

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 VI

January 5, 2014

No. 1

Things You Cannot Do Without

Brent Lewis

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship..... 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship 4:00 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

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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

The story is told of the farmer who went to the big city for the first time. It was quite a shock to him since he had never been far away from his country home. When asked about all the things he saw in the stores, he said, "I've never seen so many things I can do without."

There are a lot of things most of us can do without. But on the other hand, seemingly non-essentials can be essential when you don't have them. Have you ever forgotten your tooth-brush when you went on a trip, and had difficulty in getting another? Have you ever broken a shoelace at a very inconvenient time, or had a little button come off of your button down dress when you were late for services? We could surely multiply examples of essential things that are taken for granted.

According to God's word, there are at least three things which are absolutely essential – we cannot do without them. Let's consider them together.

Hebrews 9:22 says, "And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding blood there is no remission." Though this passage speaks of what was done under the Old Testament law, it is clear from the context that it refers ultimately to the blood of Jesus, shed on the cross, so that whoever believes and obeys Him avails himself of the forgiving blood of the Lord. Only such a one can be assured that his sins are forgiven and that he has peace with God both here and hereafter.

Each of us must understand that the forgiveness of our sins is essential and integral to salvation. According to the Bible, there never can be any forgiveness apart from the blood of Jesus Christ – His sacrificial death on Calvary's cross. Those who would present a bloodless Christianity preach a false hope. Just as blood is essential to physical life, the blood of Jesus is essential to eternal life. We must not "leave home without it," for "without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins."

But the Bible tells us something else we cannot do without. "But

without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6). Let us repeat that: without faith it is impossible to please Him. Faith, in the biblical sense, means trust or reliance. Faith in Christ is absolutely essential, for apart from faith in Jesus Christ and His death on the cross for our sins, His blood avails us nothing. We understand that faith in itself does not save, but it is definitely the channel through which salvation comes to us. Faith does not save, but faith in Jesus Christ most certainly does! Even the saving faith exercised by us is a gift from God. “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is a gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast” (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Obedient faith in Jesus Christ is a faith that saves. A godly old woman was once asked, “Are you the woman with great faith?” She replied, “No, I am the woman who has faith in a great God.” That is exactly where our faith rests. Without it, we cannot be saved.

In a wider sense, it is obvious from the Bible that we just cannot do without God Himself. God is truly the only independent and non-dependent being. Men are totally dependent, to a great degree on each other, but to a much greater degree upon God. We must not forget this. Psalm 127:1 reminds us, “Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it.”

A life lived without God is a pitiful tale, lacking any meaning, purpose, or direction. Whether we acknowledge His existence or not, it is nevertheless true that “in Him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28). God is essential. He made us, sustains us, He provides for us, He comforts us in sorrow, He guides us, He helps us, and most importantly He saves us when we put our faith in His Son.

We would likely all admit that in this life we can do without much. Necessity may force us to view some of our needs as greed! But we cannot do without the blood of Jesus. We cannot do without faith. And we certainly cannot do without God Himself.

-via *Teaching Truth*; Madison, Alabama.

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

The Power of An Endless Life

Jim Jonas

Humanity has been served at times by great men, men who by earthly standards have achieved great things by wisdom, courage, vision and self-sacrifice. Names like Washington, Edison, Churchill and Salk have altered the course of modern history. But there is one thing all the illustrious warriors, politicians, scientists and other men of influence have in common: they all died, and they have contributed nothing to the welfare of humanity from the “other side.”

Above all of these names stands the name Jesus. Jesus was the greatest figure in the history of the human family because He came to us from heaven. Thus, when He died according to God’s plan, that death had significance beyond the death of any other human being. It was an atoning death, a divinely supplied offering for sin that brings spiritual cleansing and forgiveness to all who desire it (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 9:14, 26).

But in addition to this sacrificial death on our behalf, the New Testament declares that Jesus continues to serve and help man via his life after death. In reference to His heavenly priesthood after the order of Melchizedek, Jesus serves “not according to the law of a fleshly commandment, but according to the power of an endless life” (Hebrews 7:16).

Further, “He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He ever lives to make intercession for them” (Hebrews 7:24-25). Jesus’ atoning blood at the cross is what cleanses from sin, but His ongoing intercession on behalf of His people continues to benefit us as well.

The term “intercession” is from the Greek “*entunchano*”, of which Vine says, “to make petition, especially ‘to make intercession, plead with a person,’ either for or against others” (Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words, p. 330). The idea is that Jesus appears in the presence of God on our behalf, by His own blood appealing to the Father for our forgiveness. And not just “our” forgiveness, as if speaking of some amorphous, impersonal mass of humanity, but “my” forgiveness. Atonement is not a “class action suit”; it is every man and woman’s personal petition through the Lord for mercy and pardon.

In spite of the grisly and public death of Jesus – His body nailed to a Roman cross for all of Jerusalem and the Passover crowds to gawk at – the apostles less than two months later began vigorously preaching that He was alive in heaven and working for the benefit of saved people: “He poured out this which you now see and hear” (Acts 2:33).

“Let it be known to you all...that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands before you whole” (Acts 4:10).

When people lose loved ones, they often visualize them watching over them from heaven, helping and inspiring them to achieve things or warning of danger. This notion brings comfort to the living, but there is not one shred of Biblical evidence that it is anything other than wishful thinking.

