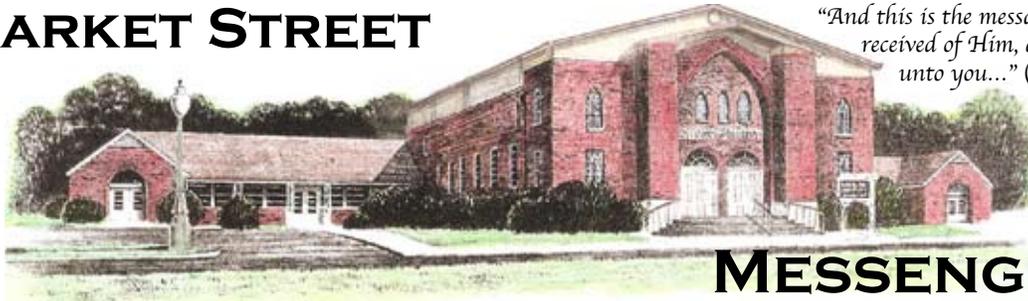


# MARKET STREET

*“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  
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

May 9, 2010

No. 19

## “More Blessed To Give”

**David A. Cox**

There are only three occasions that are recorded in scripture of Paul making a direct quote from Jesus. One of the quotes is found as Paul is concluding his remarks to the Ephesians as he says, “remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive’” (Acts 20:35). We would do well to live by the principle set forth in this passage.

We have no way of knowing when Jesus spoke these words or how Paul knew the quote, but we know that he reminded the Ephesian elders of these words and they were recorded by inspiration for our use and instruction. Let us notice what we learn from these words:

### Exalted Teaching of Jesus

These words remind us of the exalted character and teachings of Jesus. This line of thinking is diametrically opposed to the thinking of the world. The world says “receiving or getting is better than giving.” Jesus said that giving was “more blessed”. The word “more” carries an idea of something higher, deeper and fuller than just mere happiness. The point is that in giving, there is a more lasting satisfaction that comes to the one who gives than the one who receives. Jesus’ own life taught and practiced the great blessing that comes from giving (Matthew 20:28; Acts 10:38).

### The Unselfishness In Life

The greatest hinderance in an individual giving is that of selfishness. “It is mine” philosophy. Jesus, however, did not see life in that way. He saw life as a transitory thing to the exaltation and glory of what was after this life. Paul is reminding the brethren on this occasion that the Lord taught that giving was the better thing. While Paul was on this third journey, he was collecting benevolent help for the poor saints in Jerusalem. He wrote to the church at Corinth and he told them how the churches of Macedonia, even in deep poverty, had abounded in their giving. Not only had these brethren abounded in the financial help of the needy saints, “but first gave their own selves to the Lord” (2 Corinthians

8:5). Indeed, giving can be monetary, but we must also understand the blessedness of non monetary giving; the giving of one's self to God and His cause (Galatians 2:20; Philippians 1:21).

### **The Principles of Life: Gain or Service**

In this life there are two principle views of life: gain or service.

**Gain** can be used in a good way if one uses the blessing to give more to the work of the Lord and to help others. But in many cases, gain is the acquisition of things one wants, and not because of need. Gain in this mind-set caused Jesus to warn "a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth" (Luke 12:15). It is this view of gain that Paul reminded Timothy that "godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out" (1 Timothy 6:6-7). If we have the right attitude toward gain it will cause one to view life more as service.

**Service** is the way we would definitely describe the life of Christ. Jesus said of His life that He, "came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). As Paul was speaking to the Ephesian elders, he was wanting to encourage them to follow the example of Christ in serving others. Paul had lived his life in emulating the example of Christ and he encouraged others to do the same (cf. 1 Corinthians 11:1). As we all strive for our life to be one of service let us remember the words of an old hymn...

