

# 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  
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Athens, Alabama 35612  
Phone (256) 232-1525

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## *Do You Really Want To Know?*

**Eddie J. Caskey**

We usually have great admiration for those who are constantly seeking to improve themselves. In Matthew 19:16-22, we have the story of one who is seemingly seeking to do that very thing.

Commonly referred to as the “Rich Young Ruler” this young man of position and wealth comes running, as Mark’s account has it (Mark 10:17), and kneels before Jesus to ask a very important question: “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus, then expounds upon the importance of keeping the commandments, that is, “‘You shall not murder’, ‘You shall not commit adultery’, ‘You shall not steal’, ‘You shall not bear false witness’, ‘Honor your father and your mother’, and ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself’” (Matthew 19:18-19). Concerning these, the young man affirms he has been faithful in obeying from his youth. He then asserts, “What do I still lack?” (Matthew 19:20). It seems this esteemed young man is still trying to improve himself and who couldn’t respect such a person such as this? Again, Mark’s account says, “Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him...” (10:21).

The disappointing part of the story comes when Jesus tells him something he evidently didn’t want or expect to hear. Jesus knew his heart and also knew the one thing he lacked: He was holding on too strongly to this world’s goods and must sell them, give them to the poor and follow the Lord. But his price of following Jesus and gaining eternal life was more that he was willing to pay, and so, he went away sorrowful (Matthew 19:22).

Many today find themselves in similar situations. It is as if the story is repeated over and over again. They come, almost running, begging for instructions in righteousness. But when it is pointed out that they are still lacking in some point, many go away sorrowful, unwilling to give up their ways in favor of the Lord’s. They seem to say: “Lord, I want to serve You, but in my own way and in my own time.” This, however, is a religion of convenience, not conviction. Too often the seeker seems to be more interested in being religious, rather than righteous. Dear friend,

### 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  
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Warren Glass.....(256) 497-3138

### 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*

if you ask for criticism - don't attack the criticizers! If you really want to know wherein you may be lacking, then please be willing to accept the answer.

-via *The Melrose Memo*; Richardson, Texas.



## *God-Consciousness*

**Bill Hall**

A truly godly man is one who lives with a constant realization of God's divine presence. He is God-conscious. When he awakes in the morning, there is God. As he dresses for work, there is God. As he goes in to breakfast with his family, as he drives to work, as he works through the day, as he drives home, as he spends the evening hours, as he lies down on his bed at the close of day, there is God.

Enoch was a man who was God-conscious, for he "walked with God" (Genesis 5:24). He enjoyed constant companionship with God. Wherever Enoch went, God went with him, and Enoch was always aware that He was there. He could not flee from God's presence (Psalm 139:7), nor did he seek to do so. He was a godly man.

How fortunate is that man who has developed within himself this God consciousness. It is easy for him to pray, for God is to him a close, ever near, companion whose "ears are open unto his prayers" (1 Peter 3:12). His talking with God is as natural as his talking with any companion.

He does not fear, for he just places his hand n God's in his times of trouble. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear..." (Psalm 46:1,2). Even when walking "through the valley of the shadow of death," he can "fear no evil," for God is with him.

The power of temptation is greatly reduced, for he never forgets that "all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do" (Hebrews 4:13). His desire to please his ever present God is greater than the power of temptation.

He is thankful, recognizing God, with whom he

walks, to be the source of "every good gift and every perfect gift" (James 1:17).

He loves God. He talks to God. He walks with God. He is always conscious of God's presence. He is never without God. Yet, this relationship never degenerates into a "buddy-buddy" relationship, for he reverences God; he recognizes His awesomeness; he gratefully acknowledges his own personal unworthiness of such a relationship with Almighty God.

This is the very essence of godliness. Someone, years ago, observing the similarity between "godliness" and "God-like-ness," assumed that the two words meant the same. That false assumption was passed on to others, and has now gained a strong foothold in the thinking of a great number of people. W. E. Vines says that godliness "denotes that piety which, characterized by a godward attitude, does that which is well pleasing to Him." A godly person, then, is one who has a godward attitude, and whose constant consciousness of God leads him to be obedient to Him.

While visiting in a hospital recently, we observed this sign, "Have you said 'Thank You, God' today?" A godly person probably would have done so. Have you said, "Thank You, God" today?

-via *Auburn Beacon*; Auburn, Alabama



## *Sense of Shame*

**L. A. Stauffer**

"And Jeroboam said in his heart, Now shall the kingdom return to the house of David: if this people go up to do sacrifice in the house of the Lord at Jerusalem, then shall the heart of this people turn again unto their lord, even unto Rehoboam king of Judah, and they shall kill me, and go again to Rehoboam king of Judah" (1 Kings 12:26,27).

Whether or not Jeroboam's fears were well founded is uncertain. However, of one thing we can be sure. He was more concerned about the people's loyalty to him than to God. To accomplish his aims, he shrewdly baits his trap with something that entices most all men

— the lure of the easy way. He told them, “It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem...”. Little did it matter, apparently, that he gave them idols, pretended priests and pagan worship. The important thing was that he provided them with an easy religion — and that overshadowed all else.

They became victims of the easy way. Many are the mortals who have succumbed to the lure of the easy way, both spiritually and otherwise. Our advertising agencies have learned the devil’s sales pitch well. They tell you how to lose weight — the easy way. They offer easy ways to quit smoking, to achieve physical fitness or financial independence. People haven’t changed much since Jeroboam’s day. They still fall for the same old bait, “the easy way”, and in doing so have filled the prisons, swelled the welfare rolls and lengthened unemployment lines (Not to mention the irretrievable waste of time, talent and potential).

