

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
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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

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Seeing Beyond The Grave

David A. Cox

It seems that one of the biggest problems there may be in the lives of many people is seeing beyond the grave. Many things that disturb people the most in this life fade into deep insignificance when we view life beyond the grave. Many seem to live life with a view that as long as people can say good about them that everything will be all right in eternity. In considering this thought, I believe we would do well to examine what the scriptures teach.

Facing God Beyond The Grave

There is more than this life. The Bible says concerning death, that "the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it" (Ecclesiastes 12:7). In Hebrews 9:27 we read, "And as it is appointed unto man once to die, but after death the judgement." It is clear from the scriptures, that after this life the spirit of man will return to God for judgement. In this judgement, man will not be judged on what people thought of him, but how he lived in accordance with the Lord's will. In Romans 14:12, "So then every man shall give account of himself to God." In 2 Corinthians 5:10, "For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." Beyond the grave we will face God to be judged according to His will (Matthew 7:21-24; John 12:48).

What Does This Mean?

The question may well be asked, "What does this mean?" It means that it really does not matter the praise of men one may have or what one's reputation among men may be. Rather, what really matters is how man is viewed by God. In Jesus' day, he spoke of those that believed on Him, but would not confess Him "For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God" (John 12:43). As it was then, there are some today that cannot see beyond the grave because of the praise, prestige, and position of honor that they hold among men.

But what is the fate of such people? The answer to this is best seen

in the sermon on the mount when Jesus pictures the judgement scene and says, "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?" (Matthew 7:22). He says that there are those that will have done many wonderful things in the eyes of men. On this side of the grave they looked exceptional to men. But notice Jesus' response, "And then I will profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matthew 7:23). We must learn to see beyond the grave and to view our lives as God views them.

How would God view your life? Would God be pleased or not? We must understand that it does matter what we do on this side of the grave. And what we do or do not do will determine where we spend eternity on the other side of the grave. May we learn to live in this life with the view of eternity and to see our life beyond the grave.



For What Are We Preparing?

H. E. Phillips

This country is full of people who are busy providing and preparing for something, but what is it? In the process of this preparation for something in the future, they are losing their souls. Money plays a vital role in the building of new barns in which to bestow their goods for the future. That makes money the most important commodity sought after, and most people are after as much of it as they can get. There is very little importance to how they get it, just so they can get more and more. Several high ranking political figures have recently been toppled from their positions of power because of their greed for money. Even the ones who brought their downfall are guilty of the same things.

Jesus taught a lesson in the form of a parable, recorded in Luke 12:16-21, in which he pictures a man who gives all his talents and time to preparing for this life by way of wealth. He gave no thought to the life which is to come. When he reached the point in preparations for this life, when he thought he was secure, he said to

himself: "Soul, thou has much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry." This, I think, is the goal of most preparation today. Men will work hard to build a house in which to live. They will provide comfortable surroundings for their families and themselves. They will accumulate estates for later life and put their trust in that which is laid up for a "rainy day." All of it for this life of a few short years, and when this is done they think they are safe and all is well. But suddenly they face death and eternity. There is no real lasting security in earthly things, yet these are the objectives of the great majority of people on earth today. All here is vanity and vexation of spirit.

To what does the average person look forward in eternity? After the man in the parable had assured himself that he could now enjoy life because he has been successful in preparing for his life here, God said to him, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?" What a terrifying realization! All his work for nothing. He had spent all his effort in providing for this life, and when he was ready to enjoy the fruits of his labors, his life is about to end. What would happen to all this work? What good was all the preparation for this life now that he was going to die? How many millions are now in the same situation as this poor man.

As a conclusion to this parable, and the lesson which the Lord wants men to get: "So is he that layeth up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God." Every man and woman who emphasizes preparation for comforts and pleasures for this life and ignores preparation for eternity is in the class with this man who lost all. The day will come, and it may be sooner than you think, when your life will be required. Then what will happen to all those things which you prepared for this life? More importantly, what will you do about the failure to prepare for the judgment and for eternity?

It is right to provide for those things we need in this life, but it is wrong to push into second or third place the things of the Spirit. The most important preparation before us now is not the needs for the present, but for the time when we shall all appear before the Lord to account for the lives we have spend on the earth. When you put "making a living" before "serving the Lord" you are preparing for the present and not for eternity. No argument can change that. Then you put "having a good

time” before “obeying God” you are making provisions for this life, and are not rich toward God.

