did not occur “every day.” Miraculous activities for the most part were confined to certain periods of Biblical history. These included the miracles of the creation week. Then when Israel was in Egyptian bondage, God sent the 10 plagues, caused Israel to cross the Red Sea on dry land, fed them with manna, and on occasion, also miraculously gave them water. Later, the ministries of the prophets Elijah and Elisha were characterized by numerous miracles.

The next “cluster” of miracles was during the ministry of Christ, and finally, during the establishment and spread of the church (Acts). Obviously then, miracles were not “evenly distributed” over the centuries of Biblical history, but rather were used by God only at certain times, to meet unique needs, and to accomplish specific purposes.

Among the many miracles Jesus performed we read of His healing the man with an amputated ear by simply touching him (Luke 22:50-51). Honestly, do you see that every day or any day? When there was a great tempest in the sea of Galilee, Jesus “rebuked the waves and the sea and there was a great calm” (Matthew 8:23-26). On another occasion, on that same sea, Jesus came unto His disciples walking on the water (Matthew 14:26). Jesus miraculously fed 5,000 men plus women and children with five loaves and two fish (Matthew 15:32-39). There are three recorded occasions where Jesus raised the dead. These include the only son of the widow of Nain (Luke 7:11-17), Jairus’ daughter (Matthew 9:18-26) and Lazarus (John 11).

These are but a few, a very few of the miracles Jesus did. The purpose of Jesus’ miracles is stated in John 20:30-31: “And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.” That

purpose has been accomplished.

Further, Mark gives us insight into the purpose of the miraculous when he writes, “And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs” (Mark 16:20). Reference is made to the salvation which began to be spoken by the Lord, “and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts or the Holy Spirit, according to His own will” (Hebrews 2:3-4).

The purpose of the miraculous then was to reveal and to confirm the word of God. There was a time limitation on the miraculous. Gifts such as tongues, prophesy and knowledge (miraculous) would cease (1 Corinthians 13:8-10) with the completion of the revelation. God’s powers have not ceased. His presence and glory are evidenced all around us. We are abundantly blessed by Him (Acts 14:17; James 1:17). He hears and answers prayer (James 5:16). When the revelation of truth was completed, and had been fully confirmed, the miraculous ceased, having accomplished its purpose.

-via *Bible Study*; Hanceville, Alabama



Pleasing The Pharisees

Dan S. Shipley

“Nevertheless even of the rulers many believed on Him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess it, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the glory of men more than the glory that is of God” (John 12:42-43).

“**Even of the rulers**” - even among the elite Sanhedrin were many who believed on Christ. Speculation about whether they actually believed only reflects on the skeptic’s faith, not the rulers’. God said they believed and for believers, that’s enough. But “they did not confess it”, and herein lies their great sin. It was not so much what they did as what they failed to do. Their faith indicates knowledge. They knew, yet still would not confess and follow Christ. Why? What power, what

influence could be so compelling as to cause believers to turn their backs on the Savior and salvation? We are not left to wonder.

It was “**because of the Pharisees.**” The One who knows all hearts shows their weakness as loving the glory of men more than the glory of God. To them, getting along with men (gaining their favor and avoiding their disfavor) had priority over pleasing God. These were not men to allow such things as truth and right to interfere with their religion! While these Pharisees no longer exist as a religious sect, they are still very much in evidence as they represent those who men strive to please more than God. “Because of the Pharisees” many of all ages have proved themselves to be as these rulers - found wanting at a crucial time; succumbing to pressures and circumstances.

Accordingly, we read of many Old Testament characters who were influenced “because of the Pharisees”. Even Abraham lied, calling Sarah his sister to avoid the disfavor of king Abimelech (Genesis 20). Aaron yielded to demands for an idol saying “thou knowest the people, that they are set on evil” (Exodus 32:22). King Saul disobeyed the commandments of God because he “feared the people, and obeyed their voice” (1 Samuel 15:24).

“Because of the Pharisees” Pilate delivered up Christ to be crucified, “wishing to content the multitude” (Mark 15:15). It was for the same reason that Peter followed Christ from afar, denied Him with cursing and swearing and said, “I know not the man”. He later showed the same weakness in Antioch by withdrawing from the Gentiles, “fearing them that were of the circumcision” (Galatians 2:12).

Fear and favor of the “Pharisees” continues to flavor the religion of many. It has influenced the revision and updating of Catholic and denominational creeds. It promotes watered-down preaching and encourages the “fear of offending” phobia. As the rulers, many have learned the way of truth, but “because of the Pharisees” will not embrace it. Even among the brethren are some who prefer to stay with the “synagogue” rather than to stand for what they know to be right. No “Pharisee” should be allowed to determine where I shall spend eternity! “For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men?...”

-via *Pause-Ponder-Profit*; Paragould, Arkansas.

Lessons From A Leper

Zack Lee

Naaman was a very successful man. He was commander of the Syrian army, held in high esteem in the eyes of his king, a victorious general, and a mighty man of valor. However, he had leprosy. His story can be found in 2 Kings 5.