And, as in Jeroboam’s day, the easy way is still a popular way in religion. The prospects of having to “go up to Jerusalem” (or even across town) is still too much for too many. They would take the denying self out of following Christ; the giving diligence out of seeking approval; and the striving out of entering in at the strait gate. Such would have the benefits without the bother. As Jesus says of others, “They have their reward.”

As might be expected, even the Lord’s church has been touched by the lure of the easy way. It is felt in our teaching program when preachers and teachers find it “too much” to make adequate preparation of their lessons and when Bible class students find it “too much” to study and prepare assigned work. It affects our visitation program when members find it “too much” to leave their comfortable homes and TV programs to call on the sick or unfaithful. It affects our personal evangelism program when brethren think it “too much” to try and teach others the way of salvation. It affects the purity of the church when we think it “too much” to finally discipline the unruly among us. Of all things that contribute to the weakening of the church, none is more influential than taking the easy way.

The narrow way can never be the easy way. Not only are the ways different, they lead to different destinations (Matthew 7:14). “Going up to Jerusalem” may require self-denial, sacrifice and hard work but it’s the way of the cross — and that leads home.

—via *The Cornerstone*; Richmond, Virginia

## News & Notes

### THE SICK:

#### *In The Hospital:*

*Sue Warren*; Athens-Limestone Hospital, rm. 214

*Mark Hargrove*; Huntsville Hospital, rm. 422

#### *At Home:*

Mot Beasley Dan Lovell

Annie Mae Bragg Lisa Wulfekuhl

Sam Wilson Harold Hays

Polly Davis Lola Colwell

Bobbie Adcock Scott Adams

Sara Virginia Green Ruth Lawson

Molly Weeks Jeff Bates

Jeff Waddell Marie Welden

Thomas Lovell Pauline Lovell

Jeff Mitchell Bernice Martin

Randy Graviett

#### *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 Coggins, rm 112 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

**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 4 to meet. If you are in group four, remember to meet with your group this evening.

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

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** Our Vacation Bible School is just four short weeks from beginning. The

dates are June 21-24 (Monday – Thursday).

**Class Materials:** The student books and the visual aid packets for each class from the 2-3 year olds and up are in the teacher workroom in the east wing. Teachers compile a list of the things that we will need and let me know. I appreciate the work and dedication of all that are working in preparation for the VBS.

**Invitations:** There are some invitation cards and flyers advertising the VBS at each exit. Please take some of these with you and give them to those that you invite.

**PLACED MEMBERSHIP:** *Mitzi Carruth* has let it be known that she desires to be a part of the Market Street church. We are glad to make this announcement and happy to have Mitzi among us. Let us all extend a warm welcome to her. She will be in group two.

**DIRECTORY UPDATE:** It is time to update our directory and we will be making new pictures of everyone for a new pictorial directory. 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.

**OUT OF TOWN:** *The Mitchells: Larry and Peggy* are in South Carolina this weekend... *Stuart Wilson* has been working out of town, but is now home.

**HIGHSCHOOL/COLLEGE STUDY:** Last night we had our first in a series of High School/College Age studies. We looked at our *Relationship To The Lord*. There are some fliers at each exit to distribute to those we invite to the future studies. The next study will be Saturday, June 26th. If you know of some people in these ages groups, please invite them to join us.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** *The Jackson Drive church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speakers will be Sunday – *Aubrey Belue*; Monday - Wednesday – *Jeff May*... The West Rogersville church is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday with *Don Osborne* preaching.

**THE RECORD:** Attendance– Week of May 16th

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 124  
Morning Worship ..... 154  
Evening Worship..... 113

**Wednesday:** Bible Classes..... 95

## Men Privileged To Serve:

### Sunday, May 23rd:

#### Morning Worship

Announcements ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
Song Leader ..... Stuart Wilson  
Prayer ..... Tyler Cox  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Bonnie Sutton  
Assisting ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Serving ..... Marvin Putman..... Ronnie Locke  
..... Will Chumbley ..... Hunter Cox  
Closing Prayer ..... Landon Adams

#### Evening Worship

Announcements ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
Song Leader ..... Stuart Wilson  
Prayer ..... Tommy Burns  
Preaching ..... Song Service  
Lord's Supper ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Closing Prayer ..... Wayne Vaughn

#### Other Assignments for Sunday, May 23rd:

Usher ..... Ronnie Locke  
Work Sound System ..... Stuart Wilson

### Wednesday, May 26th:

Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Bible Reading..... (Ecclesiastes 6:1-12)  
..... Danny Johnson  
Prayer ..... Jack Cannon  
Invitation ..... Joel Hamm  
Closing Prayer ..... Tommy Burns

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### Sunday, May 30th:

#### Morning Worship

Announcements ..... Kenneth Smith  
Song Leader ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Prayer ..... Rusty Brand  
Preaching ..... Everette Conn  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Stuart Wilson  
Assisting ..... Marion Mitchell  
Serving ..... Landon Adams..... Kennon Currier  
..... Mark Rogers ..... Tommy Burns  
Closing Prayer ..... Jack Cannon

#### Evening Worship

Announcements ..... Kenneth Smith  
Song Leader ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Prayer ..... Jonathan Keenon  
Preaching ..... Joel Hamm  
Lord's Supper ..... Stuart Wilson  
Closing Prayer ..... Hunter Cox

#### Other Assignments for Sunday, May 30th:

Usher ..... David Terry  
Work Sound System ..... Marty Adams