

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

March 2, 2014

No. 9

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) 232-3312
Joel Hamm..... (256) 278-1977
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

"Whatever Things Were Written Aforetime"

David A. Cox

"For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope" (Romans 15:4).

There is no doubt that when Paul mentions the things "written aforetime" he is making reference to the Old Testament. Some have attempted to justify the authority of the Old Testament scriptures by using this verse. However, if Paul had intended that the authority of the Old Testament is still in force today (in the Dispensation of Christ), then this verse would stand in direct contradiction to other passages of Scripture. For example, Paul, writing to the Colossians, spoke of Christ and the Old Testament, "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross" (Colossians 2:14). Paul, writing to the Galatians, referred to the Old Testament (the old law) as a "schoolmaster." Paul stated the purpose of the old law was "to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith" (Galatians 3:24). In verse 25 of Galatians 3, we read, "But after faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster." It is clear that Paul was speaking of the old law being brought to an end which is in keeping with what Christ said about the old law as he lived on this earth (Matthew 5:17; Luke 24:44). Obviously, Paul never intended for this statement, in Romans 15:4, to be used to justify the practices of some, based on the authority of the Old Testament.

The question now is: What exactly did Paul say about the use of the Old Testament? He said it was for our learning so that those who suffer for righteousness will have hope. Paul speaking to Felix, said, "But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and prophets: And have hope toward God which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust" (Acts 24:14-15). Notice that Paul said he believed all that was written in the law and prophets and he had hope as those before him

had. As Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, etc. looked by faith to the coming promise of God, so did Paul. In Romans 15:4, Paul is saying so should we. Think of Job and Daniel suffering because of their having a trusting faith in God. This should admonish (comfort) us to live lives that will be acceptable to God, our Father. As we think of the promises given to Abraham and the faithfulness of God in fulfilling them, this should help us to recognize that God is not “slack concerning His promise as some men count slackness, but is longsuffering” (2 Peter 3:9). Men may say the world has not ended yet, and that they desire to enjoy the pleasures of sin. But Paul is reminding us that the lessons of the Old Testament are invaluable to us as we live our lives by faith; trusting in the promises of God as those have so done in the days long ago.

There are many lessons we can gain from the Old Testament that can give us comfort and hope. But Romans 15:4 should never be used to try to give authority to the Old Testament Scriptures for today.



Character Contrasts: Saul & Jonathan

Seth Mauldin

Whenever I read through the book of 1 Samuel, I am always left asking myself the question: What would the kingdom have been like if Jonathan had been the first king instead of Saul?

Both men were in a position of leadership and influence, but their attitudes toward God were drastically different. I can think of no better passage in scripture that demonstrates this than 1 Samuel 14.

In our context Saul has just foolishly offered the sacrifice in place of Samuel. Saul cited all sorts of reasons why he had to go ahead and offer the sacrifice, but the main reason came down to Saul placing his faith in the size of his army rather in the power of God. After Samuel's rebuke Saul takes his army which has now dwindled down to a mere six hundred men (14:2) and

decides to bide his time under a fruit tree. In stark contrast to this Jonathan decides to take the initiative and take the fight to the Philistines (14:6). Because of his actions God would go on to deliver Israel and give them a great victory. Let's take a few moments and see a few of the contrasts in the character of these two men that made all the difference.

1. Where They Placed their Trust. As we've already mentioned, Saul's rash actions in offering the sacrifice was due to his trust in numbers (13:11) and that he had retreated with his men to rejoin the company of Jonathan. But I imagine when Jonathan elected to not tell his father about his plans (14:1) it was probably because he knew what Saul's opinion would be of just two men going to fight an army! But Jonathan's faith was put firmly in the Lord. In 14:6, he declares that the “Lord is not restrained to save by many or by few.” It didn't matter if it was just himself and his armor bearer: If God was on his side he had complete confidence!

2. How they Sought the Lord. Saul's attitude toward offering the sacrifice before going in to battle seems to show he had a checklist mentality. All he was concerned about was getting it done, not what the Lord's prophet might have to say when he came. In chapter 14 the same attitude is displayed. After the Philistine camp is thrown into chaos Saul asks the priest to inquire of the Lord via the Ark. But soon the excitement grows and Saul becomes impatient, in essence telling the priest, “never mind! We don't have time for this!” (14:19). What a difference between Jonathan's plan! In 14:8-10, we read that Jonathan's entire plan of attack is based solely around waiting for a sign from God.

3. Who they Worked for. Saul's entire basis for fighting the Philistines seems to be a personal vendetta: They have wronged him and he wants to get revenge! This leads him to make a very rash vow of proclaiming a fast until he could “avenge himself on his enemies” (14:24) Not the Lord's enemies, but his enemies. In 14:6, Jonathan's attitude is that these idolatrous heathens are God's enemies, and that is the reason why God will be with them, not because of personal vengeance.

As we all move forward together seeking to be better leaders in God's kingdom, let's strive to be like Jonathan: Placing our trust in the power of God, always seeking out His will, and never forgetting that what we do, we do for Him.

