

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
Stuart Wilson(256) 233-6291

Evangelists

David A. Cox(256) 233-8910
E-mail: david.a.cox@att.net
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

Volume II

August 22, 2010

No. 34

"Male and Female He Created Them"

Andy Diestelkamp

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth... Then God said...And it was so...And God saw that it was good."

That pretty well summarizes the pattern of words for the six days of Creation. At the end of day six we're told, "Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good" (Genesis 1:31).

However, as we read the elaboration on the work of God on day six (in chapter two) there is a notable difference in the divine observation. Having created man and the garden in which he was placed, Jehovah God said, "It is not good that man should be alone..." (2:18). Of course, this is not indicative of any failure on God's part to anticipate this. Rather, we are being given insight to the specific rationale for God's creation.

God had already created life in the form of plants and animals with their various abilities to produce after their own kind (Genesis 1:11, 12,21,24,25). The parade of some of those animals before Adam was not a trial and error search on God's part but an education for the man. "There was not found a helper comparable to him"(Genesis 2:20). Despite our animal loving tendencies, neither dog nor horse is man's best friend.

While God has formed man and beast from the dust of the ground (Genesis 2:19; 3:19), He created the ultimate companion for man from man (Genesis 2:21-23). "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them" (Genesis 1:27). The woman was created by God to be a helper comparable to man (Genesis 2:18). It is noteworthy that the Scriptures (which are so reviled by modern skeptics who decry its "sexism") virtually begin by affirming that both man and woman were created in the image of God and are comparable to one another.

From a physiological perspective, it is clear that man and woman were created by God to be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth (Genesis 1:28). However, the more detailed account of the creation of

man reveals that the primary function of the marriage relationship was/is to provide an intimate “one flesh” companionship that is far more than a mere physical union (2:24). Jesus confirmed that this is true when He observed in commenting on this text, “So then, they are no longer two but one flesh” (Matthew 19:6). The physical oneness of the sexual relationship symbolizes a deeper emotional and spiritual companionship/partnership/fellowship that God intended to be ongoing and permanent in this life.

Recognizing God’s design and intent for marriage helps us to understand the sanctity of the sexual relationship and, hence, the numerous warnings and prohibitions relative to uncleanness, fornication, and adultery. To act on physical impulses outside the commitment of marriage is to behave as mere animals and profane what God has intended from the beginning for the intimate companionship of beings created in His image.

-via *Think On These Things*; Cortland, Illinois.



Intimacy With God

Randy Harshbarger

“When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called My son” (Hosea 11:1). The constancy of God’s love should have been strong motivation for Israel to love their Creator in return. But it wasn’t. In spite of God’s constant overtures of love, grace, mercy, His own children turned away. Israel perverted their relationship with God by worshiping idols. God loved His people, even when they were rebelling against Him. Yes, the Israelites had to suffer the consequences of their sin; this did not mean, though, that God had ever stopped loving them. Even when He was seeking to correct their way, God loved them.

The word love evokes pleasant and comforting thoughts. Or, at least it should. The Bible speaks often about God’s love for His creation. His love was present in the lives of His children - those who had responded to Him in obedience. Early in their history

Israel wanted to be God’s children; they longed for an intimate relationship with God (Exodus 19:5-6). God called Israel “My firstborn son” (Exodus 4:22-23). God told Pharaoh, “Let My son go!” Israel was Jehovah’s special people. Yet, the fact the God loved Israel did not prevent them from rebelling. God’s love was not an insurance policy that would always keep Israel from harm - a harm that was many times self-inflicted. Over and over again, God enabled His people to see that He still loved them. He wanted them to come back.

The word love evokes thoughts of intimacy. The intimacy shared between a husband and wife is a special bond. That unique relationship is special. It mirrors the relationship God desires to have with His children (the book of Hosea; cf. Ephesians 5:22-33). This relationship is so special that severe, harsh consequences are meted out to those who fail to cherish the bonds of love and intimacy. *“For the LORD God of Israel says that He hates divorce, For it covers one’s garment with violence,” says the LORD of hosts. ‘Therefore take heed to your spirit, that you do not deal treacherously’*” (Malachi 2:16).

The bond of love between brethren should be viewed as a special blessing. Love of the brethren is a special kind of love - love that is peculiar to the in-Christ relationship we share as members of the same spiritual family. Instead of living in isolation, we need to cultivate a sense of dependency, a sense of family among our fellow Christians. Loving each other is a matter of spiritual life or death.

Sin destroys the intimacy of love. This was true of Israel’s alienation from God. It is true in human, earthly families. It is true in the spiritual family of God. The alienating consequences of sin can only be overcome by God’s love. God through Christ seeks our reconciliation. What God desires for us cannot be experienced when we refuse to return. If that is so, then why do we stay away?

-via *North San Diego Newsletter*; San Diego, California.

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

God's Power To Save

J. F. Dancer

When Paul wrote the letter to the saints at Rome, he explained to them why he had not visited there yet. He had promised to come and still intended to do so (Romans 15:24), but had been prevented (Romans 1:13). Then he set forth the basic principle of salvation - "the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth..." (Romans 1:16). He was ready to preach the gospel in Rome, for it was the means by which people could be saved from their sin.

Basically, the gospel means "good news" and has to do with the death, burial, resurrection and new life (1 Corinthians. 15:1-8) of Jesus. There are some facts that those who are to be saved must believe. But, there is also something in the gospel that demands obedience. In Romans 10:16, Paul mentions some who had not obeyed the gospel. In 2 Thessalonians 1:8, condemnation is promised (at the coming of Jesus) to those who have not obeyed the gospel. So, the gospel has to do with some things to believe and some things to do because one believes.

