

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

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

Volume V

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No. 19

Loving My Brothers

Mark W. White

Jesus once told His apostles that He had a “new” commandment for them. We are not surprised to learn that the “new commandment” is “... that ye love one another, as I have loved you,” (John 13:34). What is new about it? The new is in the phrase, “as I have loved you.” They had seen Jesus’ love in action and knew what that word – love – really meant. The phrase, “love one another,” is found twelve times in the New Testament, nine of which are used by John.

Yes, Christians are commanded to “love one another.” But what does that mean? What if my “neighbor” has an obnoxious way about him? What if he/she has such bad manners that I can’t stand being around him/her? How can I be expected to find someone like this a congenial partner? It could be that someone feels that way about me - or you. How can such a problem be handled? See Matthew 18:15-20 for a solution.

We should note that we are not called upon to “like” our neighbor. There are circumstances in which one person's ways do not fit with others who are around them. That, however, does not affect the demand Jesus makes to “love” them. We can “love” them even when they are not “lovable.” The English word, love, can have many different meanings, but the Bible word “love”, from agape in the original language, means the highest and deepest form of love, to the point of seeking the very best interests of the object of our love even when it is not in our own best interests.

However, that still may not give us enough information about how to love one another as Christians. Consider what genuine love for others will motivate us to do – and what will result when I really, truly love my brothers and sisters in Christ.

Loving my brother, I will:

- “Consider how I want to be treated by others in a similar situation, then practice that principle in my dealings with others” (Matthew

- 7:12). We often call this the “golden rule.”
- Give my brothers and sisters the “benefit of the doubt” on any occasion until there is no doubt.
 - Respect a friend’s trust, his confidential words and visits with me and guard any information entrusted to me (Proverbs 25:19).
 - Place the saving of his/her soul as my motive in any decision I must make in regard to them (Luke 19:10).
 - Do whatever it takes within scriptural bounds to cause my brethren to be ready for God’s judgment, whether they need rebuke, correction, encouragement, or support.
 - Love my neighbor “as myself” (Matthew 22:36-40).
 - Willingly go to anyone who has offended me, and try to make things right, not just fret about it or spread gossip (Matthew 18:15-20).
 - Whatever I do will be in his/her best interests, not merely my own.

Loving my brother means, I will not:

- make swift judgments without first obtaining all of the available facts (Matthew 7:1-5).
- Believe every rumor going around, nor will I lend my ear to gossip.
- Fail to communicate my love and affection for my brothers and sisters in Christ, and showing that love by my words and actions.
- Twist the truth about others to sustain my own viewpoint (Proverbs 25:18.)
- Demand that my brother give in to my opinions (Romans 14:16).
- Resist or resent correction from my brother’s pure heart (1 Peter 1:22).
- Bear a grudge against my brother or sister in Christ (Leviticus 19:18, James 5:9).
- Endanger anyone’s soul by my attitude or by my behavior (2 Corinthians 4:5).
- Keep silent when my brother’s name is slandered, his reputation destroyed or when truth is being abused or endangered (Psalm 15:4).
- Allow timidity or shyness to keep me from speaking to my brother or sister if their soul is in danger because of sin in their life. I love them and want the very best of heaven for them.

This matter of loving brethren involves a lot of responsibility, doesn’t it? How are we doing with these expectations God has of us?

-via *College View Columns*, Florence, Alabama

The Inspiration of the Bible

Frank Himmel

The Bible is a unique collection of books. Although it was written by men, it claims to be the word of God. He inspired its authors. What exactly does that mean?

Inspiration Defined:

The word inspire literally means to breathe in. It refers to being motivated, influenced, or guided by some external cause. Three New Testament passages combine to set forth the Bible’s claim of inspiration.

“All Scripture is inspired by God” (2 Timothy 3:16). A poet or storyteller might get his inspiration from nature, history, his fellowman, and the like. Not so of the Bible writers. God was the source of their inspiration. The word translated inspired in this verse literally means the Scripture was “God-breathed.”

By what means did God inspire men to write the Bible? “But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but man moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God” (2 Peter 1:20-21).

The Bible is not the product of its writers’ own thinking, their personal interpretations of realities or events. They wrote as the Holy Spirit moved them to write.

To what extent did the Spirit move or inspire them? “Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words” (1 Corinthians 2:12-13).

The Spirit did not merely plant a thought in the Bible writers’ minds. He guided them in their choice of words by which they expressed that thought. As Jesus promised the apostles, “For it will be given you...what you are to speak. For it is not you who speak, but it is the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you” (Matthew 10:19-20).

This is the Bible claim: that God, through His Holy Spirit, directed those who wrote the Bible so that their words are His message.

The Bible contains numerous internal evidences to substantiate that claim. They include the unity, style, ethics, and accuracy of Scripture, and especially, fulfilled prophecy.

