

# 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

### 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 R. Adams ..... (256) 233-5147  
Rusty Brand ..... (256) 233-7343  
Tim Craig ..... (256) 233-4597  
Joel Hamm ..... (256) 230-6223  
Bobby McGuire ..... (256) 232-7887  
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.com

## 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 II

March 28, 2010

No. 13

## Great Peace

Bill Feist

The longest chapter in the Bible (Psalm 119) is a song of praise to the word of God. Nearly every verse makes mention of the word of God. Every verse contains either praise of God's word from some excellent quality of it; or a protestation of David's unfeigned affection towards it; or the desire of David to conform himself to it.

This psalm is a prolonged meditation upon the excellence of the word of God. It is the fruit of deep experience, careful observation, and earnest meditation by its author. Consider the shepherd boy David as he cares for the sheep. At night, when they are bedded down, David must have surveyed the starry skies and contemplated the Scriptures. Here is a psalm that reveals his great love for God's word as he rolled it over and over again in his mind. What David does in this psalm is much the same as a young lady in love. She often sits and dreams of the future. As she thinks, she may write the various ways her name can be joined with that of her future husband. If you have ever done such a thing, you can identify with what David does in the psalm; only the object of David's affection is God's word.

Among the many wonderful thoughts contained in the psalm is verse 165, "Great peace have they which love thy law; and nothing shall offend them." This verse touches on a subject near to the heart of each of us: "peace." But what kind of peace is the psalmist speaking of here? Is it "world peace"? This is a constant concern of each of us. How many prayers are offered to God in which we pray that we might be able to live "a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty" (1 Timothy 2:2)? Yet, world peace is not the author's concern. Is it "peace" in our homes? An honest look at our homes reminds us that many families are in trouble and know no peace. The divorce statistics speak loudly about homes without peace in them. The "generation gap" between parents and young people where arguments rage or isolation exists likewise speaks of little peace in a home. But this is not it. Could it be "internal peace"? Once again, many people know no peace in their own lives, as the rising suicide statistics manifest; but this is not it. What "peace" is

it? It is “peace with God!” Once we have this peace, it enables us as much as possible to be at peace with all men (Romans 12:18), maintain peace in our families as we follow God's way (Ephesians 5:21-6:4), and to have peace with ourselves (Romans 8:1).

We need to note that his peace cannot be separated from loving God's law. We are not going to find the peace spoken of here in human wisdom, philosophy, psychology, sociology, etc. “Great peace” is revealed only in God's word—the last place some people even begin to think of looking for it. The God who made us knows what great peace is and how it can be attained and maintained.

What connection does “and nothing shall offend them” (the possessors of this great peace) have to do with this thought? The “offend” here means to stumble or to fall away from the faith; to apostatize. The thought is: those who possess this great peace of God will not allow anything to cause them to stumble or fall away from the faith. These properly evaluate the “great peace” of God and refuse to relinquish it for any reason. When we fully appreciate the value of God's great peace we will be faithful unto death (Revelation 2:10).

Satan will attempt to persuade us that God's “great peace” is not so valuable. In the parable of the sower, Jesus proclaims that those who are “wayside soil” never come to understand the value of the great peace of God in the first place. They dismiss it and the devil catches away the word immediately lest they believe and be saved. The “rocky soil” see the value of the great peace and embraces it, but “in time of temptation falls away” (Luke 8:13). The “thorny soil” are they which go forth and “are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life” (Luke 8:14). Do you see that the “rocky and thorny soil” stumbled at the offerings of Satan? They decided it was not worth it to be a faithful Christian and fell away. Their root problem was that they did not properly evaluate the great peace of God. The faithful Christian faces the same problems along the road of life as did the others, but he understands the value of God's great peace and brings forth fruit with patience (Luke 8:15).

How is it in your life? Are you someone who once embraced the great peace of God, but have turned again to the world? You need to consider the great peace of God; nothing in this world can compare to it (Matthew 16:26). If you are faithfully serving the Lord, one of

the reasons why you are doing so is because, “Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.”

-via *New Living*, Brownsburg, Indiana.

