

# 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*

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## *The Spiritual Simplicity of Our Singing*

**Paul Earnhart**

In the 1940's, Elmer T. Clark observed that there is "a peculiar type of mind which is convinced that God is interested in whether his worshipers sing with or without instrumental music" (Small Sects in America, p.16). Clark's words carry a twentieth century bias. The truth is that the mind which he thought so peculiar was once dominant in "Christian" thought. The use of musical instruments in the worship of the churches is a relatively recent development. Most Protestant churches in America did not yield to the practice until the nineteenth century.

The unadorned simplicity of our spiritual singing is not a cultural statement but a matter of faith - a response to the teaching of the New Testament.

The worship of the Old Testament church with its complex rituals was not simple. During the intricate rites of the temple sacrifices a Levitical chorus was commanded to sing and a Levitical orchestra to play (2 Chronicles 29:25-28). But the New Testament refers to the appointments of temple worship as "*carnal ordinances, imposed until a time of reformation*" (Hebrews 9:10). This reformation is dramatically illustrated by the total absence of any reference in the New Testament to Christians worshipping God with sacrificial animals, incense, lamps, choirs, or orchestras. There is only the admonition for the disciples to speak to each other and to the Lord in "psalms and hymns and spiritual songs" (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16).

Christian worship in song is not a choral contest. Spiritual singing has spiritual ends. Since God's ways differ radically from our own (Isaiah 55:8-9) it is of no consequence that in the mind of some the absence of musical instruments (or of devotional lamps and incense) diminishes the appeal of the singing. What is important is that we have sufficient trust in God to follow His instructions with the confidence that His methods achieve His purposes.

The silence of the New Testament on instrumentally accompanied singing has had its impact in history. The early centuries not only reveal no use of instrumental music in worship but an expressed opposition to it as belonging to the spiritual infancy of the Old Testament church. Eusebius of Caesarea (early 4th century), commenting on Psalm 91:2-3: "Of old at the time those of the circumcision were worshipping with symbols and types it was not inappropriate to send up hymns to God with the psalterion and kithara... We render our hymns with a living psalterion and a living kithara with spiritual songs. The unison voices of Christians would be more acceptable to God than any musical instrument."

Chrysostom (late 4th century): "It was only permitted to the Jews, as sacrifice was, for the heaviness and grossness of their souls. God condescended to their weakness, because they were lately drawn from idols; but now, instead of organs, we may use our own bodies to praise him withal." Theodoret of Cyrhus (early 5th century): "Question: If songs were invented by unbelievers to seduce men, but were allowed to those under the law on account of their childish state, why do those who have received the perfect teaching of grace in their churches still use songs, just like the children under the law? Answer: It is not simple singing that belongs to the childish state, but singing with lifeless instruments, with dancing, and with clappers. Hence the use of such instruments and the others that belong to the childish state is excluded from the singing in the churches, and simple singing is left" (Questions and Answers for the Orthodox).

The Roman Catholic Church continued this opposition at least until the time of Thomas Aquinas (1227-1274) who wrote: "Our church does not use musical instruments, as harps and psalteries, to praise God withal, that she may not seem to Judaize." The Greek Church (Orthodox) has never used musical instruments. Several Protestant reformers held to the same sentiment. Calvin wrote that "musical instruments in celebrating the praises of God would be no more suitable than the burning of incense, the lighting of lamps, and the restoration of the other shadows of the law" (Commentary on Psalm 33). Wesley was more succinct: "I have no objection to instruments of music in our chapels provided they are neither heard nor seen."

The use of instruments in worship is not progress

but a carnal retreat to spiritual kindergarten. We should glory in the supreme spirituality of our singing, sanctified by God and accompanied by the higher melody of our hearts.

-via *The Stonegate Standard*; Port Arthur, Texas

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## *Truth's Consequences*

**Bill Hall**

The consequences of truth are sometimes bitter. Many a man has lost his job or home, or friends, or life because of his stand for truth. Many a preacher has been ousted from the pulpit, having neither house nor salary, because he preached the truth. Many a person has had his name slandered and maligned because of truth. With all such people, love for truth is greater than love for comfort, security, or even life itself.

Unfortunate indeed is the man who looks ahead to evaluate the consequences of a position before evaluating the position itself. Such a man will rarely come to a knowledge of truth. His thoughts concerning "Where will I preach?" or "Won't I be condemning my good mother to hell?" or "How will I explain my change to good ole Brother Jones?" or "How will I support my family?" or "Everybody will think I'm crazy" may well blind his mind to whatever evidence is at hand. The man who really demonstrates a love for truth is the man who studies every subject objectively and then lets the consequences - whether they be good or bad - take care of themselves.

Unfortunate too is the man who complains and grieves over the consequences of truth, for truth must bring joy to the heart, whatever may be its consequences. Self-pity may lead one to "sell the truth" and to profane this precious commodity. If pity is to be felt, it must be felt for that person who has never suffered the consequences of truth, for such a man has obviously loved the praises of men more than the praises of God.