*"Are you dwelling in the sunlight?  
Is your path with roses strewn?  
Do you walk with buoyant gladness  
In the steps that you have hewn?  
Have you reached the top of Pisgah,  
Climbling always firm and true?  
Don't forget that in the valley  
There is some one needing you."*

May we ever learn that seeking selfish gain will never equal the thrilling joy and peace of mind that comes from giving and serving. May we ever remember the words of the Lord "It is more blessed to give than receive."

### ***Remember Our Study Periods***

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

## ***"As We Forgive Our Debtors"***

**Jim Ward**

As he spoke of a wrong suffered many years before, the brother began to tremble and his eyes blazed with sudden fire. The anger and bitterness in his heart poured out of him, his voice growing louder with each syllable. His decades – old hurt had clearly grown with each passing year. Forgiving someone for sinning against us may be the hardest thing we'll ever do. Especially if we have left the anger inside to fester for a long time.

Why do some people - even some Christians - seem to be unable to forgive those who have sinned against them? A psychologist would probably give several learned and intricate replies to that question. From a biblical point of view, things are probably not so complex.

### **Unresolved Anger**

Before we think about that, though, we need to examine something else. There are several solid reasons for letting go of our anger.

First, we need to move on for the sake of our mental and physical health. Unresolved anger can eat us alive. Doctor Steven Stosny talks about how "anger can even shorten a person's life span if not resolved. It can also lead to heart disease, stroke, cancer, hypertension, depression, anxiety, alcoholism, drug-addition and other compulsive behavior." Clearly, it is wise from both an emotional and physical standpoint to rid ourselves of pent-up anger.

Second, may I add that such entrenched rancor can also harm, if not destroy, our relationships with family and friends. Even if the malice is not directed at them, they suffer from the toxic fall-out. And poison is poison even if it comes from someone we love.

Third, and worst of all for Christians, harbored animosity has a deadly spiritual effect; it destroys our relationship with God. He is a forgiving God, who requires that we emulate Him. "Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you" (Ephesians 4:31-32). How critical is this issue? Listen to Jesus: "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses,

neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (Matthew 6:14-15).

### **Pride**

Now back to the Bible reason for merciless hearts. In a word, it is pride. The proud man is his own god. The psalmist caught the essence of his thinking: "The wicked in his proud countenance does not see God; God is in none of his thoughts" (Psalm 10:4). The proud mouth declares, "With our tongue we will prevail; our lips are our own; who is Lord over us?" (Psalm 12:3). The proud man is the center of his universe; everyone else is merely a satellite. Such an exalted self-image is fertile ground for contempt of every kind. "A proud and haughty man - 'Scoffer' is his name; he acts with arrogant pride" (Proverbs 21:24). What does this contemptuous egomaniac look like?

- \* He can never be wrong. In any conflict, the proud man alone is in the right. Every discussion becomes a competition, and he intends to win at all costs. Lying, personal attacks - anything goes.
- \* He cannot be ill-used. He is much too important for that. And whether the mistreatment is real or imagined is immaterial; it is real to him so watch out...
- \* He cannot lose face. Even kings become slaves to peer pressure. John the Baptist might have been spared if Herod's court had not heard his vow (Matthew 14:9).
- \* He cannot forgive. He is obliged to no one. Why should he forgive; it is the other man who owes the apology.

Jesus taught us to pray, "And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors" (Matthew 6:12). The proud, unforgiving man cannot pray that prayer - not sincerely, at least, not without being a hypocrite. Amen.

-via *Lost River church Bulletin*; Bowling Kentucky

## ***Vacation Bible School***

June 21-24, 2010

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

# **Radio Program**

**Every Sunday Morning**

on WVNN - 770AM

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

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

## ***News & Notes***

### **THE SICK:**

#### *In The Hospital:*

#### *At Home:*

Jerry Gilbert	Raymond Brown
Harold Hays	Monroe Pressnell
Marvin Wales	Bernice Thomas
Polly Davis	Lola Colwell
Bobbie Adcock	Scott Adams
Molly Weeks	Ruth Lawson
Jeff Waddell	Jeff Bates
Thomas Lovell	Marie Welden
Jeff Mitchell	Pauline Lovell

