

# 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

July 13, 2014

No. 28

### 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 Coblenz ..... (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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[MarketStreet-church.com](http://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*

## *Sojourners & Pilgrims*

**Ed Brand**

Peter urges saints to regard themselves as sojourners and pilgrims. A sojourner is one who lives among aliens. Pilgrims live in a strange place, away from one's own people. Hostility is injected into this alien, strange place by the phrase, which war against the soul (1 Peter 2:11). He says the present dwelling place of Christians is in a strange, hostile land; a land where danger lurks in the form of fleshly lusts.

I know Americans who live abroad. They are literally sojourners. They are living in a country of which they are not native. The customs there are different from their homeland. Most of them live in relative safety from governmental persecution, but some do not. There is actual danger of deportation or threat of harassment while they live there. A remarkable thing about these people: they volunteered to live in this environment because they believe their being there would be helpful to the cause of Jesus. Living there is generally more rigorous and less comfortable than living in the USA. They have not forgotten their homeland and look forward to the time they can return.

Christians are living in a land which is not theirs and which is inhabited by people and influences which are foreign to them. How easy it is to forget that we are just pilgrims passing through. We are like Abraham who dwelled in tents (only a temporary home) while he traveled in search of the city which hath foundations (Hebrews 11:9-10). He was incessantly looking for this permanent dwelling place.

The world is out to make us citizens. Its efforts, sometimes subtle, sometimes bold, are to make us feel at home here. We need to slip into something more comfortable. Since we are going to be here for a while we ought to at least enjoy being here. Don't be so uptight.

I'm afraid many saints are vulnerable to this persuasive song the world sings. Some have concentrated so hard on the here and now that the there and then have all but been forgotten. We are surrounded with the gadgets of culture which dazzle and amaze our eyes and minds. The

popular media praise modern paganism and denounce Christians with convictions as right-wing fanatics and bigots. Surely we do not want to be either fanatics or bigots. The only way to be relieved of those names is to cease opposition to the world's agenda, be silent and lay down our arms.

Dear brethren, when we become sophisticated and are comfortable in our surroundings, the enemy has won. Our lips will be silenced in opposition to wrong and closed for use to convert others. Our numbers will dwindle, our influence lessen, until we are gone. Vanished! Unless we remain conscious to the designations of sojourners and pilgrims and act consistently with the meaning of those terms.

-via *The Stanley Avenue Bulletin*; Andalusia, Alabama



## *Following The Bible*

**Sewell Hall**

Our claim to a unique position in the religious world is our determination to follow the Bible. But when this claim is made, the usual response is "All churches follow the Bible." This raises an obvious question: "If all churches follow the Bible, why the variety of doctrines and practices?"

### **Unacceptable Explanations**

Some say the Bible cannot be understood sufficiently well to allow for unity. This questions God's wisdom, for God intended for us to understand. "Be ye not foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is" (Ephesians 3:17). Was God incapable of providing a book that men could understand?

Others insist that the Bible actually teaches many different things. Denominationalists have been claiming this for years. More recently, we even heard a preacher among churches of Christ say that the Bible can be used to justify different kinds of church government. Sometimes it is said, "You can prove anything by the Bible." This questions God's integrity. It is insulting to say of a man: "You can prove anything by him." How much worse to say this of a book given to us by God! It

contains one consistent message and to make it support contradictory positions requires an abuse of its message.

### **The Real Problem**

The problem is not with the Bible, nor with its source. The problem is the varying approaches to following the Bible. Some believe in a careful adherence to what the Bible says. Others believe in a rather casual following "not of the letter, but of the Spirit," as they put it, adopting the words but not the sense of 2 Corinthians 3:6. Stated another way, some construe the Scriptures strictly, believing that we must do in religion only what the Scriptures authorize. Others construe the Scriptures loosely, believing that we may practice anything not plainly forbidden.

These two views formed a clear issue between the two great reformers of Germany and Switzerland, Luther and Zwingli. In *A History of the Christian Church*, Lars Qualben explains: "One of the great differences between Zwingli and Luther was: Luther used the Bible as corrective, retaining those rites and ceremonies of the Medieval church which were not positively antiscip-tural. Hence he retained images, altars, ornaments of the churches, organs, church bells, and the like. Zwingli used the Bible as a code of laws, rejecting everything not expressly enjoined in the Scriptures" (p. 255).

### **Following Recipes and Directions**

If a teacher gives a student a recipe for making a cake, what does she expect? If the girl adds ingredients not found in the recipe, will the teacher credit her with following the recipe? Obviously, the student was following the recipe as long as she was using what the recipe required. But when she added other ingredients, she ceased following the recipe and began following her own way.

If a person is given directions for finding a location, what is involved in following those directions? As long as he is making the turns authorized, he is following directions. But when he begins making turns not called for, he has ceased following directions.

Are people actually following the Bible as they follow recipes or directions? The majority of ingredients in modern religion are nowhere authorized in Scripture. They are the products of human wisdom. And it is these additional ingredients, these unauthorized changes of directions that account for the differences that exist in religion.

