

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

June 22, 2014

No. 25

No One Deserves Heaven

T. Doy Moyer

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
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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

If we believe that only the worst of humanity is going to hell, that hell is reserved only for the murderers, child molesters, abject liars, and Hitler's - the worst of the worst - then we have unwittingly bought into a works oriented view of salvation. This mentality ties moral behavior to what is owed, so that if we are relatively good (even though we all admit that no one is perfect), then we at least deserve to be with God in some fashion. Have we not all heard about those good people down the street who don't deserve to go to hell? Well if they don't deserve that, then what exactly do they deserve? Do they deserve heaven? Do any of us deserve heaven?

The problem is that we all have sinned and fall short of God's glory (Romans 3:23). This is true regardless of the degree of badness involved in the sin. No one deserves salvation. We are saved by grace. But if we are saved by grace, then any talk of people not deserving to go to hell betrays a salvific framework that is not based on grace, but merit.

We deserve hell because of sin, and once we begin to understand how bad sin really is, then perhaps we can begin to grasp why we will never deserve heaven. Sin is not about breaking these or those specific rules - those are manifestations of the real problem. The real problem is tied to our view of God. Adam and Eve's sin was not really about a piece of fruit, but about attitude of rebellion against their maker. Sin is our attempt to dethrone God, steal His glory, and rebel against His nature of holiness.

Then, once we begin to see the horrors of sin, we might begin to appreciate the grace God offers. People rail against God and the concept of salvation because they don't really see sin for what it is. This is why it is never good to downplay or whitewash the problem of sin. When we do that, we also downplay God's grace and mercy.

God owes us nothing, but He offers us everything. We need to live in a way that shows our appreciation for this.

-via The Gospel Power; Anderson, Alabama.

Is Only One Church Right?

Sewell Hall

Probably no charge creates more prejudice a group of people than the charge that they think there is only one church that is right. This fact clearly indicates that most Americans consider all churches right. Is it possible that only one church is right?

At least three other questions must be answered before this one can be answered intelligently.

1. Is there such a thing as right and wrong? Many who complain so bitterly about such a claim do not believe that anything is absolutely right or wrong. If there is no right or wrong, then obviously any claim to be the only right church would be ridiculous. However, if there is a God and if He created us, then He is the standard of right and wrong (Romans 3:4). His word is truth (John 17:17).

2. Is there a right and wrong religion? Some who accept the concept of right and wrong in the realm of morals exclude it from religion. They seem to think that God is so loving and good that He will accept anything man may do and dedicate to Him. But Jesus warned of false teachers who would come in sheep's clothing (Matthew 7:15). He continued and stated that worship was made vain by teaching the doctrines of men (Matthew 15:9). Paul informed the Galatians that anyone who preached any other gospel than what he had preached would be accursed (Galatians 1:8), and Peter predicted that there would be false teachers among us (2 Peter 2:1). So religious teachings can be false and religious practice can be wrong. Jesus also said, "Every plant which my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted" (Matthew 15:13). This is equal to saying that churches not planted by the Lord will be rejected.

3. Has God designated any exclusives in religion? Consider Ephesians 4:4-6. "There is one body and one spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." The "one" in these verses obviously means "one and only one."

These verses do not allow for our modern broad-mindedness. Such broad-mindedness, however, is not

really new; it existed in the first century among the Ephesians to whom this was written. Paul became the focus of a riot because he insisted "that there are no gods made with hands" (Acts 19:26). To put it another way, he preached there was "one and only one" God. The Ephesians were tolerant of many gods, but intolerant of anyone who said there was only one. Most of us would agree that there is one and only one God. But the same verses say, "there is one body." What is this one body? The same writer says in Ephesians 1:22-23 that God has given Christ "to be head of all things to the church which is His body." So if there is one body and that body is the church, this is saying there is only one church. If one God means only one God, then one body means only one body or only one church.

What is the one church? Without a doubt, the only one body (church) referred to in Ephesians 4:4-6, was the church that Jesus promised to build (Matthew 16:18). It was to be founded on the fact that He was the Christ, the Son of God. That church began on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2), when Jesus was first publicly proclaimed to be the Christ, based upon the facts of His resurrection from the dead. Those who believed asked, "What shall we do?" Then Peter said to them, "Repent and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit... Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them... And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved" (Acts 2:37-38, 41, 47).

Please note that all who were saved were added to the church. It includes all who were saved, for the Lord added all who were saved to it. But if it included all who were saved it was not a denomination, for a denomination by definition is only one part of a whole. Neither was it a combination of all denominations, nor even an association of local churches known as "church of Christ." The one body was made up of individual members, not of local churches. It was the one true church to which all who were saved were added. It was that one body described in Ephesians.

How can this church be identified? Jesus said that the gates of Hades would not prevail against His church (Matthew 16:18). It must be in existence today. If it is, it has Jesus Christ as its only Lord and the gospel as its only faith. It is entered by the one baptism, it still

includes all who are saved, and it is not one of many. It is the body of Christ (Colossians 1:18), Christ's church (Matthew 16:18), the church of God (Galatians 1:13), the house of God (1 Timothy 3:15). It is the one and only church that is right.

-via *The Cornerstone*; Richmond, Virginia.

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Influence

J.H. McCaleb

"I have to hang up now, Irma. I hear the baby screaming."

"Why did you say that?" asked her young son. "Nobody is screaming."

"Well, I had to say something; otherwise I'd be on the phone with her all day!"