-via *Redeeming The Time*; Athens, Alabama.

Do I Need To Be Baptized?

Stacy Crim

“Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:37-38).

“And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord” (Acts 22:16).

If you want to have remission of your sins washing them away, you do have to be baptized.

“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 3:21).

If you want to be saved and have a good conscience towards God, you do have to be baptized.

“For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” (Galatians 3:27) If you want to be “in Christ” and “put on Christ” you do have to be baptized.

“Know ye not, that so many of us were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin” (Romans 6:3-6).

If you want to walk in newness of life you do have to be baptized.

-via *The Wooley Springs Helper*, Toney, Alabama.

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Fay Ferguson	Betty Bolton
Buddy Pepper	Robert & Mot Beasley
Marjorie Dunnivant	Joyce & Crutcher Harbin
Gwen Bullock	Matt Poff
Hank Atwood	Bennie Pepper
Mark Hargrove	Carol Locke
Ava Brooke Campbell	Brittney Murrell
Jerry Taylor	Una King Carrier
Phillip Harwell	Elizabeth Kate Miller
Charles Burns	Abby Gilbert
Elizabeth Howard	Eli Williams

In The Hospital:

Joey Hinkle, University Hospital; Miami, Florida
Bennie Pepper, HealthSouth; rm. 324

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Louise Hardy, rm. 81-A Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Dorothy Draper, rm. 97 Mattye Murray, rm. 60
Mable Crafts, rm. 100 Gayle Mills, rm. 15
Robert Johnson, rm. 18

Limestone Health Facility:

Albert Norton, rm. 36 Jack Cannon, rm. 111A
Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E Janet Berryhill, rm. 75-B
Billy Abernathy, rm. 93 Bob Richter, rm. 96

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Please mark your calendars for our spring Gospel Meeting which will be **April 20-24, 2014**. *Dee Bowman of Pasadena, Texas* will be preaching...Also, our Vacation Bible School will be **June 16-19, 2014**.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy-*James Johnson* in the passing of his sister, *Pauline Mar-*

tin. She passed away Firday morning in Montgomery. Her funeral will be Monday in Montgomery...Also we extend our deepest sympathy to **Lena Ruth Bates** in the passing of her sister, **Retha Arra**. She passed away last Friday and her funeral was last Sunday at McConnell Funeral Home.

TEACHER'S MEETING: There is a teachers' meeting scheduled for next Sunday afternoon at 3:15 for discussion of the upcoming Vacation Bible School in June. I hope that all of the teachers will plan to be present.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: There is a gospel meeting beginning today at the **Oneal church**. The meeting will continue through Wednesday evening. *Jeff May* will be the speaker...The **Carriger church** is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. *Gerry Sandusky* will be the speaker in this meeting.

THE THIRD ANNUAL SINGING Our Third Annual Singing was a great success Friday. We had 434 present and it was a thrilling evening to be able to assemble with this group on Firday evening and lift our voices together in praise to God. This singing, like the last two, was truly uplifting and edifying night for those who were present. There were a number of members from numerous congregations this region. There were also visitors that came who were not members of the church, but many expressed to me how much that they enjoyed beign here and look forward to being with us again. I appreciate the work of **David Deason, Joe Greer and Steve Klein** in leading the singing. They did there work well. I want to thank each member of the members at Market Street that worked hard and diligently in helping to prepare and to make the singing what it was: parking lot workers, audio/visual area, users, greeters, parking lot workers. Also, I want to thank all who extend invitations to other to come join us and the elders here at Market Street for their leadership and support in this effort. This could not be done without the work done by each one. I truly appreciate the work and it was noticed by all who attended.

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 the week of Feb. 23rd*

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 130
Morning Worship 170
Evening Worship..... 119

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 102

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, March 2nd:

Morning Worship

Announcements Terry Andrews
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer Dan Reed
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Joel Hamm
Assisting Larry Mitchell
Serving Bill Claxton David Terry
..... Delmer Carter Landon Adams
Closing Prayer Bonnie Sutton

Evening Worship

Announcements Terry Andrews
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Marty Adams
Preaching Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer Tommy Coblentzz

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 2nd:
Usher Ronnie Locke
Work Sound System Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, March 5th:

Song Leader Todd Willams
Bible Reading..... Mark 12:1-12
..... Keenon Currier
Prayer Dwaine Allfrey
Invitation Kenneth Smith
Closing Prayer Kenneth Adams

Sunday, March 9th

Morning Worship

Announcements Jerry McGlocklin
Song Leader Stefan Fudge
Prayer Ross Melvin
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Kenneth Smith
Assisting Marty Adams
Serving Russ Wulfekuhl James Johnson
..... Keenon Currier Dan Lovell
Closing Prayer Jonathan Keenon

Evening Worship

Announcements Jerry McGlocklin
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Norman Brown
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Kenneth Smith
Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 9th:
Usher Delmer Carter
Work Sound System Landon Adams