Preparation for eternal life requires a faithful and constant study of God's word, an obedient life of worship and work for the Lord, and a faithful and regular attendance to all opportunities for public worship and edifying. Do not be a fool, as Jesus said this man was, but make your preparation for eternal life.

-via *Centerview Tidings*; Russellville, Alabama.

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Died With Christ

Chuck Bartlett

While addressing the church at Colosse, Paul mentioned, “Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as though living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations... according to the commandments and doctrines of men?” (2:20-22).

The apostle makes a powerful point concerning the new life in Christ. If people died with Christ it is to mean they leave a former lifestyle, to live anew. How one dies with Christ is told in Romans 6:3-4; it says, “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death...”

It is good to inquire if someone has been baptized, but there is more to it than that. The brethren in Colosse needed to forsake their old ways, and abide in righteousness. In Romans 6, Paul goes on to instruct, “Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.” (v. 6).

We see that our service after we are baptized is vital. Also, any attempt to live faithfully without dying with Christ, will prove futile. This makes sense, since it is impossible to live when there hasn't been a birth. Jesus said, “Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be

born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” (John 3:3).

There is a danger in putting too much emphasis on baptism, since hearing the word, believing, repenting and confessing Christ is just as needful as baptism (Romans 10:14-17, John 8:24, Luke 13:3, Romans 10:9-10). But, the importance of being baptized is clear. Without putting to death our old man, we will always be a servant of sin (Romans 6:17). We can guard against serving sin after we have obeyed the gospel by rejecting the traditions and doctrines of men and “seeking those things which are above, where Christ sitteth” (Colossians 3:1).

To go down into the watery grave, thinking sin is already removed, is to remain sin-stained. There is no power in water; it is in the blood (1 John 1:7). Yet, if one denies the purpose of baptism (for the remission of sins, Acts 2:38, 22:16), one in turn denies the power of the blood of Christ. Have you been baptized?

-via *The Gospel Observer*; Ashland City, Kentucky.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

Jane Meredith; Huntsville Hospital; CVICU

Mary Bates; Huntsville Hospital; rm. 263

At Home:

David Gardner

Hazel Toone

Eva Felker

Jeff Mitchell

Jeff Waddell

Una King Carrier

Randy Graviett

Jess Shores

Mary Ruth Gardner

Bobbie Adcock

Keena Adams

Emma Clark

Bernice Martin

Jim Carrier

Jesse Carter

Scott Adams

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

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.

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.

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

SINGING: There will be a period of singing at *Weath-erly Heights church* in Huntsville on Friday evening, October 15th. The singing will begin at 7:00 p.m.

GOSPEL MEETING: The *4th Street church* in Cullman is beginning a meeting today with *Billy Randolph* preaching. The meeting will continue through Thursday evening... The *Elgin Hills church* in Elgin is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday evening with *Bob Buchanon* preaching.

THE RECORD: Attendance – Week of October 3rd
Sunday:

Bible Classes..... 123

Morning Worship 170

Evening Worship..... 126

Wednesday:

Bible Classes..... 93

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

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, October 10th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Stuart Wilson
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Dwaine Allfrey
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Jonathan Keenon
Assisting Joel Hamm
Serving Hunter Cox..... Will Chumbley
..... Danny Johnson Russ Wulfekuhl
Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements Stuart Wilson
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Marion Mitchell
Preaching Warren Glass
Lord's Supper Jonathan Keenon
Closing Prayer Wayne Vaughn

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 10th:

Usher Delmer Carter
Work Sound System Stuart Wilson

Wednesday, October 13th:

Song Leader Joel Hamm
Bible Reading..... (Isaiah 4:1-6)
..... Danny Johnson
Prayer Bonnie Sutton
Invitation David Cox
Closing Prayer Kenneth Smith

Sunday, October 17th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Rusty Brand
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Marion Mitchell
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Stuart Wilson
Assisting Kenneth Smith
Serving Marvin Putman..... Landon Adams
..... Raymond Brown..... Bonnie Sutton
Closing Prayer Wayne Vaughn

Evening Worship

Announcements Rusty Brand
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Nathaniel Adams
Preaching Marty Adams
Lord's Supper Stuart Wilson
Closing Prayer Jonathan Keenon

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 17th:

Usher Danny Johnson
Work Sound System Stuart Wilson