

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 11, 2011

No. 50

"Be Sure Your Sins Will Find You Out"

David A. Cox

In Numbers 32, the tribes of Reuben and Gad requested the land on the east side of the river Jordan. Moses granted them the request, but they were to help the other tribes in the conquest of the land, then return to their families in the land they had been given. Moses reminded them that if they did not do as they had agreed they would be guilty of sin and "be sure your sin will find you out" (Number 32:23). As I think about this statement in Number 32:23, I am reminded of the commercial that the city of Las Vegas sponsors that states, "What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas." The sentiment of the commercial is what many think about the sins of their lives. They believe that what they do in their own privacy is their business and no one should say or do anything about it.

In thinking about this, it would do us well to think of a couple of lessons we should get clear in our minds from what Moses said.

It does not say if or when. Many think that sins are only a problem if and when they are known. The fact is that all sins are problems in our relationship with God. In Isaiah 59:2 we read, "But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you..." We must understand that sins will cost us an eternity with God unless we deal with and correct them according to God's will. Man may not know our sins, but God does. The Hebrew writer said, "Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do" (Hebrews 4:13).

Your sins will find you out. Every criminal commits a crime thinking that it is a perfect crime. But many criminals will slip and the crime is detected and proven. However, some crimes may be committed that men may never know of, but there is not a sin that God does not know. The wise man said, "For God will bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or evil" (Ecclesiastes 12:14).

Remember the *sin of Achan* in Judges 7? When the children of Israel took the city of Jericho, they were told not to take anything. But Achan took of the spoils of the city and hid it among his things. No one knew about it, but God did! After the children of Israel were victorious at Jericho they were defeated by Ai, and God told Joshua that sin was among them because they had taken of the spoils of Jericho. Another example of sin being covered and hidden from men is the *sin of David*. David committed fornication with Bathsheba and hid the sin from those around him. He lied and had Uriah, Bathsheba husband, killed trying to cover and hide his sin (2 Samuel 11). David thought the sin was covered and hidden and that no one knew. And it is true no man knew, but his sin was found out because God knew. Nathan, the prophet, confronted David and told him of his sin. David confessed, "I have sinned." The point is that we must realize that our sins will find us out and we must seek God's forgiveness for our sins.

Let us not be deceived in thinking that if we travel far away from home that no one will know, or if we can conceal our sins in the sight of others that everything is all right. The fact is, our sins separate us from God and can cost us an eternal life of bliss. Remember the promise in Revelation 14:13, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord..." When we put on Christ in baptism we are dead to our sins and are in Christ (Galatians 3:27; Romans 6:3-6). As we put on Christ, then we serve Him and seek to please Him. As we confess our sins, and God will forgive us (1 John 1:9).



I Can't Change

Terry Bennett

"That's just the way I am, I can't change." Have you ever heard a statement like this? Or perhaps you've heard, "That's just the way God made me. There's no way I can change."

You've probably heard similar comment used to justify everything from homosexuality to alcoholism

to why someone can't talk with their friends about Christ...and everything in between. Perhaps you and I may have even had related thoughts.

But when you boil it down, what is really being said is this: "I believe in God, but either he isn't powerful enough or doesn't care enough to help me change." WOW! The God who is Creator of all things and gave us life itself is not powerful enough? The God who sacrificed His only Son for our sins does not care enough?

When confronted with such a realization, the honest heart will comprehend that the decision to change...or not change...is a choice we can make. And when it comes to choosing whether or not we should change and do God's will, who do you think is trying to convince us that there's no way we can change? Satan.

Or perhaps we find ourselves struggling with obedience to God's word because we want to be independent - our own person. Instead of relying upon God or looking for the help of the brethren He gave us, we want to rely upon ourselves. Who do you think is rooting for us to continue to try to go it alone? Satan.

The father of lies, the master of deception is hard at work trying to convince you and me that we cannot change - that we cannot serve God as He desires so we might as well quit trying. Or maybe our enemy is working to convince us that we aren't good enough to deserve God's mercy and His grace so we should just give up now. Or perhaps Satan is telling us that our sins really aren't that bad when compared with the world around us...so there is no need to change since God will surely accept us anyway. Or possible he is simply whispering that there is no need to change now since there will be plenty of time to obey God when we get old.

