

# 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

Volume V

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No. 7

## *Confusion & Transgression*

### Sewell Hall

Have you ever heard anyone say, as an explanation for some sinful action, "I have become so confused I don't know what is right anymore?" As a rule, the person who says such a thing is one who has had clear convictions but has acted, or is about to act, contrary to them. This must be what the Holy Spirit was saying about Eve in 1 Timothy 2:14. "Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression."

To say that she was decided is not to say that she was ignorant. She quoted perfectly what God had said: "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat of it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die'" (Genesis 3:2-3). She was deceived when she thought there could be any valid reason for disobeying God.

We cannot know how long Adam and Eve avoided the forbidden tree. With so many other trees from which to eat, there was no need to eat of it. There is no evidence on confusion regarding the right and wrong of eating or the wisdom of abstaining. They were happy ignoring it. But along came Satan to draw Eve's attention to the tree she had been avoiding. He drew her attention to the beauty of the fruit and somehow convinced her, perhaps by eating of it himself, that it was good for food. If he did eat of it, the fact that he did not die surely gave support to this contention that she would not die. One can see the confusion mounting. The arguments she had considered conclusive against eating were rapidly being matched by arguments for doing so. Which arguments were valid? Both seemed to be.

Had Adam been nearby, or had God spoken again, she might have been reminded once more of the strong reasons for rejecting the fruit. But as it was, the voice of God grew weaker in her memory as the desirability of the fruit was magnified by Satan's glib lies. All that was needed to the balance was the final suggestion of an apparent virtue in eating — the thought that she would become like God. Never mind the legalist prohibition; surely one could not be blamed for wanting to be like God.

### 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

### Evangelists

David A. Cox ..... (256) 233-8910  
Cell: (256) 614-3757  
Jordan Lovell..... (256) 777-8998

### 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*

“She took of the fruit and ate” (Genesis 3:6). Tragic words! Tragic consequences! Consequences reaching down through countless generations even to us! The great mistake of Eve was in allowing herself even to begin thinking about disobedience. This was the mistake of Achan when he first saw the Babylonian garment (Joshua 7:21), of David when he first saw his beautiful neighbor bathing (2 Samuel 11:2) and of Judas when his first thought of betraying Jesus. It is the same mistake each of us makes — men and women alike — whenever we sin.

The Bible says as much: “Each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death” (James 1:14-15). There is ample defense available. If we are wise enough to mediate on God’s laws in such circumstances (Psalm 119:11), and to ask Him for deliverance (Matthew 6:13), He will, with the temptation, “also make the way of escape” (1 Corinthians 10:13).

But all too often, in the name of open mindedness and objectivity, we feel we are obligated to look at the other side, to consider the “arguments in favor of” sin. We may even be so foolish as to parrot the existential line: “I must get away to myself and sort things out.” If this means getting away for Bible study, meditation and prayer, fine! But this is seldom what it means. As a rule, what it means is: “I want to be left alone to rationalize my way through the sin that entices me without having to reason with those who would logically or scripturally expose my folly.”

Such conflict between conscience and passion, between logic and emotion, between authority and anarchy, between flesh and spirit will indeed produce confusion — confusion bordering on insanity. But it is a confusion for which we are responsible. It is the peculiar malady of “those who perish because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved” and who “did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness” (2 Thessalonians 2:10,12). It is never surprising when such a person, “being deceived,” falls into transgression. In Jesus’ day, “there was a division among the people because of Him” (John 7:43). They were confused by the contradictions between His claims and the accusations of their rulers. Jesus stated clearly who would not be confused: “If anyone wants to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine,

whether it is from God or whether I speak of My own authority” (John 7:17).

Wanting to do God’s will, will save us from the confusion, deception and transgression into which our mother fell.

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

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## *Authority In Religion*

**Jimmy Pettigrew**

Jesus Christ has **all authority**. Moses prophesied, “The Lord thy God will rise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, to thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken,” (Deuteronomy 18:15,19). Peter applied this Mosaic prophecy to Jesus in Acts 3:19-26. God said, “Hear him” (Matthew 17:5)! Jesus said, “All authority hath been given to me in heaven and on earth,” (Matthew 28:18). This leaves no authority for me, John Calvin, Mary Baker Eddy, Martin Luther, Joseph Smith, John Wesley, a Pope, or anyone else. The question is, “*What did Jesus do with his authority?*”

Jesus placed His authority in His word, the word that He spoke. Christ said, “He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day,” (John 12:48). If the word of Christ is that by which we are to be judged, then it behooves us to know what He said as compared to what others are saying. Also, if we are to be judged by His word, it makes no difference what **we say**, what **we think**, or how **we feel** in religious matters. Christ’s authority was not placed in Men, Councils, Assemblies, Ecumenical Groups, Catechisms, Disciplines, Creeds, Manuals, or Confessions of Faith. Christ’s authority was placed only in his word.

Jesus’ all-authoritative word was given from His mouth to His apostles. In His prayer, Jesus said, “For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me... I have given them thy word,” (John 17:8, 14, 18,

20). Christ promised the apostles help in remembering His word, saying, "These things I have spoken unto you, being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you," (John 14:25-26). Paul could not have declared "the whole counsel of God" unless he had received Christ's word (Acts 20:27). Peter could only have received "all things that pertain unto life and godliness" and his knowledge of Christ through that word (2 Peter 1:3). But, what did the apostles do with that authoritative word?