That is the conversation that took place with a telephoning mother and her small son, as outlined in the first part of a cartoon strip. The last picture shows the little boy in the kitchen with his hand deep in the cookie jar, and with a wide grin on his face. The mother in the next is calling to him.

"What are you doing in there?"

"I'm watching TV."

Young people catch on quickly, and are much inclined to accept the philosophy demonstrated by their parents and their elders. The same tendency seems to persist right into adulthood. By then, we wonder what is happening to the next generation.

"That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. The aged women likewise, that they be in behavior as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; that they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children" (Titus 2:2-4).

Older people have a serious responsibility. Christianity is not cheap.

-via *Echo of Truth*; College Olney, Illinois

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Lona Killen	Jeanette Weir
Gilbert Hardy	Crutcher Harbin
Robert & Mot Beasley	Gwen Bullock
Gene Carpenter	Dianna Felker Ritter
Charlotte Kellum	Matt Poff
Dorothy Casteel	Ava Brooke Campbell
Elizabeth Howard	David Holt
Joey Hinkle	Charles Burns
Phillip Harwell	Una King Currier
Eli Williams	Elizabeth Kate Miller
Carol Locke	Jerry Taylor
Abby Gilbert	Alex Reed

In The Hospital:

Joe Hinkle; Vanderbilt Hospital;

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 75	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Dorothy Draper, rm. 97	Matty Murray, rm. 2
Mable Crafts, rm. 100	Gayle Mills, rm. 15
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Judith Groce, rm. 63	

Limestone Health Facility:

Albert Norton, rm. 36	Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E
Ruth Lawson, rm. 94	

Limestone Lodge:

Yvonne Sherbert, rm. 11

Limestone Manor:

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 86

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
Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to **Gayle Ball & Crutcher Trousdale** and *all the family*, in the passing of Gayle's brother-in-law, **David Easter**. He passed away on Thursday morning. His funeral was on Saturday morning at the Limestone Chapel Funeral Home.

OUT OF TOWN: The Browns: Norman and Stephanie

are on vacation this week... *The Mitchells: Larry and Peggy* are on vacation this week in Gulf Shores... *The Coblentz's: Tommy and Marcella* have been on vacation a few days this week.

GOSPEL MEETINGS/VBS: The *Midway church* will be engaged in a gospel meeting this week through Friday night. The speaker in the meeting will be *Lanny Smith*...The *College View church* in Florence will be engaged in a Vacation Bible School this week each evening through Wednesday...The *Jordan Park church* in Huntsville is having a VBS this week and it will continue through Friday...The *Lectures at Athens Bible School* will begin on Monday evening and continue through Thursday. There will be a singing the Rolling-Lovell Auditorium on Friday night at 7:00.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: This past week we have our our Vacation Bible School for 2014. It was a great week! We averaged 138 each morning. The speakers in the adult class each morning did a great job and I appreciate them coming to be with us. I cannot adequately express my appreciation to those who taught the children's classes: *Sharma Hamm, Lisa Wulfekuhl, Julie Williams, Heather Lovell, Kerry Cox, Marvella Adams, Ida Nell Griffin, Marilyn Bradley, Hunter Cox and Joel Hamm* and those that helped them in the classes: *Brettlyn Currier, Irene Putman, and Angie Hinkle*. They all deserve a big "Thank you." Without their dedication and work, the VBS would not have been the success it was. Also, I would like to express appreciation to *Marion Pepper* for his work in cleaning the building with the extra time needed and for *Terry Andrews* in taking care of the audio/visuals plus recording the services. Thank you to the elders for their support of this work. I truly believe that this is a great work that has long-term results. May the Lord continue to bless the work the Market Street church is doing both here and abroad.

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 June 15th*

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 155
Morning Worship 202
Evening Worship..... 126

Wednesday:
Bible Classes..... 118

Remember Our Service This Afternoon at 4:00.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, June 22nd:

Morning Worship

AnnouncementsJerry McGlocklin
Song LeaderJoel Hamm
Prayer Tommy Coblentz
PreachingDavid Cox
Lord's Supper
PresidingMarcus Morris
Assisting Bonnie Sutton
Serving Nathaniel Adams Mot Dollar
..... Marvin Putman Heath Dollar
Closing Prayer James Johnson

Evening Worship

AnnouncementsJerry McGlocklin
Song Leader Tommy Burns
PrayerRoss Melvin
Preaching Song Service
Lord's SupperMarcus Morris
Closing Prayer Ronnie Locke

Other Assignments for Sunday, June 15th:

Usher Danny Johnson
Work Sound System Marty Adams

Wednesday, June 25th:

Song LeaderTodd Williams
Bible Reading.....Mark 15:16-20
..... Danny Johnson
Prayer
InvitationSteve Usery
Closing Prayer Marty Adams

Sunday, June 29th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Larry Mitchell
PreachingDavid Cox
Lord's Supper
PresidingTerry Andrews
Assisting Kenneth Smith
Serving Russ Wulfekuhl Ronnie Locke
..... Kenneth AdamsStefan Fudge
Closing Prayer Dwaine Allfrey

Evening Worship

AnnouncementsJerry McGlocklin
Song Leader Tommy Burns
PrayerRoss Melvin
Preaching Dan Reed
Lord's SupperMarcus Morris
Closing Prayer Ronnie Locke

Other Assignments for Sunday, June 15th:

UsherPaul Hasting
Work Sound System Landon Adams