

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

Jerry McGlocklin.....(256) 232-7620
Kenneth Smith.....(256) 233-2050
Bonnie Sutton.....(256) 232-2081

Deacons

Marty R. Adams.....(256) 233-5147
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 III

September 11, 2011

No. 37

Beginning Today

Gospel Meeting

September 11-14

(Sunday – Wednesday)

Schedule of Services

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

Jeff McCrary

Monday – 7:00 p.m.

Steve Klein

Tuesday – 7:00 p.m.

Norm Webb, Sr.

Wednesday – 7:00 p.m.

Lance Taylor

MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA

Can We Understand The Bible Alike?

David A. Cox

Often, very little attention is given to the question of religious division, but it remains a very serious matter. There is the concept that we are not able to see or interpret the Bible alike. The scriptures teach that the Bible can be and is expected to be understood alike. The apostle Paul told the Ephesians, “Wherefore be ye not unwise, but *understanding* what the will of the Lord is” (Ephesians 5:17). However, many times, religious division is a result of those who have not studied the Bible for themselves and have relied on others to tell them what the Bible teaches. This results in men following what men say through their creeds, confession of faith, disciplines, manuals, etc. rather than what the word of God teaches.

Is It A Matter of Personal Interpretation?

First, let us look at the question that arises, “Can we see the Bible alike or does it depend upon each individual’s interpretation?” We can clearly see from the New Testament that those in the first century understood the teaching they received alike (Acts 2:44-47; 4:32). The Bible is very clear concerning the unity that should exist among those who profess to be Christians. In John 17:20-21, Christ’s prayer for His disciples was, “Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they may be one is us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.” Christ prayed that His disciples and those that are taught, by the word, would be *one*. This includes those taught in the first century, as well as today. This does not give the idea that one’s personal interpretation has anything to do with being united with God and Christ.

Unity Expected

The unity that Christ prayed for in John 17, is commanded of those that follow Christ. Paul exhorted the Corinthians to “be of the same mind and the same judgment” (1 Corinthians 1:10) and further told the Philippians “...let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing” (Philippians 3:16). However, this unity is impossible to obtain while different denominational bodies teach conflicting doctrines from the various creed books, but claim to be followers of Christ. In order to

achieve the unity of which Paul was speaking of and prayed for, we must all use the same standard as our authority in religious matters. We recognize this when it comes to others areas of life such as: building, cooking, and playing fields for ball games. Then why should we not think that we must follow the standard God has given? The first century Christians were united because they “continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine” (Acts 2:42). They used the only standard of authority for the things that they practiced in religion.

What We Must Learn

First century Christians were united, being taught by the apostles to be of the same mind and judgment. They understood Christ’s desire for unity among those who would believe through the inspired word of God. Since this was the case then, why then do we not use the only divine rule? The answer is that many do not have the proper attitude toward the word of God. The same attitude is seen in the children of Israel as the elders went to Samuel and said to him, “now make us a king to judge over us like all the nations” (1 Samuel 8:5). The elders of Israel wanted a king to be “like all the nations”. Many times people want to believe the Bible, but they have their attitude toward what the word of God teaches altered by popularity, family relationships, preconceived ideas, allurements to the things of this world, etc.

We must understand that what is taught in the Bible is very important because it teaches us “all things that pertain to life and godliness” (2 Peter 1:3). Therefore, the Bible, God’s inspired revelation to man, teaches us what we should do to be pleasing and faithful to Him in order to receive the crown of life (2 Timothy 3:16-17; Titus 2:15; Revelation 2:10; 2 Timothy 4:7-8). The apostle Paul made it clear to the Galatians that they should be able to understand the gospel that was taught and be able to recognize error when it was taught (Galatians 1:6-9). We must heed the exhortation of Paul to “study to shew thyself approved unto God...rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15). Therefore, knowing God’s will for us.

The Bible can be, and is understood alike when we determine to practice only the things taught in God’s

word. We must endeavor to “speak as the oracles of God (1 Peter 4:11); not adding anything to or taking anything away from the word of God (Revelation 22:18). In doing this, we will be following the divine rule, there will be no divisions, and we will see the Bible alike!



Bearing The Weight of Anxiety

Dennis Carrow

“Anxiety in the heart of man brings him down” (Proverbs 12:25). As I prepare for an extended study that will examine the subject of anxiety and emotional distress, I ask myself, “What is the objective for such a study?” When we approach any Biblical principle we humbly acknowledge that God has a purpose in giving us a directive. In this case, God says, “Be anxious for nothing.” A simple command, right? As we are all aware this may be one of the most difficult challenges God places before us.

Within the context of the directive “not be anxious” we have instruction of what to do instead of being anxious. There is a formula laid out through which we can have the peace of God. The peace of God is what we possess when the anxiety subsides. However, it is important for us to realize the removal of this weight is something we learn. Depending on our life circumstance we will find the heaviness of this weight will fluctuate throughout the course of our lives. We must be mindful that God has given us instructions to help us through those times when those stressful moments come upon us.

