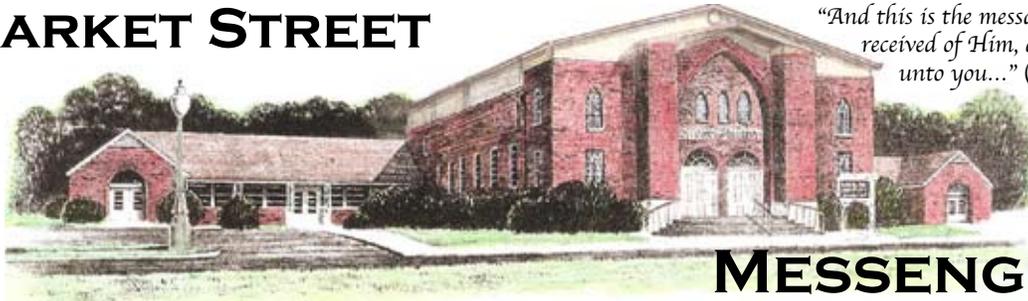


MARKET STREET

"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

April 11, 2010

No. 15

Building According To The Pattern

David A. Cox

All will admit that seamstresses and carpenters need a reliable pattern or blue print to sew or build by. Not only is this true in the physical realm, but is of eternal importance in the spiritual realm. Jeremiah said, "It is not in man that walketh to direct his own steps" (Jeremiah 10:23). Man is not to go out on his own to try to please God, but is to look to God's divine pattern in God's word.

When thinking about building according to God's pattern, remember Moses when he was about to build the tabernacle. He was admonished "to build all things according to the pattern" (Exodus 25:40). The Hebrew writer reminds the New Testament Christians to take heed and build according to the pattern as Moses did in the Old Testament (Hebrews 8:4-5). As Moses followed the instructions of God, we too should heed the instructions God has given to us in His word and "build according to the pattern."

When building according to the pattern, we look to the word of God and continue steadfastly in the things that are either commanded, necessarily inferred, or given to us as an example. Those who follow the same pattern or blue print will produce the same product, but if one alters the pattern or blueprint, the products may be similar, but not alike. In the spiritual realm it is the same way. If we are following the word of God and not altering it in any way, then the way in which we serve God will be the same as the New Testament Christians.

In thinking about this, notice what the pattern is for the worship of the church.

Singing: The church sang (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16; Hebrews 2:12; 1 Corinthians 14:15; etc.). As we assemble together in worship to God we simply sing as the pattern says. We do not play or perform, but together we lift up our voices in song.

Giving: The church was commanded to give (1 Corinthians 16:2). This giving was to be done when they gathered together on the first day

of the week. Giving was to be as every man prospered, purposed, and was to be given cheerfully (1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7).

Prayer: The pattern for worship in the New Testament church involved prayer (Acts 2:42; Hebrews 4:16; Colossians 1:9; Philippians 4:6). Making our requests and petitions to the Lord is to be a continual state of mind and is very much a part of the worship of the New Testament church. The same is true today of a church following the New Testament pattern (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

The Lord's Supper (Communion): The pattern for partaking of the Lord's supper in the New Testament church (1 Corinthians 10:16) and it is to be done on the "first day of the week" (Acts 20:7). It was taken in remembrance of the death of Christ (1 Corinthians 11:23-30). The Lord's death is to be remembered every first day of the week in this memorial supper that He instituted (Luke 22:1, 18-20). The Lord's supper is not just a rite that is done on special occasions, or once a quarter or once a year, but every first day of the week.

Preaching: When the church assembled together for worship, the gospel was preached to convict and encourage them (Acts 20:7; 18:11). This again is important for a church that is following the New Testament pattern. Time is not to be spent in politics and social issues, but in "preaching Christ and him crucified" (1 Corinthians 2:2).

There is a pattern for worship in the New Testament church. If it is changed based upon what I want or like, then I fail to be following the pattern of the New Testament church and I am not a part of a New Testament church.

The same could be said of the other patterns concerning the New Testament church; the membership of the church (Acts 2:38, 47; Galatians 3:26-27); the organization of the New Testament church (Acts 14:23; Philippians 1:1; Ephesians 4:11); the name; the foundation; etc. It is important to understand that there is a pattern in the word of God for those that will be New Testament Christians. Resolve to look to the word of God and follow the pattern for New Testament Christianity. Then at the judgement, we can hear the Lord say "well done" or as is said of Moses, he "was faithful" (Hebrews 3:5)

Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.

What If God Was Praised Like Football

Phil Robertson

A friend of mine recently made this comment, "Around here football is a religion!" At first his words sounded like an innocent declaration of the passion and allegiance many of us have for our favorite teams. But after a little reflection, his words seemed to burn a hole in my conscience. Is football our religion?

God adamantly warned His people of the dangers of idolatry (Exodus 20:3-6). Their passion for false gods eventually led to their earthly captivity as well as separation from God (Ezekiel 20:1-32). We may not have wooden figurines on the mantels of our homes, but that does not mean we may not have our idols.