-via *Graphic Evangelist*; Athens, Alabama

## *The Successful Man*

Morris D. Norman

Being a success is the “American dream.” We instill in our young men that they must prepare themselves to “climb the ladder” and make their fortunes. The accumulation of prestige and material goods is a goal to which all must strive. Because of such materialistic concepts that we instill in our youth, many have become failures even though they may have attained position and wealth. We have our false concepts about what success is, but **no man is a success until he can attain what God wants him to be.** Because so many have not reached this goal, they are failures. Most of the success stories we point our youth to show them how to make a million dollars but don't teach them how to live. Can we truthfully say that Howard Hughes was a success? He amassed fortunes but died a miserable and lonely man.

Study some of the success stories of the Bible. In Luke 12 we read of the successful farmer who had to erect more barns to store his goods, he had security for years to come. But he dies that night and had not one thing to carry into eternity. The rich man in Luke 16 fared sumptuously with purple and fine linen. But in death he lifted up his eyes from torment and would have given all earthly goods for relief. The poor beggar, the failure, rested in Abraham's bosom. Which of the two would you rather have been?

And then there is the rich man who ran to Jesus asking what he might do to have eternal life. He was told to “*keep the commandments,*” to which he replied, “*This I have done, what lack I yet?*” The answer came, “*If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give it to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.*” When the young man heard it he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions. Was not this man a success by man's standards? He was a rich ruler. How many mothers pointed to him as a standard for their sons? How many young women would have loved to have him for their husband? Yet from heaven's view he was a failure because he did not have treasures in heaven.

The book of Ecclesiastes destroys the concept that in earthly attainment there is success. Whatever man accomplishes for this world he can only use for a moment, and only a day at a time. Death takes us all and

we leave it behind, if we do not lose it before we go. “*Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.*” This is all that counts, all that man can use after he leaves this life. “*For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?*”

Parents: you do your children a great injustice by filling their heads with false concepts of success. So many have sent unprepared young people to state schools because they wanted them to be a “success.” They were taught how to attain but lost their souls as their weak faith was destroyed by skeptics. We put more worth on worldly attainments than on eternal security.

-via *Light*; Birmingham, Alabama

## *News & Notes...*

### **THE SICK:**

Mary Glenna Currier	Ross Melvin
Fay Ferguson	Joe Hinkle
Lona Killen	Jeanette Weir
Ruth Legg	Crutcher Harbin
Gilbert Hardy	Robert Beasley
Gwen Bullock	Dianna Felker Ritter
Charlotte Kellum	Ruth Lawson
Gene Carpenter	Dorothy Casteel
Ava Brooke Campbell	Alex Reed
Elizabeth Howard	David Holt
Joey Hinkle	Charles Burns
Phillip Harwell	Una King Currier
Eli Williams	Elizabeth Kate Miller

### ***In The Hospital:***

*Mot Beasley*; Forsyth Medical Ctr.; Winston-Salem, N.C.  
*Matt Poff*; Vanderbilt Hospital; Nashville, Tenn.  
*Michael Vaughn*; Kindred Hosp. - Rehab; Webster, Texas

### ***Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:***

Nelva Reed, rm. 75      Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102  
Dorothy Draper, rm. 97      Mattye 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

**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

**RESTORATION:** We rejoice that **Tony and Patsy Thomas** came forward confessing unfaithfulness and asking for prayer for forgiveness and strength. We appreciate Tony and Patsy's desire to please God. May we all encourage them as they will encourage us in our work together is serving the Lord.

**NURSING HOMESINGING:** Remember the singing on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. at the **Athens Rehabilitation and Senior Care**. Come and sing you will enjoy it and you will encourage the residents there.

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

**RESOURCE LIBRARY:** As announced last week, on the church's website we now have a resource room from Truth Books there. We will be uploading materials that we have here on the Resource Library as well. This is a great Bible study tool. If you want a login, please give me your email address on a member's card so I can get this set up.

**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 July 6th**

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 139  
Morning Worship ..... 183  
Evening Worship..... 131

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, July 13th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Marcus Morris  
Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
Prayer ..... Terry Andrews  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Larry Mirchell  
Assisting ..... Tommy Coblentz  
Serving ..... Steve Usery ..... Bill Claxton  
..... Bart Brown ..... Hunter Cox  
Closing Prayer ..... Mot Dollar

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Marcus Morris  
Song Leader ..... Stefan Fudge  
Prayer ..... Kenneth Smith  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper ..... Larry Mitchell  
Closing Prayer ..... Keith Hinkle

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 13th:

Usher ..... Delmer Carter  
Work Sound System ..... Marty Adams

**Wednesday, July 16th:**

Song Leader ..... Todd Williams  
Bible Reading ..... Mark 15:42-47  
..... Danny Johnson  
Prayer ..... Ronnie Locke  
Invitation ..... Keenon Currier  
Closing Prayer ..... James Johnson

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**Sunday, July 20th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Kenneth Smith  
Song Leader ..... Todd Williams  
Prayer ..... Marcus Morris  
Preaching ..... Jordan Lovell  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Norman Brown  
Assisting ..... Keith Hinkle  
Serving ..... Russ Wulfekuhl ..... David Terry  
..... Keenon Currier ... Nathaniel Adams  
Closing Prayer ..... Bonnie Sutton

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Kenneth Smith  
Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
Prayer ..... Dan Reed  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper ..... Norman Brown  
Closing Prayer ..... Ronnie Locke

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 20th:

Usher ..... Paul Hasting  
Work Sound System ..... Terry Andrews