Inspiration's Limits:

Inspiration did not reduce the Bible writers to taking dictation. In some cases they did research before writing their accounts (Luke 1:1-4). Several sources are alluded to in the Old Testament, among them the book of Joshua (Joshua 10:13) and the book of the acts of Solomon (1 Kings 11:41).

Subject matter determined the degree of guidance needed. Often, Bible writers were eyewitnesses to the events they recorded (1 John 1:1-4). Inspiration supplemented and controlled the writing process (what to say and how much), but it did not supplant existent knowledge (note John 14:26).

Inspiration did not destroy the individuality of the Bible writers. Their different vocabularies, writing styles, and perspectives are obvious. Several Bible books contain personal references and greetings. Just as multiple witnesses to any modern event would relate it in different ways – all would not include or emphasize the same details – so it is with those who recorded sacred history. Their accounts manifest variety, yet unity.

Another thing inspiration did not always do is make the writers complete in their own understanding. God revealed only as much as He chose to at a given time. Peter reminds us that the Old Testament prophets often wanted to know more about Christ, whose life they were foretelling. They were told the full story was for a later age (1 Peter 1:10-12). By the end of the first century, however, the faith was fully revealed (Jude 3).

Inspiration's Implications:

Inspiration assures us that the Scriptures are an accurate, complete revelation of the mind of God. The correctness of the message was not dependent on a writer's understanding or his ability to express himself. By directing the author's words, the Spirit ensured that what was written was indeed the mind of God. In that sense, Bible writers "affirm together with the Lord" (Ephesians 4:17).

Inspiration makes the Bible authoritative. Jesus said the Scripture cannot be broken (John 10:35). He warned that whoever annuls the least of its commandments shall be called least in the kingdom (Matthew 5:19). Why?

Because those who wrote the Bible were speaking "the Lord's commandment" (1 Corinthians 14:37).

Finally, inspiration means "we would do well to pay attention" (2 Peter 1:19) to "the sacred writings which are able to give you wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 3:15).

God has spoken. "See to it that you do not refuse Him who is speaking" (Hebrews 12:25).

-via *The Manslick Speaker*, Louisville, Kentucky.

Vacation Bible School

June 10-13, 2013 — 10:00 a.m.

Sunday June 9th

Sunday 9:30 a.m.; 10:45 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Ed Harrell, Speaking

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street
Athens, Alabama

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Mot Beasley	Mot Dollar
Bobbie Adcock	Frances Bowers
Betty Hastings	Gwen Bullock
Wynell Casteel	Abby Gilbert
Morgan Barksdale	Jerry Taylor
Charles Burns	Ava Brooke Cambell
Matt Poff	Una King Carrier
Morgan Barksdale	David Hartsell
Phillip Harwell	Barbara Piper

In The Hospital:

Elizabeth Kate Miller, St. Jude's Hospital; – Memphis

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Beulah Pope, rm. 100	Matty Murray, rm. 60
Harvey Pope, rm. 107	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Dyral Allfrey, rm. 80	

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

Limestone Manor:

Jack Cannon, rm. 91

Brookshire Healthcare - Huntsville:

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 112-C

Shut-In:

Reba Adams, at home
Lola Colwell, at home
Mary Ruth Gardner, at home
David & Martha Rice, Mobile, Alabama
Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy in to **Jo Dunnivant**, and all the family, in the passing of her niece, **Shelia Douglas**. She passed away last Sunday and the funeral was Wednesday afternoon in Huntsville.

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

MILITARY SERVICE: Remember **Mitzi Carruth's** son-in-law, **Joel Smith**, who is in Afghanistan serving the U. S. military. Keep him in your prayers.

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.

THE RECORD: Attendance for Week of May 5th

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 124
Morning Worship 184
Evening Worship..... 105

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 107



**The Market Street
church of Christ Website at:
MarketStreet-church.com**

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, May 12th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader Todd Williams
Prayer Kenneth Smith
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Tommy Coblentz
Assisting Ronnie Locke
Serving Delmar Carter Jonathan Keenon
..... Nathaniel Adams Bart Brown
Closing Prayer Larry Mitchell

Evening Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Marcus Morris
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer Marty Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, May 12th:

Usher Terry Andrews
Work Sound System Landon Adams

Wednesday, May 15th:

Song Leader Tommy Burns
Bible Reading Mark 1:1-11
..... Danny Johnson
Prayer Landon Adams
Invitation Bonnie Sutton
Closing Prayer Kenneth Adams

Sunday, May 19th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Keith Hinkle
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Tommy Coblentz
Preaching Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper
Presiding Kenneth Smith
Assisting Marion Mitchell
Serving Paul Hasting Brandon Griswold
..... Russ Wulfekuhl Dan Lovell
Closing Prayer Marion Mitchell

Evening Worship

Announcements Keith Hinkle
Song Leader Stefan Fudge
Prayer Terry Andrews
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Keneth Smith
Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for Sunday, May 19th:

Usher Marus Morris
Work Sound System Landon Adams