We may desperately miss our loved ones, but the One we need helping us from the “other side” is Jesus. Jesus reigns over the whole universe to help me get to heaven. Praise God!

-via *Hueytown Bulletin*; Hueytown, Alabama

Editor's Note:

Brother A. J. Rollings, an evangelist at Market Street for many years, would recite this poem each year as the old year would be finishing and the new year would be coming in. We appreciate the truths that are told within this poem and commend the thoughts of it to you. May we all do better with the time that is ahead of us.

I came to my teacher with quivering lips,
My task undone;
“Teacher hast thou another sheet for me?
I have spoiled this one,”
She took the old sheet, stained and blotted,
And gave me a new one, clean, unspotted,
And into my glad face smiled,
“Do better this time, my child.”

I came to the Father with a quivering heart,
The old year done;
“Father, hast thou another year for me?
I have spoiled this one.”
He took the old year, stained and blotted,
And gave me a new one, clean, unspotted,
And into my glad heart smiled,
“Do better this time, my child.”

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Majorie Dunnavant	Jennifer Threet
Marion Mitchell	Opal Conn
Fay Ferguson	Gwen Bullock
Gilbert Hardy	Joyce & Crutcher Harbin
Carol Locke	Eli Williams
Ava Brooke Campbell	Brittney Murrell
Jerry Taylor	Una King Currier
Phillip Harwell	Elizabeth Kate Miller
Charles Burns	Mark Hargrove
Abby Gilbert	Lisa Swafford

In The Hospital:

Billy Abernathy; Memphis Hosp.

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Beulah Pope, rm. 100 Mattye Murray, rm. 60
Dorothy Draper, rm. 97 Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Robert Johnson, rm. 18 Gayle Mills, rm. 15
Mable Crafts, rm. 63

Limestone Health Facility:

Janet Berryhill, rm. 75-B Jack Cannon, rm. 111A
Albert Norton, rm. 36 Mary Ruth Gardner, r. 107
Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E

Limestone Lodge:

Yvonne Sherbert, rm. 11

Brookshire Healthcare - Huntsville:

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 112-C

Floyd E. “Tut” Fann Veterans Home - Huntsville:

Albert Bowers, rm. 115-C

Shut-In:

Reba Adams, at home
Wynell Casteel, at home
Lola Colwell, at home
Mary Ruth Gardner, at home
Betty Hasting, at home
David Rice, Mobile, Alabama
Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

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.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Marion Mitchell and all the family* in the passing of

Marion's brother, Robert Mitchell in Shepherdsville, Kentucky. His funeral and burial was this past Friday in Kentucky.

CONFESSION: Rickey Chaney came forward last Sunday morning confessing sin and not living the example that a Christian should live. He asked for prayers for forgiveness and strength. We appreciate the good heart and the desire that Rickey has to please God. May all of us encourage him as he will and has encouraged us.

NEW QUARTER BEGINS TODAY: The new quarter in our Bible classes begins this morning, January 5th. The teachers and classes for this quarter are as follows:

- Toddler:* Lisa Wulfekuhl
- Pre-School:* Sharma Hamm
- Primary:* Julie Williams
- Junior High:* Nathaniel Adams/Hunter Cox
- High School/College:* Joel Hamm
- Ladies Class:* Marcella Coblentz
- Adult:* Jordan Lovell (Sunday)
David Cox (Wednesday)

I want to express my appreciation to all of those who taught during the fall quarter for their work and dedication. We had a very good quarter. I am eagerly looking forward to this quarter and hope all will be present and prepared for our periods of Bible study. There are classes for all ages; come join us.

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

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of Dec. 29th

Sunday:	Bible Classes.....	128
	Morning Worship	183
	Evening Worship.....	131
Wednesday:	Bible Classes.....	110



**The Market Street
church of Christ Website at:
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Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, January 5th:

Morning Worship

- Announcements Terry Andrews
- Song Leader Todd Williams
- Prayer Larry Mitchell
- Preaching David Cox
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding Dwaine Allfrey
- Assisting Ronnie Locke
- Serving Norman Brown Stefan Fudge
- Delmer Carter Landon Adams
- Closing Prayer Marcus Morris

Evening Worship

- Announcements Terry Andrews
- Song Leader Joel Hamm
- Prayer Kenneth Smith
- Preaching Jordan Lovell
- Lord's Supper Dwaine Allfrey
- Closing Prayer Dan Reed

- Other Assignments for Sunday, January 5th:
- Usher Marvin Putman
 - Work Sound System Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, January 8th:

- Song Leader Jerry McGlocklin
- Bible Reading..... Mark 10:1-12
- Heath Dollar
- Prayer Tommy Coblentz
- Invitation Hunter Cox
- Closing Prayer Marty Adams

Sunday, January 12th:

Morning Worship

- Announcements Jerry McGlocklin
- Song Leader Tommy Burns
- Prayer Keith Hinkle
- Preaching David Cox
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding Marion Mitchell
- Assisting Marty Adams
- Serving Bart Brown Russ Wulfekuhl
- Danny Johnson Mot Dollar
- Closing Prayer Joel Hamm

Evening Worship

- Announcements Jerry McGlocklin
- Song Leader Stefan Fudge
- Prayer Ross Melvin
- Preaching David Cox
- Lord's Supper Marion Mitchell
- Closing Prayer Kenneth Adams

- Other Assignments for Sunday, January 12th:
- Usher Paul Hasting
 - Work Sound System Landon Adams