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you" (1 Peter 5:8-10).

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and depart from

evil” (Proverbs 3:5-7).

By turning our lives over to the Lord and relying upon Him alone, we can overcome our adversary and serve a life pleasing to God. Let us encourage one another toward this end.

~via *The Lenexa Edifier*; Lenexa, Kansas.



Bread To Spare

Mike Thomas

A sinner in rebellion came to a sober conclusion--life with God is much better than sin! He said, “How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!” (Luke 15:17). Certainly this applies to those who are in fellowship with God.

In most cases, God not only blesses His people, He gives us bread to spare! The psalmist said, “I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread” (Psalm 37:25). That is true for most who place God first in life. Our earthly lives are enhanced as a direct result of walking with God.

Granted, there are occasions when God's people are in “hunger and thirst” when suffering for righteousness (2 Corinthians 11:27), but even then we are not without hope. “We are hard pressed on every side, yet not crushed” is what Paul discovered (2 Corinthians 4:8). The Lord can make it so the “the path of the just is like the shining sun, that shines ever brighter unto the perfect day” (Proverbs 4:18). This comes from the hope of something better no matter the circumstance.

It is true that even the wicked will have good fortune financially (Psalm 73:1-9). We must not assume that prosperity is the ultimate measuring stick of fellowship with God, since Jesus Himself did not have a lot financially (Luke 9:58). Nevertheless, it is also true that God’s people experience blessings in life that they would not had they not placed Him first. “He

who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully” is what God promises (2 Corinthians 9:6). Good things come to those who love God (Romans 8:28).

When Judah went into captivity, they eventually realized that life was so much better with God than without Him. “In the days of her affliction and roaming, Jerusalem remembers all her pleasant things that she had in the days of old” (Lamentations 1:7). I am confident that every rebel will eventually realize the same – “Oh, fear the Lord, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him” (Psalm 34:9). Life with God may not always be easiest but it is certainly better than the burden of sin. Therefore, says Jesus, “Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me...For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

~via *Standing Firm*; Beaver Dam, Kentucky

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Gilbert Hardy	Hazel Toone
David Gardner	Mark Rogers
Mary Ruth Gardner	Martha Rice
Angeta Anderson	L. D. Cary
Tim Dean	Matt Poff
Don Osborne	Tim & Cathy Taylor
Patsy Burroughs	Gladys Sandlin
Brent Lowman	Barbara Ogles
Larry Owens	Una King Currier
Betty Faye Holt	Paige Phillips
Rhett Bailey	Randy Graviett
Phillip Harwell	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

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

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to ***Beverly Sutton*** and *all the family* in the passing of Beverly's aunt, ***Audrey Moyers***. She passed away on Tuesday morning. The visitation and funeral was Thursday afternoon at Limestone Chapel. She was laid to rest in Roselawn Cemetery.

GET TO TOGETHER AT THE CARTERS: *The Carter's* have invited everyone to their home for dinner on Tuesday night or Thursday night of this week. Please let *Delmer and Margaret* know if you are coming and which night you will be there. We appreciate the Carters for their hospitality.

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 156
Evening Worship..... 114

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 95

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Men Privileged To Serve:

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 Jordan Lovell

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

Wednesday, December 14th:

Song Leader Tyler Cox
Bible Reading..... (Isaiah 34:1--4)
..... Russ Wulfekuhl
Prayer Dwaine Allfrey
Invitation David Cox
Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Sunday, December 18th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
Song Leader Jordan Lovell
Prayer Bonnie Sutton
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Marcus Morris
Assisting Stuart Wilson
Serving Nathaniel Adams... Will Chumbley
..... Mark Rogers..... Todd Williams
Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
Song Leader Stefan Fudge
Prayer Joel Hamm
Preaching Stuart Wilson
Lord's Supper Marcus Morris
Closing Prayer Tommy Coblentz

Other Assignments for Sunday, December 18th:

Usher Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System Danny Johnson