

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 19, 2010

No. 38

Dropping The Name "Christian"

Mark W. White

I am certainly aware that many people have misused the name "Christian" for almost as long as the name has existed. Originally, the term described the disciples of Christ at Antioch (Acts 11:26). Although some scholars would disagree, I do not believe the term originated in derision. Whether or not it was the "new name" prophesied in Isaiah 62:2 may be debated. But Peter used the term in a respectful, commendable way when he wrote *"if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name."* (1 Peter 4:16, MIV). We gather from this that early "Christians" did not hang their heads because they were identified as being of, or related to, Christ.

The name "Christian" has been applied to nations, schools, colleges, publishing companies, athletic clubs, and benevolent agencies, to name just a few. These applications really are not proper uses of the word. In Scripture, "Christian" is a noun, not an adjective. In fact, if you cannot baptize it into Christ, it cannot rightly be called a "Christian."

Some well-known groups are now dropping the name "Christian" from their titles. I am happy they are doing so, for it is really a misnomer. The YMCA (*Young Men's Christian Association*) was wrongly named from its inception in 1844. The charitable organization, *"Christian Children's Fund"*, which has long raised funds to aid poverty-stricken children around the world, has also dropped "Christian" from its name to simply become *"Child Fund."* Again, the name "Christian" should not have been applied to this organization from the start. But that is not why "Christian" was dropped. The reason for it is because it is no longer politically correct for any group to be identified as "Christian." In both instances, "inclusion" and "diversity" were the reasons cited for these changes. Those reasons should be a cause of concern for us.

Paul was not ashamed to be "of Christ" nor of the Gospel he gave (Romans 1:16). And in our country, there was a time when citizens were not skittish of the name of Christ. Samuel Huntington, Governor of

Connecticut in 1791, issued a proclamation in his state calling for prayer and fasting in which he declared:

“It becomes a people **publicly to acknowledge** the over-ruling hand of Divine Providence...and with becoming humility and sincere repentance to supplicate the pardon that we may obtain forgiveness through the merits and mediation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (March 9, 1791, emphasis added, MW)

Times have certainly changed. We can hardly imagine any Governor, President, or city Mayor saying such things in our “politically correct” climate!

Jesus warned, *“For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His own glory”* (Luke 9:26).

~via *College View Columns*; Florence, Alabama



By Process of Elimination

Dee Bowman

“Eliminate” is from the Latin word “limen,” which meant a threshold. Add the prefix e or ex and you have “out of the threshold.” So the word means to put out of doors, or get rid of something. We get our word “preliminary” from the same root. It means “before the threshold,” and today has the concept of something that is introductory. The Christian has to eliminate certain things from his life if he is to be pleasing to God.

Pride: It is not out of order to care for oneself, but the true child of God will always find ways to put off excessive pride and put himself at the disposal of others. The very essence of discipleship is that of self-denial (Matthew 16:24) and Paul said, “Be kindly affectionate one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another” (Romans 12:10).

Ill Will: It’s easy to be overcome with evil when someone does something to us or treats us in some way we don’t appreciate. But we are told that we should “recompense to no man evil for evil” (Romans 12:17),

that we should “be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good” (Romans 12:21). The beginning place for such good will is to eliminate ill will before it has time to fester. “If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceable with all men” (Romans 12:18).

Evil Thoughts: All evil deeds begin in the mind - with evil thoughts. This elimination is actually a matter of employing the law of displacement. If our minds are taken up with good thoughts, there is not room left for the bad ones to generate. That’s why God said, through His servant Paul, that whatever things are true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, or of good report, that we should “think on these things” (Philippians 4:8). If a person’s mind is taken up with these noble thoughts, it is hardly possible for the evil ones to penetrate his thinking.

Evil Inclinations: “Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth: fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry” (Colossians 3:5). To “mortify” something is to put it to death, to be separated from it - in short, to eliminate. The good Christian makes every effort to put out of the house anything that might tempt him to evil.

Doubt: Total trust is what faith is all about. There is no room in the kingdom for doubt. God will do what He has said. His promises are sure, His word steadfast. “For the Lord shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken” (Proverbs 3:26). If God said it, that settles it, no doubt about it.

Eliminating bad stuff from our lives is part of what we are all about. We try to expunge any and everything that would inhibit our progress as the children of God. It is our duty - yea, our privilege - so to do.

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

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

“OMG” Doesn’t Mean “O Majestic God!”

Edwin L. Crozier

I need to share a concern with my fellow Christian Facebookers, MySpacers, Pleonasters, Twitterers, texters and other social media types. “OMG!” doesn’t mean “O Majestic God.” It is not a means by which God is honored. It doesn’t even mean “Oh, my goodness.” When people read that, they see and hear in their minds the phrase, “Oh my God.”