So, how do we know when we may have crossed the line from sport to idolatry? Please consider the following "what if" scenarios:

- * What if we gave as much money to evangelism and charity as we do to tickets, travel and team merchandise? Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:25).
- * What if we could name the apostles, judges, and great heroes of faith like we can name our team's starting lineup, reserves, and even recruits? "Whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope" (Romans 15:4).
- * What if fathers taught their children about the Lord and His works as much as they do about defensive formations or strategies of an offensive? "Fathers bring your children up in the training and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4).
- * What if we proudly displayed our love for the Lord as we do our team's logos from our homes and cars? "Praise the Lord all you Gentiles and let all the peoples extol Him" (Romans 15:11).]
- * What if we arrived early and participated in a worship service with the same dedication we have for crowded football stadiums with limited parking, little leg room and no protection from inclement weather? "For I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord" (Psalms 122:1).

- * What if we hated Satan and His schemes to conquer souls as much as we do a rival who is threatening to take a game from us? "Be sober because your adversary the devil walks about as roaring lion seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8).
- * What if the joy of winning souls and the pain of losing souls matched our passion for winning and losing a football game of which we are not even a participant? "There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents" (Luke 15:10).

There is nothing inherently sinful about cheering for a favorite team and enjoying a game. However, sports must not take precedence over our duties and responsibilities to the Lord.

The only victory that truly counts has already been won. Jesus conquered death so that we may live in Him (Romans 5:8; 6:3-7). Allow Him to clothe you with His atoning garments (Galatians 3:27; Revelation 7:14) and join His team in fighting against our true enemy (Ephesians 6:10-16).

-via *Jones Road Family Items*; Athens, Alabama.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

Benton Ball; HealthSouth, rm. 220-A

Pauline Lovell; Athen-Limestone, rm. 220

At Home:

Raymond Brown	Jerry Gilbert
Ronnie Locke	Harold Hays
Evelyn Hays	Polly Davis
Lola Colwell	Bobbie Adcock
Molly Weeks	Ruth Lawson
Jeff Waddell	Jeff Bates
Thomas Lovell	Marie Welden

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

Andrew Deen; Japan

Whitney Deen; Japan

WORK GROUPS: This evening, following our evening worship service, will be the time for Work Group 2 to meet. If you are in group two, remember to meet with your group this evening.

OUR MEETING: Our Gospel Meeting with *Buc Chumbley* preaching will begin in just two short weeks, the Lord willing. There are 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"

This afternoon about 2:00, we will start going out to invite people to our meeting. If you would like to help with this effort, let me know.

VBS MEETING: This afternoon, we will be meeting at 4:15 with teachers and all that are interested in the planning of our Vacation Bible school for June 21-24. I hope that all will be present who can.

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

NEW CLASS ADULT CLASS: The new adult meeting in the east wing will begin meeting, April 25th. The class will be studying the theme: *“Increasing Our Faith”*. I hope this will be a profitable study for all who come. There will also be an adult class meeting on Wednesday night in the east wing.

GOSPEL MEETING: The *Capshaw church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. There will be different speakers in this meeting as follows: *Sunday morning and evening – Warren Glass; Monday– Greg Chandler; Tuesday– George Harris; Wednesday– Norm Webb, Jr.; Thursday– David Cox; Friday– Steve Klein.* ...The *Danville Road church* in Decatur is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Tuesday. The speaker for this meeting will be *Bobby Robinson* ...The *Jordan Park church* in Huntsville is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Jeff May*.

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.

PREACHING AWAY: *Warren Glass* is preaching for the church at Capshaw today in their gospel meeting.

THE RECORD: Attendance– Week of April 4th

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 128
 Morning Worship 175
 Evening Worship..... 100

Wednesday:
 Bible Classes..... 98

Gospel Meeting

April 18-22, 2010

Buc Chumbley, Speaking

Schedule of Services

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
 Monday through Thursday: 7:00 p.m.

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street
 Athens, Alabama

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, April 11th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
 Song Leader Stuart Wilson
 Prayer Jerry McGlocklin
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord’s Supper
 Presiding Wayne Vaughn
 Assisting Rusty Brand
 Serving Mark Rogers Tyler Cox
 Tim Craig Marion Pepper
 Closing Prayer Lifford Smith

Evening Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
 Song Leader Stuart Wilson
 Prayer Nathaniel Adams
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord’s Supper Rusty Brand
 Closing Prayer Marion Mitchell

Other Assignments for Sunday, April 11th:

Usher Delmer Carter
 Work Sound System Marty Adamson

Wednesday, April 14th:

Song Leader Tommy Burns
 Bible Reading..... (Ecclesiastes 3:1-15)
 Kenneth Smith
 Prayer Dwaine Allfrey
 Invitation Marty Adams
 Closing Prayer Jack Cannon

Sunday, April 18th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
 Song Leader Joel Hamm
 Prayer Bonnie Sutton
 Preaching Buc Chumbley
 Lord’s Supper
 Presiding Larry Mitchell
 Assisting Marty Adams
 Serving Delmer Carter..... Hunter Cox
 Ronnie Locke..... Chris Sides
 Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Evening Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
 Song Leader Joel Hamm
 Prayer Rusty Brand
 Preaching Buc Chumbley
 Lord’s Supper Larry Mitchell
 Closing Prayer Marty Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, April 18th:

Usher David Terry
 Work Sound System Tim Craig