Jesus commissioned His apostles to preach His word (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16). Their obedience to His command is shown in **The Acts of The Apostles**. Paul declared the word had been "preached to every creature which is under heaven" in his lifetime (Colossians 1:23). Besides preaching the all-authoritative word of Christ, the apostles wrote it. In First Corinthians 15:1-4, Paul said he was making known, in a letter, the things which he first received. The Thessalonians were urged to "stand fast" and "hold" that which they had been taught, whether by word of mouth or by his first epistle to them (2 Thessalonians 2:15). Paul emphatically declared, "The things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord," (1 Corinthians 14:37). Therefore, that which he wrote was the all-authoritative word he had received from Christ through the Holy Spirit.

The all-authoritative word Christ was written for **our** benefit. Luke's purpose for writing was, "that thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed," (Luke 1:1-4). "...these things are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life in his name," was the purpose for writing the Gospel of John (John 20:30-31). Paul's purpose for writing was that "when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ," (Ephesians 3:4). Again, John wrote, "These things write we unto you, that your joy may be full," and "these things write unto you, that ye sin not," (1 John 1:4; 2:1). Are the words written by the inspired writers sufficient to guide us in religion?

John 20:30-31 tells us that it was written so we could believe and thereby be saved. John 2:1 tells us that it was written to keep us from sinning. It is through the written word of God that we have been "given all things that pertain unto life and godliness," (2 Peter 1:3).

Paul's statement, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Timothy 3:16-17, should prove that the **word** of the inspired writers is the sufficient guide for us today. If the all-authoritative word furnishes us with **all things**, do we need the catechisms, creeds, dogmas, or manuals written by uninspired, fallible men? Certainly **not!**

-via *The Voice of Truth*; Green Bay, Wisconsin.

## News & Notes

### THE SICK:

|                   |                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Helen Blankenship | Ruby Dean Ezell          |
| Gwen Bullock      | Gilbert Hardy            |
| Mary Ruth Gardner | Wynell Casteel           |
| Charles Burns     | Bruce Mordecai           |
| Una King Currier  | Ronald Harrison          |
| David Hartsell    | Abby Gilbert             |
| Betty Faye Holt   | Ava Brooke Campbell      |
| Matt Poff         | Shelia Dunnivant Douglas |
| Phillip Harwell   |                          |

### *In The Hospital:*

*Frances Bowers*; Athens-Limestone; rm. 205

*Dyral Allfrey*; Athens-Limestone; rm. 316

### *Athens Convalescent Care:*

Beulah Pope, rm. 100     Mattye Murray, rm. 60

Harvey Pope, rm. 100

### *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

### *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  
Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

**OUT OF TOWN:** *Tyler Cox* is in Auburn this morning and plans to be back this afternoon.

**LADIES BIBLE CLASS:** The Ladies' Bible class meets on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 in the west wing auditorium. They are continuing the study, "*The Barnabas Factor*". All the ladies that can are invited to be a part of this class.

**PICTURES:** Remember Joel Hamm is taking pictures of those that we do not have pictures of in the directory and those that would like to have their pictures updated. Please see Joel to get these pictures made so that we can get the new directory published soon.

**ANNUAL SINGING:** Remember our 2nd Annual Singing will be this coming Friday, February 22nd. *Jim Deason, Steve Klein and Mark W. White* will be leading the singing. I hope that everyone is making their plans to be present. There are cards on the table for you to take and give to those you invite. Also, for those on Facebook there is an event to share with others and you may invite your friends through that medium. We will need a number of men to help greet, usher and move chairs. If you would like to be involved in this way, please let me know.

**ELDERS/DEACONS MEETING:** In view of the singing on Friday night and the planning for it, the elders have scheduled a meeting with the deacons this afternoon in the west wing auditorium at 4:00.

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

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** The *Kelly Spring Road church* in Harvest will begin a meeting on Friday, February 22th and it will continue through next Sunday. *Joshuah Ellis* will be the speaker in the meeting.

**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:** Attendance for Week of February 3rd

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 133  
Morning Worship ..... 164  
Evening Worship..... 111

## Men Privileged To Serve:

### *Sunday, February 17th:*

#### *Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Marty Adams  
Song Leader ..... Todd Williams  
Prayer ..... Tommy Coblenz  
Preaching ..... Jordan Lovell  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Joel Hamm  
Assisting ..... Kenneth Smith  
Serving ..... Dan Lovell ..... Jonathan Keenon  
..... David Terry ..... Delmer Carter  
Closing Prayer ..... Jerry McGlocklin

#### *Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Marty Adams  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer ..... Marion Mitchell  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper ..... Joel Hamm  
Closing Prayer ..... Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, February 17th:

Usher ..... Terry Andrews  
Work Sound System ..... Landon Adams

### *Wednesday, February 20th:*

Song Leader ..... Stefan Fudge  
Bible Reading ..... Isaiah 60:19-22  
..... Danny Johnson  
Prayer ..... Bonnie Sutton  
Invitation ..... David Cox  
Closing Prayer ..... Kenneth Adams

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### *Sunday, February 24th:*

#### *Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Wayne Vaughn  
Assisting ..... Tommy Coblenz  
Serving ..... Brandon Griswold ..... Stefan Fudge  
..... Russ Wulfekuhl ..... Landon Adams  
Closing Prayer ..... Keith Hinkle

#### *Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
Prayer ..... Terry Andrews  
Preaching ..... Song Service  
Lord's Supper ..... Wayne Vaughn  
Closing Prayer ..... Dan Reed

Other Assignments for Sunday, February 24th:

Usher ..... Paul Hasting  
Work Sound System ..... Marty Adams