Please recall that under the Old Covenant one of God’s ten laws was, “You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain” (Exodus 20:7). God’s name was to be held in honor or God would curse His people (Malachi 2:2).

The New Covenant demonstrates the same principle of honor for God. 1 Timothy 1:17 says, “To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.” Revelation 4:11 says, “Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.” In Revelation 7:12, the angels, elders, and living creatures cried out, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might to be our God forever and ever! Amen.”

I’m seeing a trend that concerns me among Christians online. More frequently I see Christians using texting shorthand for taking God’s name in vain - “OMG.” I just want to ask you to think before you type that shorthand on your computer. If you typed the long-hand phrase, “Oh my God.” would it be appropriate? Would you think this use of God’s name was intended to honor Him, to give Him glory and praise?

Certainly there are times when saying “Oh my God” is appropriate. We have songs that use that phrase. As we pray, we may praise God by calling out to Him, “Oh my God.” We are recognizing that He is our God; we are not. We are recognizing that He is our God; money is not. We are recognizing that He is our God; idols are not.

However, when someone has said something sur-

prising or said something that really resonates with us and we want to accentuate it simply by typing, “OMG! That’s amazing,” are we really calling on God and honoring Him? Were we even addressing Him? Or were we just taking His name in vain because it was so easy and everyone else does it?

God’s name is not meant to register our surprise, our shock, or our amazement. God’s name is meant to be held in honor, to bring glory to Him, to address Him.

Please think about this before you type your next status update. Let’s honor God in our speech and our online posts. He deserves it.

~via *The Gospel Power*; Anderson, Alabama

News & Notes

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

Keena Adams; Huntsville Hospital; rm. 1542

Scott Adams; Cancer Center of America – Chicago

At Home:

Hazel Toone

David Gardner

Mary Ruth Gardner

Bobbie Adcock

Emma Clark

Una King Currier

Jim Currier

Jeff Mitchell

Jeff Waddell

Eva Felker

Bernice Martin

Jesse Carter

Billy Joe Legg

Randy Graviett

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

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.

WEDDING BELLS: We rejoice over the marriage of *Chris Sides and Amy Lomax* this past Friday evening at Athens State University. We wish for them many years of wedded bliss together as husband and wife.

CONFESSION: Last Sunday evening, *Gilbert Hardy* came forward asking for prayers and forgiveness in not living as a child of God should. We rejoice over his good heart and the desire to please God. May we all encourage Gilbert as he will encourage us in our lives as children of God.

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

OUR MEETING: Our Gospel Meeting with *Bill Hall* preaching ended this past Thursday evening. The meeting was well attended by both Christians and non-Christians. I want to thank all of you here who attended the meeting faithfully. We averaged 175 for the meeting. Brother Hall did his work well and all who came benefitted from the lessons he preached. I appreciate the songleaders during the meeting: *Stuart Wilson, Joel Hamm, Tommy Burns, Hunter Cox and Tyler Cox*. The singing throughout the meeting was excellent and that is attributed much to the leaders and their work. I appreciate all the work that so many of you did by inviting your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc. to join us for the meeting. Nearly 1200 invitations were handed out, mailed or made through facebook. Let us continue to remember the meeting and the open doors it has given us.

GOSPEL MEETING: The *Somerville church* in Somerville is beginning a meeting today with *David Cox* preaching. The meeting will continue through Tuesday evening... The *Holland's Gin church* near Ardmore is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening with *E.R. Hall* preaching.

THE RECORD: Attendance – Week of Sept. 12th

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 142
Morning Worship 189
Evening Worship..... 168

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 147

Men Privileged To Serve:

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

Wednesday, September 22nd:

Song Leader Stuart Wilson
Bible Reading..... (Isaiah 3:10-17)
..... Marion Mitchell
Prayer Dwain Allfrey
Invitation David Cox
Closing Prayer Kenneth Smith

Sunday, September 26th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
Song Leader Stuart Wilson
Prayer Kenneth Smith
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Wayne Vaughn
Assisting Bonnie Sutton
Serving Keenon Currier Tyler Cox
..... Delmer Carter Landon Adams
Closing Prayer Lifford Smith

Evening Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
Song Leader Stuart Wilson
Prayer Joel Hamm
Preaching Song Service
Lord's Supper Bonnie Sutton
Closing Prayer Rusty Brand

Other Assignments for Sunday, September 26th:

Usher Marion Mitchell
Work Sound System Marty Adams