

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

December 4, 2011

No. 49

Should God Have Drowned Noah?

Irvin Himmel

No matter how faithful the preacher or how hard he works, if certain numerical results are not visible, some in the church will insist that he be replaced. The contributions and the attendance figures are used as gauges. The preacher's work is evaluated by statistics.

Poor old Noah worked long and hard in building the ark. He was a "preacher of righteousness" (2 Peter 2:5). Although he may have preached and worked on the ark for many years, when the showdown came, only his immediate family went into the ark with him. All that work and only eight souls (counting the preacher) were saved! Some of the folks who assess preaching by numerical results probably wonder why God did not drown old Noah in the flood! They would argue that his work was ineffective and without impact. But God demands faithfulness, not what we add up as "visible results." We need more preachers like Noah.

The concept that in the absence of certain numerical developments a preacher is not doing his job may lead to tactics and schemes that are wrong. A preacher may feel pressured and obligated to attain "results." Therefore the message is watered down. Emphasis is placed on whatever may attract more people. Higher statistical ratings take priority. Dedication to "preaching the Word" takes a back seat. God blessed Noah despite the small numerical showing from his work. There are some things far more important than counting noses and adding monetary amounts. God promised through Isaiah that His word would not return to Him void (Isaiah 55:11).

Spiritual increase is more valuable than mere numerical increase. Let us show faith in God by loyally proclaiming the gospel without trying to force a particular kind of increase. Paul said, "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase" (1 Corinthians 3:6). Our task is to be faithful in planting and watering. God handles the increase.

-via *Stanley Avenue Bulletin*; Andalusia, Alabama.

The Seven Ones

Ron Boatwright

In Ephesians 4:4-6 we read of seven ones. "There is one body, and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and in you all." Notice there is only one of each.

There is only one body. Ephesians 1:21-22 says that Christ is the "head over all things to the church, which is His body." So the one body is the one blood bought church of Christ (Acts 20:28, Romans 16:16). This is the only church that Christ is going to save (Ephesians 5:23).

There is only one Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit was given to the apostles and other inspired writers of the New Testament to guide them into all truth (John 16:13). Since the New Testament has been once and for all delivered to us (Jude 3), we no longer need further revelations as some falsely claim.

The one hope of our calling is for the salvation in Heaven (1 Peter 1:3-4) and Jesus is the author of salvation unto all that obey Him (Hebrews 5:9). This one hope is not to live here on a renewed earth for eternity as some falsely teach. This earth is going to be burned up (2 Peter 3:10).

There is only one Lord Jesus Christ, not Mohammed or anyone else. In John 14:6 Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." Jesus asks, "why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord', and not do the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46).

This is only one faith, not the hundreds of different faiths that have been established by men today. This one faith has once and for all been delivered to us in the New Testament (Jude 3). All of the other faiths by men are vain.

There is only one baptism which is a burial in water (Romans 6:4) of those who are capable of believing and repenting. It is for the forgiveness of sins so we can be saved (Acts 2:38, Mark 16:16). All other baptisms that man has come up with are vain.

And there is only one God. There are many other

false gods and millions of Hindu gods, but there is only one true God. All these other gods that man has made are false.

~via *Needmore Bulletin*; Haleyville, Alabama.

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Standing Alone... With God

Shane Williams

In Daniel 5, it was a dark night in Babylon. Babylon and Belshazzar were about to face God's judgment. King Belshazzar had willfully blasphemed God by desecrating the gold and silver goblets that Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the temple in Jerusalem when it was conquered. Belshazzar was drinking it up and decided to do so with these vessels.

The finger of a man's hand emerged and began writing on the wall. The text says the king's face grew pale, his hip joints went slack and his knees began knocking together.

No one called in could read the writing and the king grew even more alarmed. It was finally pointed out that there was a man in the kingdom who could help. In the midst of this drunken party and a stunned leader, came the prophet Daniel. He was just a single man with the reputation of a man with "the spirit of the Holy God" (Daniel 5:11). He was summoned to interpret the mystifying message on the wall.

How would you feel if you would have been in Daniel's shoes (or sandals)? Daniel could have softened God's warning to give it a meaning the king and his court would rather hear. He could have omitted the part about judgment. But instead of watering down the message to please the king, Daniel remained true to God. Standing alone before Belshazzar and his drunken court, he boldly spoke the whole truth.

Your kingdom has come to an end. You've been weighed and found deficient. Your kingdom has been divided and given to the Medes and Persians.

It took enormous courage for Daniel to do that, but the threat from an earthly king was nothing compared to his allegiance to the King of heaven. Daniel feared Belshazzar so little because he feared God so much.