The divine instructions are, “whatever things are true, whatever things are honest, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things” (Philippians 4:8,9). So, the instructions are simply to control our thinking. Well, this is not so simple. Life’s reality sometime forces us into circumstances that are negative, difficult, and depressing. As much as we might like to

avoid certain things, ultimately, “Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble” (Job 14:1).

So, how can we carry the spiritual weight of anxiety? The Proverb speaks of the strength of the spirit of a man sustaining his infirmity, but then acknowledges, “A wounded spirit who can bear?” (Proverbs 18:14) This identifies the incredible weight of anxiety. How can we carry that weight? The truth we all know is; we can’t!

It is the acknowledgement that we cannot carry that weight that we begin an act of faith. That step begins with the casting of burdens. Repeatedly the Bible instructs us to do this. Cast your burden on the LORD, and he shall sustain you: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved (Psalm 55:22). Casting all your care on him; for he cares for you (1 Peter 5:7). Life’s circumstances will not always be peaceful, but the God of peace will always be with us. It is during the times of difficulty that we must learn some things were not intended for us to carry, but to cast. When we do this we can begin the thought process that allows those good, pure, virtuous things into our mind. It will be at this moment we begin to learn contentment. This does not mean that our circumstances have changed, it means that we have by prayer and supplication let our request be known to God. Then we have begun the process of casting our care upon Him, as we do this God brings us peace that passes all understanding, and will keep our hearts and minds through Christ. Remember what Jesus did in the garden of Gethsemane!

-via *What Is True?*, Little Rock Arkansas.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Rachel Grubbs
David Gardner
Martha Rice
Tim Dean
Matt Poff
Gladys Sandlin
Joe Collier
Paige Phillips
Barbara Ogles
Don Bowling

Bobbie Adcock
Mary Ruth Gardner
Larry Jones
Brent Lowman
Una King Currier
Phillip Harwell
Sarah Collier
Randy Graviett
Robbie Shoulders
Wanda Taylor

In The Hospital:

Jack Jones; Vanderbilt Hospital - Nashville, rm. 7014
Jeff Waddell; Vanderbilt Hospital – rm. 11006
Rhett Bailey; St. Jude’s Hosp. Memphis, Tenn.

Athens Convalescent Center:

Betty Bates, rm. 17

Limestone Health Facility:

Janet Berryhill, rm. 65 Annie Mae Bragg, rm. 57
Hazel Toone, rm. 93 Rosella Pugh, rm. 74
J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E Mary Smith, rm. 85

Limestone Manor:

Albert Norton, rm. 98

Shut-In:

Reba Adams, at home
Lola Colwell, at home
Polly Davis, River City Care, Decatur, rm. 74

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:

- Andrew Deen; Japan
- Whitney Deen; Japan
- Matthew Cox; Iraq

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to ***Will Chumbley and all the family*** in the passing of Will’s grandmother, ***Millinea Threet***, this past Thursday. Her funeral was yesterday afternoon at the College View church in Florence.

NURSERIES AVAILABLE: There are two nurseries available for those who will need them. One is in the west wing and the other is in the east wing.

WORK GROUPS: Tonight will be the night for work 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 evenings at 5:30 p.m.

THE RECORD: *For the Week of September 4th*

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 137
Morning Worship 169
Evening Worship..... 116

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 113

Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, September 11th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer Terry Andrews
Preaching Jeff McCrary
Lord’s Supper
Presiding Marcus Morris
Assisting Kenneth Smith
Serving Joel Hamm Marion Mitchell
..... Ronnie Locke Marvin Putman
Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Evening Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
Song Leader Tyler Cox
Prayer Dwaine Allfrey
Preaching Jeff McCrary
Lord’s Supper Kenneth Smith
Closing Prayer Jonathan Keenon

Other Assignments for Sunday, September 11th:
Usher Delmer Carter
Work Sound System Stuart Wilson Adams

Wednesday, September 14th:

Song Leader Stefan Fudge
Bible Reading (Isaiah 30:6-14)
..... Terry Andrews
Prayer Marion Mitchell
Invitation Lance Taylor
Closing Prayer Jerry McGlocklin

Sunday, September 18th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Stefan Fudge
Prayer Terry Andrews
Preaching David Cox
Lord’s Supper
Presiding Stuart Wilson
Assisting Dwaine Allfrey
Serving Hunter Cox Jonathan Keenon
..... Keenon Currier Marcus Morris
Closing Prayer Kenneth Smith

Evening Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Marion Mitchell
Preaching Marty Adams
Lord’s Supper Stuart Wilson
Closing Prayer Jerry McGlocklin

Other Assignments for Sunday, September 18th:
Usher Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System Marty Adams