Naaman heard through a young slave girl that there was a prophet in Israel that could cure him of his leprosy. As we read the account of how Naaman sought a cure for his leprosy, we can learn some important lessons about how to cleanse ourselves from an even worse disease, sin.

Naaman thought his healing could be purchased.

When Naaman was given permission from the king of Syria to go to Israel he went “taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothes” (2 Kings 5:5). He obviously thought that he could purchase his healing from someone in Israel.

Like Naaman, we cannot purchase our healing for sin. A price had to be paid to redeem us from our sins, “not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot” (1 Peter 1:18-19). We can never purchase our salvation. Only through the blood that was shed on the cross can we be healed.

Naaman had a preconceived idea of how his healing would take place.

Naaman said to himself, “Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the Lord his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper” (2 Kings 5:1). When Elisha sent a messenger out to tell Naaman to go and dip in the Jordan River seven times and he would be healed he became furious. He thought his own plan for healing was better than Elisha’s.

When it comes to our own healing from sin we must not come to God with our preconceived ideas of how that healing should take place. We must not approach God’s word seeking to justify what we currently believe. We must seek to know God’s word and submit to His will.

Naaman tried to substitute his own terms of obedience instead of the Lord’s.

Naaman did not want to wash in the Jordan River. He asked, “Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage” (2 Kings 5:12).

We do not have the liberty to substitute our own doctrines in the place of God’s plain teaching. Only when we are obedient to His commands will we receive God’s blessings.

Finally, Naaman humbly obeyed the Lord’s instructions.

Naaman could not see any logical connection between dipping in the Jordan River and being cleansed from his leprosy, but he obeyed. When Naaman chose to be obedient he was healed.

A believer in Christ may not see any logical connection between being baptized in water and having his sins washed away. However, we must accept God’s word. Paul was told to “arise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name” (Acts 22:16). It is God who saves us when we choose to obey Him. Obedience has its reward cleansing us from our sins.

Will you learn these lessons?

-via *The Manslick Road Speaker*, Louisville, Kentucky

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Come and Join Us As We Study Together

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

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

Bayless Romine; Valley View Rehab. - Madison
Heather Adams; St. Jude - Memphis, Tenn.

Irene Daniel, Athens Hospital, sister of Ronnie Locke

At Home:

Polly Davis	Rachel Grubbs
Bernice Thomas	Yvonne Sherbert
Gladys Johnson	Lola Colwell
Henritta Word	Marie Welden
Thomas Lovell	Molly Weeks
Jeff Waddell	Wayne Garner
Bobby McGuire	

We want to extend our sympathy to the family of Jimmy Killen and to the family of Christine George.

Athens Convalescent Center:

Betty Bates, rm. 17

Limestone Health Facility:

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118	J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E
Bobbie Adcock, rm. 118	Mary Smith, rm. 85
Lorene Bradford, rm.117	Rosella Pugh, rm. 83

Limestone Manor:

Albert & Mary Norton, rm. 96

Limestone Lodge:

Ruth Owens, rm. 12

Shut-In:

Sarah Halbrook, Glade Retirement, Memphis, Tenn.
Jimmy Killen, at home
Reba Adams, at home
Majorie Lambert, at daughter's 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

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.

THE RECORD: Attendance – Week of November 15th

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 136
Morning Worship 159
Evening Worship.....

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, November 22nd:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Joel Hamm
Song Leader	Jerry McGlocklin
Prayer	Frank Noblitt
Preaching	Warren Glass
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Marty Adams
Assisting	Marion Mitchell
Serving	David Terry..... Marvin Putman
.....	Landon Adams..... Cory Nelson
Closing Prayer	Tommy Burns

Evening Worship

Announcements	Joel Hamm
Song Leader	Jerry McGlocklin
Prayer	Nathaniel Adams
Preaching	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Marion Mitchell
Closing Prayer	Rusty Brand

Other Assignments for Sunday November 22nd:

Usher	Dwaine Allfrey
Work Sound System	Marty Adams

Wednesday, November 25th:

Song Leader	Tyler Cox
Bible Reading.....	(Proverbs 24:23-34)
.....	Stuart Wilson
Prayer	Tim Craig
Invitation	Jack Cannon
Closing Prayer	Dwaine Allfrey

Sunday, November 29th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Kenneth Smith
Song Leader	Stuart Wilson
Prayer	Rusty Brand
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Frank Noblitt
Assisting	Jerry McGlocklin
Serving	Hunter Cox..... Danny Johnson
.....	Cory Nelson..... Chris Sides
Closing Prayer	Marion Mitchell

Evening Worship

Announcements	Kenneth Smith
Song Leader	Stuart Wilson
Prayer	Tyler Cox
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Frank Noblitt
Closing Prayer	Landon Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday November 29th:

Usher	Bonnie Sutton
Work Sound System	Tim Craig