No men ever felt the consequences of truth to a greater degree than did the apostles, but they faced all

such consequences “rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name” (Acts 5:41). Worthy! There’s the key! The man who lets a fear of consequences dictate his position on every question never suffers, for he is not worthy to suffer. Pity him! But the person who stands for truth regardless of the consequences shall suffer, for he is worthy to suffer. Rejoice with him!

What a difference between the man who is “heaven” oriented and that one who is “this world” oriented!

-via *West Second Street Bulletin*; Bloomington, Indiana.

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## *The Essence of Leadership*

**Michael W. McLemore**

Elihu Root, an American statesman, diplomat and principal cabinet member in both the Roosevelt and Wilson administrations, is quoted as having said, “I observe that there are two entirely different theories according to which individual men seek to get on in the world. One theory leads a man to pull down everybody around him in order to climb up on them to a higher place. The other leads a man to help everybody around him in order that he may grow up with them.”

It seems Mr. Root had it about right. A political appointee for better than thirty-eight years, he had a prospective of those about him which served well as his authority in the matter of leadership. the political spectacle of our modern era observed even casually reveals the rough and tumble characters as they struggle to demean the opponents about them that they might gain prominence with voters. Sadly, the political arena is not the only place such “characters” are found. Among members of the Lord’s church, their craft is sometimes observed.

Once guilty himself of demeaning others to keep his position of prominence with those about him, the apostle Peter later argued for the essence of leadership- “Pastor the flock of God which is among you, taking

the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for greed not for gain, but of a ready mind...being ensamples to the flock” (1 Peter 5:2,3)

-via *The West End Way*; Richmond, Virginia.

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## Radio Program

Every Sunday Morning

on WVNN

770AM – 92.5 FM

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Market Street church of Christ

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## News & Notes

### **THE SICK:**

Hazel Toone

Tim Dean

Martha Rice

Matt Poff

Betty Faye Holt

Rhett Bailey

Phillip Harwell

Joe Collier

Barbara Ogles

Mary Ruth Gardner

Timothy Harwell

Jack Jones

Brent Lowman

Gladys Sandlin

Una King Currier

Paige Phillips

Sarah Collier

Randy Graviett

### *In The Hospital:*

*Rachel Grubbs*; Windsor House Rehab. - rm. 301

*Larry Owens*; Decatur General - Decatur, rm.

*Margaret Reed*; Tallahassee Hospital; Tallahassee, Fla.

### *Athens Convalescent Center:*

Betty Bates, rm. 17

### *Limestone Health Facility:*

Janet Berryhill, rm. 65

Curtis Fudge, rm. 26

J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E

Annie Mae Bragg, rm. 57

Mary Smith, rm. 85

Rosella Pugh, rm. 74

**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

**A STUDY OF THE PARABLES:** In the little auditorium in the west wing there is an adult Bible class meeting this quarter studying *The Parables of Jesus*. The class will meet on both Sunday and Wednesday evenings. *Jordan Lovell* and *David Cox* are teaching the class.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** The *Capshaw church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening. *Lowell Sallee* will be the speaker in this meeting... The *Harvest church* in Harvest is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday evening. *Brent Hunter* is the speaker in this meeting... The *Lacey's Spring church* in Lacey's Spring is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday evening. *Billy Randolph* will be the speaker in this meeting... The *Westview church* in Hartselle is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday evening. *Jeff Archer* is the speaker in this meeting.

**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 four to meet. If you are in group four, 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 October 16th*

<b>Sunday:</b>	Bible Classes.....	125
	Morning Worship .....	166
	Evening Worship.....	117
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Bible Classes.....	100

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, October 23rd:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements .....	Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader .....	Joel Hamm
Prayer .....	Jonathan Keenon
Preaching .....	Warren Glass
Lord's Supper	
Presiding .....	Tommy Coblenz
Assisting .....	Marion Mitchell
Serving .....	Ronnie Locke .....
	Kenneth Smith
	Stefan Fudge.....
	Marvin Putman
Closing Prayer .....	Tommy Burns

*Evening Worship*

Announcements .....	Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader .....	Tyler Cox
Prayer .....	Bonnie Sutton
Preaching .....	Song Service
Lord's Supper .....	Tommy Coblenz
Closing Prayer .....	Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 23rd:

Usher .....	Keenon Currier
Work Sound System .....	Stuart Wilson

**Wednesday, October 26th:**

Song Leader .....	Joel Hamm
Bible Reading.....	(Isaiah 32:9-16)
	Terry Andrews
Prayer .....	Marion Mitchell
Invitation .....	Bonnie Sutton
Closing Prayer .....	Marty Adams

**Sunday, October 30th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements .....	Tommy Coblenz
Song Leader .....	Stuart Wilson
Prayer .....	Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching .....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding .....	Marty Adams
Assisting .....	Joel Hamm
Serving .....	Bonnie Sutton .....
	Harold Davis
	Larry Mitchell .....
	Delmer Carter
Closing Prayer .....	Tyler Cox

*Evening Worship*

Announcements .....	Tommy Coblenz
Song Leader .....	Todd Williams
Prayer .....	Nathaniel Adams
Preaching .....	Warren Glass
Lord's Supper .....	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer .....	Marcus Morris

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 30th:

Usher .....	Danny Johnson
Work Sound System .....	Marty Adams