## *Before We Criticize*

**Heath Rogers**

There are times when mistakes are made and things need to be pointed out. And, unfortunately, we all know that offering criticism can sometimes make a bad situation even worse. Serious thought needs to go into what we will say. Maybe it would help if we would ask the following questions before offering criticism:

### **1. Why am I doing this?**

Do I really want to help this person, or am I just doing this to make myself feel better? Am I trying to improve the situation, or do I just want to say, “I told you so”? What is my motive? “Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others” (Philippians 2:3-4). Regardless of what the world believes, we don't have the right to let off some steam at the expense of another. Criticism that is only going to make us feel better needs to be kept to ourselves.

### **2. Do I have a right to criticize?**

Was I available when this person could have used some help before? Can I sympathize with what they are going through? Can I offer some positive suggestions to go along with the criticism? Some people like to just sit on the sidelines and criticize the labors of others. Such people really have no right to criticize.

### **3. Have I examined myself?**

It is not right for me to give criticism that I am not willing to take. Jesus says that I must make sure that the log is out of my eye first, then I can offer to help my brother get the speck out of his eye (Matthew 7:3-5). Criticism is respected when it comes from a respectable person, but no one appreciates a hypocrite.

### **4. What will I say, and how will I say it?**

This is very important. I must choose my words

very carefully. They have the power to build up or to destroy (Proverbs 12:18; 16:24). As Paul said, "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt" (Colossians 4:6). What we say, and the way we say it, will make all the difference in the world.

### 5. Will it glorify God?

"Therefore whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31). Whose glory am I seeking? Am I saying something to help the cause of Christ or just to be heard? If it is just to be seen and heard by men, then truly I have my reward (Matthew 6:1-6).

-via *New Living*; Brownsburg, Indiana

## *Are You A Winner or A Loser?*

**W. Frank Walton**

The apostle John writes to Christians who were having their faith assaulted by a liberal religious philosophy called "Gnosticism." These arrogant, elite religious teachers taught that special, secret "knowledge" was the key to a relationship with God. These false teachers defected from the faithful church (1 John 2:19), confidently denying the reality of Jesus' fleshly incarnation and the need for loving obedience to God's moral laws (1 John 2:4, 18-27; 3:7-10; 4:1-4).

Yet, despite all this, John assures us that one true believer in the Lord can defeat the entire world arrayed against us! "...*this is the victory that has overcome the world - our faith*" (1 John 5:4). If we are in Christ by obedient faith and then Christ is in us, the odds against us do not count! Faith connects us to the power and blessing of the eternal God who has infinite resources (Philippians 4:13, 19). Jesus and I are majority anywhere. Satan and his henchmen are doomed. With Christ, we will always win the everlasting victory (Romans 8:37)!

So, don't let evil or discouraging problems defeat you. Look up by faith and draw closer to Jesus, who is our ever present source of help and encouragement. Let His Word abide in you and strengthen your confidence (1 John 2:14). He's Lord of all, and we share in His spiritual victory!

-via *The Hueytown Bulletin*; Hueytown, Alabama.

# *News & Notes*

## **THE SICK:**

### *In The Hospital:*

*Raymond Brown*; Huntsville Hospital, rm. 664

### *At Home:*

Martin Casteel	Janet Berryhill
Robert Beasley	Jerry Gilbert
Gladys Johnson	Harold Hays
Evelyn Hays	Polly Davis
Lola Colwell	Bobbie Adcock
Molly Weeks	Janet Jones
Jeff Waddell	Jeff Bates
Thomas Lovell	Marie Welden
Ruth Lawson	Buddy Lawson

### *Athens Convalescent Center:*

Betty Bates, rm. 17

### *Limestone Health Facility:*

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118	Rosella Pugh, rm. 74
Marjorie Lambert, rm. 91	J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E
Bernice Thomas, rm. 98	Mary Smith, rm. 85

### *Limestone Manor:*

Albert & Mary Norton, rm. 96

### *Limestone Lodge:*

Ruth Owens, rm. 12W

### *Shut-In:*

Sarah Halbrook, Glade Retirement, Memphis, Tenn.  
Reba Adams, at home  
Mary Coggins, 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:

Joel Smith; Iraq  
Whitney Smith; Japan

**WORK GROUPS:** This evening, following our evening worship service, will be the time for Work Group 4 to meet. If you are in group four, remember to meet with your group this evening.

