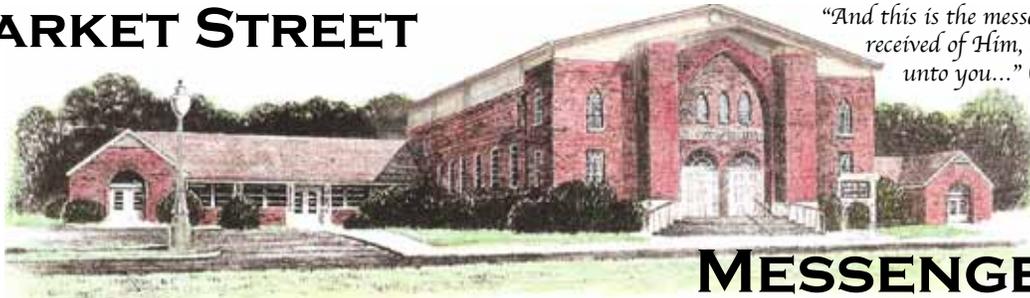


# MARKET STREET



*“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) 777-6737  
Bonnie Sutton..... (256) 232-2081

### Deacons

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 233-5147  
Tommy Coblentz ..... (256) 232-3212  
Joel Hamm..... (256) 230-6223  
Larry Mitchell ..... (256) 230-0185  
Todd Williams..... (205) 541-8304  
Russ Wulfekuhl ..... (256) 683-9396

### Evangelist

David A. Cox ..... (256) 233-8910  
Cell: (256) 614-3757

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**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 IV

November 18, 2012

No. 47

## *“Armageddon” and “Hell”*

**G. Clark Dugger**

Today, many believe and teach that there will be one last horrific battle fought here upon the earth between good and evil known as the battle of Armageddon. It is a battle that will occur just prior (or subsequent) to the 1000 year reign of Christ on the throne of David in the Temple in Jerusalem. Interestingly enough, like the 1000 year reign, Armageddon is mentioned specifically in only one chapter of the Bible, Revelation 16:13-16. This reference describes a scene in which frogs come forth from the mouths of creatures to do battle for the devil, the result of which is a war in which there are 200,000 horsemen and a river of blood 200 miles long. Sounds ridiculous doesn't it? Well, it is.

To begin with, we must remember that while most view the book of Revelation as a book of prophecy, it is in reality, a book of history, for it deals with “things which must shortly take place” (Revelation 1:1). Not only so, these events were “signified,” that is, written in signs or symbolic language. Consequently, Christ reveals a vision to John concerning real events that were to happen in the lives of first century Christians masked in a cloak of figurative language. Understanding this, the language of Revelation 16 describes a real conflict between good and evil that existed in the first century as Rome persecuted faithful disciples of Christ.

Exactly what is Armageddon (Har-Magedon)? The Hebrew word “har” was used loosely to refer to “hill” or “hill country.” The hill of Megiddo was approximately 70 feet high in John's day in the vicinity of the Carmel range. It was here, in the Valley of Jezreel where a number of famous battles were fought that historically stood as a battleground between the forces of good and evil. It was here that Deborah and Barak defeated the Canaanites (Judges 4:15), Gideon defeated the Midianites (Judges 7), and Saul was defeated by the Philistines (1 Samuel 31:8).

It needs to be recognized, however, that in speaking of Armageddon, or the hill of Megiddo, that John is not alluding to a literal place. Instead, Armageddon stands symbolically for the battleground where Satan and his army are destroyed and overcome by Christ. The entire message of

Revelation was intended to encourage Christians to remain faithful in the midst of enormous pressures to worship the emperor of Rome. John wrote to inspire first century disciples to endure horrific persecution intended to force them into emperor worship. Armageddon describes this battle. So when Rome fell and false emperor worship ceased, the battle of Armageddon was over.

To understand this, consider that the use of geographical points to emphasize spiritual truths is a common Biblical phenomenon. For instance, the word “hell” (gehenna in Greek) relates to the Hebrew gehinnom, which was the valley of Hinnom just south of Jerusalem.

It was in this valley the Jews offered their children as burnt sacrifices to pagan gods. Because of its connection with such events, Hinnom eventually became the city dump of Jerusalem in which fires burned constantly in an attempt to destroy the refuse. Consequently, because of its connection with suffering and pain and constant burning, gehenna became a symbol for the final punishment of hell.