We see this illustrated in Acts 2 where Peter and the other apostles are preaching in Jerusalem. Peter reminds those present that Jesus had been crucified and buried, and then affirms that he was raised from the dead. He tells those present they should "know assuredly" that when God raised Jesus from the dead He made Him both Lord and Christ (verse 36).

Upon believing this, some of the people asked what they needed to do (verse 37). They now believed the facts but realized they were not right with God. What did they need to do? They were told to "repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins..." (verse 38). About 3,000 of those present gladly did what Peter told them to do (verse 41).

When Paul reminded the saints at Rome of what they had done in order to be forgiven, he told them they had been "...buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4). On down in the

chapter, he reminds them that, when they obeyed this, they were "...then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness" (Romans 6:18).

Truly, they had obeyed the gospel! They believed the facts that had been presented to them about Jesus and they obeyed the commands that they were given. When Jesus told the apostles to go into all the world and preach the gospel He told them that those who believed the things preached (the good news) and were baptized would be saved (Mark 16:15,16). In Acts 2, they are doing what Jesus told them to do. Certainly, those who obeyed were blessed, as Jesus said they would be, because their sins were forgiven.

Have you heard the good news about Jesus? He died for you, He was buried and He arose from the dead. Have you believed and been baptized for the remission of your sins? The gospel is the power that God uses to save. If salvation is your desire, this is the way God will accomplish it.

~via *Pine Lane Bulletin*; Bessemer, Alabama.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

Scott Adams; Cancer Center of America – Chicago

At Home:

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Janet Berryhill | David Gardner |
| Mary Ruth Gardner | Lola Colwell |
| Bobbie Adcock | Emma Clark |
| Jim Currier | Una King Currier |
| Molly Weeks | Jeff Mitchell |
| Jeff Waddell | Randy Graviett |
| Mark Hargrove | Bernice Martin |
| Jesse Carter | Jess Shores |

Athens Convalescent Center:

Betty Bates, rm. 17

Limestone Health Facility:

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118 | Rosella Pugh, rm. 74 |
| 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

Polly Davis, Riverside Home South, Decatur, rm. 74

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

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.

BARBADOS TRIP: It has been a busy week after being in Bridgetown, Barbados last week. The trip went very well and the brethren seemed much encouraged. The brethren there are talking about plans for the work there in the future. Continue to remember the brethren and the church there in your prayers; may the door of opportunity be open for them.

OUT OF TOWN: *Marty Adams* has been in New Mexico with his work... *Stuart Wilson* will be away in Memphis this week with his work... *The Wulfekuhls: Russ and Lisa* are away in China... *Steve Bradley* is in Texas due to his work in the schools there. We pray for all safe travels and look forward to their return.

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.

OUR MEETING: Our Gospel Meeting with *Bill Hall* preaching will begin in just three short weeks, the Lord willing. Invitation cards are at each exit for you to take and give to those that you invite. There are some invitations with an envelope for sending. Next week, we will start going out to invite people to our meeting. If you would like to help with this effort, let me know.

GOSPEL MEETING: The *Hughes Road at Gooch Lane church* in Madison will be engaged in a gospel meeting this week beginning today and it will continue through Friday. *Dee Bowman of Pasadena, Texas* is the speaker in the meeting ...

THE RECORD: Attendance— Week of August 15th

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 139

Morning Worship 184

Evening Worship..... 117

Wednesday:

Bible Classes..... 98

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, August 22nd:

Morning Worship

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Announcements | Stuart Wilson | |
| Song Leader | Joel Hamm | |
| Prayer | Larry Mitchell | |
| Preaching | David Cox | |
| Lord's Supper | | |
| Presiding | Jerry McGlocklin | |
| Assisting | Marty Adams | |
| Serving | Tyler Cox | Ronnie Locke |
| | Chris Sides | Marvin Putman |
| Closing Prayer | Dwaine Allfrey | |

Evening Worship

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Announcements | Stuart Wilson |
| Song Leader | Joel Hamm |
| Prayer | Tyler Cox |
| Preaching | Song Service |
| Lord's Supper | Jerry McGlocklin |
| Closing Prayer | Tommy Burns |

Other Assignments for Sunday, August 22nd:

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Usher | Rusty Brand |
| Work Sound System | Danny Johnson |

Wednesday, August 25th:

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Song Leader | Hunter Cox |
| Bible Reading | (Isaiah 1:21-31) |
| | Russ Wulfekuhl |
| Prayer | Bonnie Sutton |
| Invitation | Warren Glass |
| Closing Prayer | Jerry McGlocklin |

Sunday, August 29th:

Morning Worship

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Announcements | Kenneth Smith | |
| Song Leader | Stuart Wilson | |
| Prayer | Jack Cannon | |
| Preaching | David Cox | |
| Lord's Supper | | |
| Presiding | Jerry McGlocklin | |
| Assisting | Marty Adams | |
| Serving | Tyler Cox | Ronnie Locke |
| | Chris Sides | Marvin Putman |
| Closing Prayer | Bonnie Sutton | |

Evening Worship

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Announcements | Kenneth Smith |
| Song Leader | Stuart Wilson |
| Prayer | Nathaniel Adams |
| Preaching | Warren Glass |
| Lord's Supper | Marty Adams |
| Closing Prayer | Marion Mitchell |

Other Assignments for Sunday, August 29th:

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Usher | Tyler Cox |
| Work Sound System | Stuart Wilson |