**ROBERT ALLEN TINNON 1925-2010:** It is with sadness that we report the passing of brother *Robert Allen Tinnon*. He passed away Wednesday afternoon at Athens-Limestone Hospital. Brother Tinnon was a longtime member of the Market Street church. He loved the church at Market Street and was an encouragement

to the work. We want to express our deepest sympathy to sister *Ruby Jean Tinnon* and *all of brother Tinnon's family*. His funeral was Saturday morning at Limestone Chapel. His burial was in the Roselawn cemetery.

**OUR MEETING:** Our Gospel Meeting with *Buc Chumbley* preaching is just three weeks away. There are some invitation cards at each exit for you to take and give to those that you invite or some invitations with an envelope to send. Buc will be speaking on the theme of "Reasoning From The Scriptures". The lessons will be as follows:

- Sunday 9:45 a.m. "Let My People Go"
- Sunday 10:30 a.m. "What Does The Lord Require?"
- Sunday 5:00 p.m. "To Seek and Save The Lost"
- Monday 7:00 p.m. "My Sin Is Always Before Me"
- Tuesday 7:00 p.m. "To Know The Love of Christ"
- Wednesday 7:00 p.m. "Christ Lives In Me"
- Thursday 7:00 p.m. "We Have Hope In Christ"

The next couple of weeks, we will start going out in the evenings and Saturday and Sunday afternoons to invite people to our meeting. If you would like to help with this effort, let me know.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** The *College Place church* in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *David Thomley*. The *Anderson church* in Anderson is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Thursday evening with *Gary Smalley* speaking.

**NURSING HOME SINGING:** Remember the singing at the Athens Convalescent Center on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

**SINGING CLASS:** The singing class will be meeting this afternoon at 4:00 in the small auditorium on the west wing.

**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 March 14th

**Sunday:**

- Bible Classes..... 114
- Morning Worship ..... 146
- Evening Worship..... 105

**Wednesday:**

- Bible Classes..... 101

**Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.**

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, March 28th:**

*Morning Worship*

- Announcements .....Jerry McGlocklin
- Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox
- Prayer ..... Dwaine Allfrey
- Preaching .....David Cox
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding ..... Monroe Pressnell
- Assisting ..... Kenneth Smith
- Serving ..... David Terry ..... Landon Adams
- ..... Jonathan Keenon .... Bonnie Sutton
- Closing Prayer ..... Hunter Cox

*Evening Worship*

- Announcements .....Jerry McGlocklin
- Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox
- Prayer ..... Keenon Currier
- Preaching ..... Song Service
- Lord's Supper ..... Kenneth Smith
- Closing Prayer ..... Lifford Smith

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 28th:

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

**Wednesday, March 31st:**

- Song Leader ..... Marion Mitchell
- Bible Reading..... (Ecclesiastes 2:1-11)
- ..... Landon Adams
- Prayer ..... Marty Adams
- Invitation ..... Stuart Wilson
- Closing Prayer ..... Dwaine Allfrey

**Sunday, April 4th:**

*Morning Worship*

- Announcements .....Joel Hamm
- Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns
- Prayer ..... Marion Mitchell
- Preaching .....David Cox
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding ..... Wayne Vaughn
- Assisting ..... Rustry Brand
- Serving ..... Mark Rogers ..... Tyler Cox
- ..... Tim Craig ..... Marion Pepper
- Closing Prayer ..... Jonathan Keenon

*Evening Worship*

- Announcements .....Joel Hamm
- Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns
- Prayer ..... Landon Adams
- Preaching ..... Warren Glass
- Lord's Supper ..... Wayne Vaughn
- Closing Prayer ..... Stuart Wilson

Other Assignments for Sunday, April 4th:

- Usher ..... Russ Wulfekuhl
- Work Sound System ..... Danny Johnson