It is just as absurd to believe that there will be a literal battle of Armageddon fought in the Valley of Jezreel as it is to believe that on the Day of Judgment God will cast the wicked in the literal valley of Hinnom just south of Jerusalem. The fact is, those fires went out centuries ago.

~via *The Proclaimer*; Tyler, Texas.



## *On A Daily Basis*

**Bill Hall**

A man, asked recently to describe memories of his college days twenty-five years ago, replied, “A few big moments; many goofs, but, overall, pleasant memories.”

Would these words not describe our memories of life generally? As we recall our years, there are always the “big” moments, the emotional “highs,” that we love to relish. Then there are the “goofs,” the embarrassing occasions that just keep coming back to haunt us. But,

through it all, the pleasant memories sufficiently prevail to enable us to feel generally good about life.

But, in reality, success or failure in life is not determined by the “big moments” or “the goofs.” We will not be eternally saved on the basis of a few great spiritual achievements or eternally lost on the basis of a few gross mistakes (assuming they have been repented of). Life consists of everyday actions and decisions, and it is these that bring ultimate success or failure, eternal happiness or eternal damnation. “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me” (Luke 9:23).

It is one thing to express concern for our children as we talk of their future spirituality and faithfulness. It is quite another to provide on a daily basis a spiritual atmosphere in the home, a good example of godliness and faithfulness, consistent and loving discipline and a love for God and respect for fellowman that are so essential to the training of our children. It’s the little impressions that are made day by day that prove to be so decisive.

It is one thing to dream of some day being appointed an elder in the church. It is quite another thing to put forth the effort on a daily basis to learn the scriptures, to develop leadership ability, to grow spiritually, and to live as to gain the confidence of a discerning congregation. One does not qualify for the eldership in one big leap. It comes through daily development.

It is one thing to talk a “good line” on priorities. It is quite another thing to put God first on a daily basis. The devil knows so many ways to test our resolve in these realms. Our intentions are good, but, through his subtlety, he has us selling our souls for a mess of pottage or thirty pieces of silver.

It is one thing to think that we would die for the Lord if our faith were so tested. It is quite another thing truly to live for Him on a daily basis. Egos may be fed on the “big moments,” but true spirituality develops through daily prayer, study and meditation.

Our lesson is this. Set your goals for the future, and set them high. But recognize that it’s the little, day-by-day moments, the often forgotten moments, accumulated through the years, that truly shape our destiny. Tomorrow’s success depends upon the choices and decisions that are made today. Make them with care.

~via *The View*; Folsom, California.

## *Woe Is Me*

**Mike Thomley**

Every now and then most of us get depressed. We start feeling sorry for ourselves because we look around and see others who seem to have all the things we want and they are enjoying life. We think of all the problems, mishaps and shortcomings in our own lives. We fail to see any valuable contribution we can make.

The phenomenon is not new. It is almost as old as the world. When considering Biblical examples, Elijah comes quickly to mind (1 Kings 19:9-10). One of the interesting characteristics of Elijah's misconception about his circumstance is how it affected his work for the Lord. He had just unquestionably defeated and put to shame wicked Jezebel and the prophets of Baal and had shown God to be the almighty power in the world. Now he has hidden himself in a cave and trembles in cowardly fear because he thinks everyone is out to get him. Ironic isn't it?

Consider: If Elijah was the only faithful servant of God in the world (as he thought), would his fear of man be justified? The man who has just shown the world the power of God, now shrinks back because he is afraid of the power of men. If anyone should have known that earthly power and might are insignificant in comparison to God's power, it was Elijah. Are we guilty of the same inconsistencies today? Do we sit around, at times, licking our wounds and feeling sorry for ourselves? Do we cry, Oh, Lord, it's so hard. The world is so wicked, the church is full of hypocrites, false doctrine is thriving. My family is giving me a hard time. Nobody appreciates the good I do. There are only a few of us, what can we do? Paul said that he could do all things through Christ (Philippians 4:13). He also said because we are at war with Satan and his forces, we must be prepared for battle (Ephesians 6:10-18).

The outcome of the conflict has been determined (1 Corinthians 15:57), therefore, we should never be overtaken by depression or despair when it seems as if Satan has the upper hand. The revelation John received while he was in exile on Patmos is nothing more than a reassurance that God continues to maintain control and will, at His discretion, punish the wicked for their vile deeds. Elijah soon discovered life wasn't as bad as it seemed. Interestingly, we, too, see things in a new light

when we endure or when we see things through. When life seems unexplainable and impossible to endure, remember Paul's encouragement in Romans 8:26-31. If God is for us, who is against us?

