

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

September 12, 2010

No. 37

Beginning Today Our

Gospel Meeting

September 12-16

(Sunday – Thursday)

Schedule of Services

Sunday – 9:45 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Monday – Thursday – 7:00 p.m.

Evangelist – Bill Hall

MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

**514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA**

Our Authority In Religion

David A. Cox

Why do you do what you do in religion? Many may say, "Because mother and daddy did it." Others may say, "My preacher said it was this way." Even others may reply, "Because I just like it this way." It is not an unknown fact that there are many differences in the religious practices of our world today. Often in discussing these differences with individuals, the above answers or a similar type of answer is given. What should be our authority in religion?

Authority Is From God

Authority simply means "the power or right to command, make decisions, enforce obedience." Who has this authority? Who has the right to give commands, make decisions and enforce obedience? Clearly, the answer is our creator, God. All authority extends from Him. God's order of authority is seen when Paul writes "the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God" (1 Corinthians 11:3). God ultimately has the authority, but has delegated all authority to Christ (Matthew 16:18). In the affairs of men, God ordained that there be governments, but their authority is only good as long as it does not violate the teaching of God. In Acts 4, this is illustrated when Peter and John were commanded "not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:18-20). Later, they were threatened again for continuing to teach about Jesus, "But Peter and John answered and said unto them, 'Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.'" Clearly, Peter and John understood that the ultimate authority in all things is God.

The Necessity of Authority

Throughout the scriptures, we see the need for practicing in religion only that which we have authority from God to do. The sacrifice of Cain in Genesis 4, when he offered a sacrifice of the fruit of the ground, is one example. The Lord was not pleased because that was not what He had authorized. In Leviticus 10, Nadab and Abihu offered "strange fire that the Lord

commanded them not. And there went out fire from the Lord, and devoured them, and they died before the Lord (Leviticus 10:1-2).

We continue to see this need for authority stressed in the New Testament. In the sermon on the mount, Jesus mentioned on the day of judgment there would be those that would have practiced many things in their religion calling Him Lord. But Jesus said, "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matthew 7:22-23). Jesus points out that even though they were practicing and doing many things in the name of God, they were doing these things without the proper authority. Notice Jesus said that they were "workers of iniquity" or "lawlessness." We see that in the matters of religious faith and practice, that proper authority for what we do is necessary.

What This Means To Me

Understanding that Jesus is the one who has all authority and that authority is necessary for what we do in the faith and practice, what must we do? We must look into God's word and see what it teaches about the Lord's will. The Lord has given us all things that "pertain unto life and godliness" (1 Peter 1:3). This means that as we go through life, we can look to the word of God and find all that God wants us to do. As we then seek to please Him, we do what the scriptures teach us. We do not rely on what others say, or what our parents believed, but we act upon our own faith that comes from the word of God (Romans 10:17). We do what God authorizes us to do in the way He would have us to do it. In doing this, we are then practicing things by the authority of God; the proper authority for us.

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

Seeing The Lord

David B. Hartsell

John discusses three attempts at seeing The Lord: Peter and the other disciple, Mary Magdalene, and Thomas, called Didymus (John 20). Each case involves viewing the resurrected Jesus. But why was it so difficult to “see” the risen Lord? Jesus repeatedly told them he would die and rise again (Mark 9:9-10; 30-31). The old prophets also clearly point to this eventuality (Psalm 16:10). Let’s briefly review each case and find the answer to this question.

When Peter and the other disciple (probably John) hear of Jesus’ tomb being empty, they eagerly raced to His grave to see the truthfulness of this story. John first arrives and finds the stone rolled away from the mouth of the tomb. He peers into the burial cave and notes the linen clothes lying there, but no body. Peter then appears on the scene, and true to his character, immediately enters the tomb. Both disciples ponder the meaning of the folded garments and absence of Jesus’ body. As John enters the tomb, he takes further inventory of the situation and then “believes” (John 20:7-8). Now he “sees” that the grave could not hold his Lord (Acts 2:23-24).