What about us? If we share Daniel's heavenly perspective, we too will find that we can have the courage to stand. When God stands with us, it really doesn't matter who stands against us.

Will you do what is right? Take a stand, with the Lord.

~via *The Lilbourn Light*; Lilbourn, Missouri.

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Defending God

Michael W. McLemore

The conflict with Goliath was more than a fight between Israel and the Philistines. For David it was the defense of the Lord's name against those skeptical of His supremacy. David believed only by the Lord's hand could a boy with a boy's weapon defeat a giant warrior like Goliath. he was right!

David showed immense courage and faith, in confronting the giant. Yet, it was righteous indignation that drove him face to face with Goliath - "For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God" (1 Samuel 17:26). David knew someone had to cast away the reproach of Israel caused by Goliath's insults. Since no one else would step forward, he volunteered to defend Jehovah's name.

Modern audiences read this account and regard it as merely a battle scene where the inexperienced underdog toppled an ancient kind of superman. We console ourselves that we will likely never contend with such a scenario. What really happened is that David stood up for God. Given how our modern culture heckles both the Father and His Son Jesus, we will surely one day find ourselves in David's sandals. Will we stand and fight to defend the scandalous attack of God's name?

Ladies and Gentlemen, we do not need a degree in theology to combat those who would mock God. A few "smooth stones" (v. 40) of simple truth gathered from the water of life (the Bible) will do. No enemy, no matter how formidable, can stand against God's word. Whatever the outcome, the battle belongs to the Lord.

~via *The Weatherly Weekly*; Huntsville, Alabama.

Radio Program

Every Sunday Morning

on WVNN

770AM - 92.5 FM

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

Market Street church of Christ
514 West Market Street
Athens, Alabama

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Albert Bowers
Gilbert Hardy
Mary Ruth Gardner
Tim Dean
Charlotte Kellum
Don Osborne
Patsy Burroughs
Brent Lowman
Larry Owens
Betty Faye Holt
Rhett Bailey
Phillip Harwell

Hazel Toone
David Gardner
Martha Rice
L. D. Cary
Matt Poff
Tim & Cathy Taylor
Gladys Sandlin
Barbara Ogles
Una King Currier
Paige Phillips
Randy Graviett
Joe & Sarah Collier

In The Hospital:

Rachel Grubbs; Windsor House Rehab. - rm. 300
Ava Brooke Campbell; Children's Hospital, - B'ham
Faye Cary; Good Shepherd Hosp. - Longview, Tex.

Athens Convalescent Center:

Betty Bates, rm. 11
Audrey Moyers, rm. 76

Limestone Health Facility:

Janet Berryhill, rm. 65 Annie Mae Bragg, rm. 57
Curtis Fudge, rm. 24 Mary Smith, rm. 85
J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E 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
Ruby Davis, Valley View Health, Madison, rm. 51-A

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

PREACHING AWAY: *David Cox* is preaching this morning for the Hillside Chapel church in Albertville. He will be back this evening.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Nell Barksdale* and *all the family* in the passing of Nell's sister, *Sue Hargrove*. She tragically lost her life in an automobile accident Friday afternoon. The visitation will be this afternoon at Limestone Chapel from 1:00 to 3:00. The funeral will follow at 3:00.

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.

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

THE RECORD: *For the Week of November 27th*

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 130
Morning Worship 153
Evening Worship..... 100

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, December 4th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Tommy Coblentz
Preaching Warren Glass
Lord's Supper
Presiding Larry Mitchell
Assisting Marcus Morris
Serving Marion Mitchell Hunter Cox
..... Stefan Fudge Marvin Putman
Closing Prayer Terry Andrews

Evening Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer Stuart Wilson
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Larry Mitchell
Closing Prayer Kenneth Smith

Other Assignments for Sunday, December 4th:

Usher Keenon Currier
Work Sound System Stuart Wilson

Wednesday, December 7th:

Song Leader Tyler Cox
Bible Reading..... (Isaiah 34:1--4)
..... Terry Andrews
Prayer Marion Mitchell
Invitation Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer Marty Adams

Sunday, December 11th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer Stuart Wilson
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Bonnie Sutton
Assisting Joel Hamm
Serving Landon Adams Marvin Putman
..... Marion Pepper... Brandon Griswold
Closing Prayer Tommy Coblentz

Evening Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader Jordan Lovell
Prayer Marion Mitchell
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Bonnie Sutton
Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for Sunday, December 11th:

Usher Keenon Currier
Work Sound System Marty Adams