#### *Athens Convalescent Center:*

Betty Bates, rm. 17

#### *Limestone Health Facility:*

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118	Rosella Pugh, rm. 74
Evelyn Hays, rm 110-A	J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E
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

**WORKGROUPS:** 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.

**MAJORIE LAMBERT 1924 – 2010:** It is with sadness that we note the passing of sister Majorie Lambert. She passed away last Sunday night at Limestone Health. Sister Lambert was a longtime member of the Market Street church. We want to express our deepest sympathy to all of sister Lambert’s family. Her funeral was Wednesday afternoon at Limestone Chapel and her burial was in the Athens City Cemetary.

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

**NEW ADULT CLASSES:** The new adult classes meeting in the east wing. The Sunday morning class is studying the theme: “*Increasing Our Faith*”. I hope this will be a profitable study for all who come. The Wednesday night class in the east wing will be studying “*History and Geography of the Bible*.” *Marty Adams* will teach that class.

**GOSPEL MEETING:** The *New Georgia church* in Lauderdale county is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The speaker in this meeting will be *David Hartsell*.

**NEW PHONE NUMBERS:** *Warren and Joan Glass* are now using only cell phones. Their numbers are: Warren – 497-3138 and Joan – 998-6373

**DIRECTORY UPDATE:** Beginning today and continuing for the next few weeks, we will be making new pictures of everyone for a new pictorial directory. So please see *Rusty Brand* or *Joel Hamm* to get your pictures made. They will be making these pictures in the little 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.

**HAYS MILL MEETING:** It was my priviledge this week to be with the *Hays Mill church* preaching in their gospel meeting. The meeting was very encouraging. It was good to see a number of brethren from the area. I appreciate the good number of you from *Market Street* that came to encourage this effort. It was good to be with *Randall Hammock*, who preaches there regularly along with *Eugene Britnell* who has labored there throughout the last several years and continues his work doing their radio program. I appreciate *Warren Glass* and *Stuart Wilson* for filling in for me.

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, May 9th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Rusty Brand  
 Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
 Prayer ..... Bonnie Sutton  
 Preaching .....David Cox  
 Lord’s Supper  
 Presiding ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
 Assisting .....Jonathan Keenon  
 Serving .....Marion Pepper ....Nathaniel Adams  
 ..... Russ Wulfekuhl ..... Danny Johnson  
 Closing Prayer .....Joel Hamm

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Rusty Brand  
 Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
 Prayer ..... Landon Adams  
 Preaching .....David Cox  
 Lord’s Supper .....Jonathan Keenon  
 Closing Prayer .....Jerry McGlocklin

Other Assignments for Sunday, May 9th:

Usher .....Marion Mitchell  
 Work Sound System ..... Stuart Wilson

**Wednesday, May 12th:**

Song Leader .....Marion Mitchell  
 Bible Reading..... (Ecclesiastes 5:1-9)  
 ..... Russ Wulfekuhl  
 Prayer ..... Marty Adams  
 Invitation .....Jerry McGlocklin  
 Closing Prayer ..... Tyler Cox

**Sunday, May 16th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Stuart Wilson  
 Song Leader .....Joel Hamm  
 Prayer ..... Monroe Pressnell  
 Preaching .....David Cox  
 Lord’s Supper  
 Presiding ..... Bonnie Sutton  
 Assisting .....Jerry McGlocklin  
 Serving .....Marvin Pepper ..... Ronnie Locke  
 ..... Will Chumbley ..... Hunter Cox  
 Closing Prayer ..... Landon Adams

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Stuart Wilson  
 Song Leader .....Joel Hamm  
 Prayer ..... Monroe Pressnell  
 Preaching ..... Warren Glass  
 Lord’s Supper ..... Bonnie Sutton  
 Closing Prayer .....Jonathan Keenon

Other Assignments for Sunday, May 16th:

Usher ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
 Work Sound System ..... Danny Johnson