~via *Guideposts*; Riverdale, Maryland.

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## Beacon of Truth

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

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## *News & Notes*

### **THE SICK:**

Gwen Bullock  
Mary Ruth Gardner  
Shelby Isbell  
Bruce Mordecai  
Abby Gilbert  
Charles Burns  
Phillip Harwell  
Matt Poff  
Eli Williams

Gilbert Hardy  
Wynell Casteel  
Wayne Gooch  
Carrie Miller  
Betty Faye Holt  
Ava Brooke Campbell  
Jeffery Miller  
David Hartsell

### ***In The Hospital:***

*Una King Currier*; East Glen Birmingham

### ***Athens Convalescent Care:***

Hazel Toone, rm. 16      Beulah Pope, rm. 100  
Mattye Murray, rm. 60

### ***Limestone Health Facility:***

Janet Berryhill, rm. 75-B      Albert Bowers, rm. 115-B  
Albert Norton, rm. 36      J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E  
Rosella Pugh, rm. 74      Billy Sutton, rm. 37

*Limestone Lodge:*

Yvonne Sherbert, rm. 29-E

*Brookshire Healthcare - Huntsville:*

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 112-C

*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

**LADIES BIBLE CLASS OFF THIS WEEK:** The Ladies' Bible class that meets each Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. will not be meeting this week, but will resume on November 28th.

**WORK GROUPS:** Work Group two will be meeting this evening after our evening service. If you are in group two, remember to meet with your group tonight.

**NURSING HOME SINGING:** Remember the singing at the Athens Convalescent on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. Please come participate in this good work.

**EDNA BRACKEEN (1919 – 2012):** With sadness we note the passing of sister *Edna Brackeen*. She passed away Wednesday. She has been unable to attend services at Market Street for several years, but had been a member at Market Street for many years. We express our deepest sympathy to all of her family. Her funeral was Friday afternoon at Limestone Chapel and her burial was in the Roselawn Cemetery.

**CHILDREN'S BIBLE DRILL:** The Children's Bible Drill is each Sunday afternoon at 4:40 and lasts about 15 minutes. It meets in the auditorium and will end about 5 minutes before the beginning of our evening service. I hope that all of our children will be able to be present this evening for the Bible drill.

**THE RECORD:** *For the Week of November 11th*

<b>Sunday:</b>	Bible Classes.....	122
	Morning Worship .....	168
	Evening Worship.....	110

**Wednesday:**

Bible Classes.....	95
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**Remember Our Study Periods**

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

*Come Join Us As We Study Together*

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, November 18th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements .....	Terry Andrews
Song Leader .....	Hunter Cox
Prayer .....	Bonnie Sutton
Preaching .....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding .....	Ronnie Locke
Assisting .....	Joel Hamm
Serving .....	David Terry ..... Nathaniel Adams
.....	Tommy Burns ..... Landon Adams
Closing Prayer .....	Marcus Morris

*Evening Worship*

Announcements .....	Terry Andrews
Song Leader .....	Todd Williams
Prayer .....	Marty Adams
Preaching .....	Joel Hamm
Lord's Supper .....	Ronnie Locke
Closing Prayer .....	Larry Mitchell

Other Assignments for Sunday, November 18th:

Usher .....	Marvin Putman
Work Sound System .....	Marty Adams

**Wednesday, November 21st:**

Song Leader .....	Stefan Fudge
Bible Reading.....	Isaiah 54:1-10
.....	Russ Wulfekuhl
Prayer .....	Jerry McGlocklin
Invitation .....	Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer .....	Kenneth Smith

**Sunday, November 25th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements .....	Jerry McGlocklin
Song Leader .....	Joel Hamm
Prayer .....	Ronnie Locke
Preaching .....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding .....	Kenneth Smith
Assisting .....	Terry Andrews
Serving .....	Mot Dollar ..... Jonathan Keenon
.....	Harold Davis ..... Dwaine Allfrey
Closing Prayer .....	Landon Adams

*Evening Worship*

Announcements .....	Jerry McGlocklin
Song Leader .....	Tommy Burns
Prayer .....	Tommy Coblentz
Preaching .....	Song Service
Lord's Supper .....	Kenneth Smith
Closing Prayer .....	Jordan Lovell

Other Assignments for Sunday, November 25th:

Usher .....	Heath Dollar
Work Sound System .....	Nathaniel Adams