After Peter and John’s departure, Mary stood weeping in front of the empty grave. Looking into the tomb she sees two angels who ask her why she is crying. She simply responds, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him” (John 20:13). Turning around, Mary sees a man she supposes to be the gardener. He asks her the same question and she gives Him a similar response. Then Jesus reveals Himself by saying, “Mary!” She sees Jesus and cries out, “Teacher!” (John 20:15-16). Mary immediately arises out of tearful hopelessness into the joy of “seeing” again her Savior and friend.

Later, Christ showed Himself to all of His apostles, all except Thomas who was absent. Thomas, for reasons unknown, misses their gathering, and in doing so fails to “see” his resurrected Lord. When Thomas’ brethren joyously proclaim Jesus’ personal revelation to them, he declares he will only believe when he can feel the “print of the nails” in Jesus’ hands and “put his hand in His side” (John 20:24-25). Eight days later Jesus again appears to the twelve, including Thomas. The Lord invites

Thomas to do what he claims he must do to believe. He answers, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus concludes by telling Thomas, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed” (John 20:29).

Why did they not see? Several reasons could be offered: misconceptions as to Jesus’ true nature, difficulty in accepting His resurrection, or their failure to meditate on the Messianic prophecies (John 20:9). The real problem seems to be their blindness through doubt and disbelief. Saints often struggle with this. They profess their undying, unwavering faith and then question many truths taught in the scripture. They want to be a disciple without making Jesus the center of their lives. This is impossible (Matthew 10:34-39). They don’t see the Lord even though the evidence abounds (John 20:31-31). Jesus teaches one’s ability to “see Him” is based upon a genuine love and desire to know Him by knowing and understanding His words (Matthew 13:16).

~via *The Northwood Messenger*; Northport, 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:

Scott Adams; Cancer Center of America – Chicago

At Home:

Nancy Hardison
David Gardner
Bobbie Adcock
Jim Currier
Jeff Mitchell
Randy Graviett
Jess Shores
Billy Joe Legg

Jane Meredith
Mary Ruth Gardner
Emma Clark
Una King Currier
Jeff Waddell
Bernice Martin
Jesse Carter

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

Lola Colwell, at home

Polly Davis, River City Care, 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.

OUT OF TOWN: *Nancy Abernathy* is back in Arkansas this week... *Rachel Grubbs* is back home after visiting with her daughter... *The Wulfekuhls: Russ, Lisa and Alison* are now home after being in China for about three weeks.

GROUP MEETING: Remember tonight will be the time for group two to meet. If you are in group two, remember to meet with your group this evening.

OUR MEETING: Our Gospel Meeting with *Bill Hall* begins today. I know that many invitations have been extended. Remember to pray for those that have been invited; that they will come and hear the the truth of the gospel. Remember to continue to invite others to come and join us. The lessons will be recorded and if you would like one or all the lessons, please let us know.

GOSPEL MEETING: There will be a gospel meeting beginning on Friday night, September 17th, at the *Pepper Road church* with *Tom Holley* preaching. The meeting will continue through next Sunday.

THE RECORD: Attendance— Week of September 5th

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 132

Morning Worship 160

Evening Worship..... 118

Wednesday:

Bible Classes..... 102

Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, September 12th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Rusty Brand
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Tyler Cox
Preaching Bill Hall
Lord's Supper
Presiding Dwaine Allfrey
Assisting Marion Mitchell
Serving David Terry Marion Pepper
..... Nathaniel Adams Chris Sides
Closing Prayer Kenneth Smith

Evening Worship

Announcements Rusty Brand
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Larry Mitchell
Preaching Bill Hall
Lord's Supper Marion Mitchell
Closing Prayer Marty Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, September 12th:

Usher Larry Mitchell
Work Sound System Danny Johnson

Wednesday, September 15th:

Song Leader Marty Adams
Bible Reading (Isaiah 3:1-9)
..... Hunter Cox
Prayer Jack Cannon
Invitation Bill Hall
Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Sunday, September 19th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Joel Hamm
Song Leader Jerry McGlocklin
Prayer Rusty Brand
Preaching Warren Glass
Lord's Supper
Presiding Wayne Vaughn
Assisting Bonnie Sutton
Serving Keenon Currier Tyler Cox
..... Delmer Carter Landon Adams
Closing Prayer Benton Ball

Evening Worship

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

Other Assignments for Sunday, September 19th:

Usher David Terry
Work Sound System Stuart Wilson