

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 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) 233-1017

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

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

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No. 39

Don't Jump To Conclusions

Allen Dvorak

Elkanah, father of the Old Testament prophet Samuel, had two wives, Hannah and Peninnah (1 Samuel 1). Peninnah had children, but Hannah was barren. In a mean-spirited way, Peninnah “provoked” Hannah because of her infertility. When Elkanah and his wives went up to the house of the Lord to worship, Hannah prayed silently to God, vowing that if He would give her a son, she would give the child to the Lord all the days of his life.

The priest Eli observed Hannah praying, seeing her mouth move, but not hearing her words. Eli concluded that Hannah was drunk and rebuked her, saying, “How long will you be drunk? Put your wine away from you!” When Hannah explained that she was praying with great grief, Eli recognized his error and blessed her.

We all fall prey to Eli’s mistake from time to time. In order to make sense of the world around us, it is necessary for us to assign meaning to the actions of others. We observe someone’s behavior and we frequently draw conclusions about that person based on their action. Actually we respond to the meaning that we assign to the action rather than the action itself. And sometimes, like Eli, we make assumptions which are invalid. Even if we succeed in being objective in our judgment, frequently there is more than one possible explanation for one’s behavior. Eli’s inappropriate rebuke was the result of his error in assigning meaning to her action.

It is not difficult to see how all this applies to us. A friend or neighbor does something and we begin assigning reason to their action. “He said that for the purpose of hurting me.” “She did that just to spite me.” “I know that she said that about me, even though she didn’t mention me by name.” Often the truth is that the speaker had no such motives. Unfortunately, friendships are sometimes destroyed because someone made unwarranted assumptions about another’s actions or speech.

This danger of making unwarranted assumptions also exists in our

study of the Scriptures. It is easy to insert our own thoughts as we decide what the Bible is teaching us. If we are not careful, we will accept the opinions of other men without realizing that the Bible does not actually say such things. For an excellent illustration of this, ask your friends what kind of forbidden fruit Adam and Eve ate in the Garden of Eden. Why, an apple, of course! Where does the Bible identify the kind of forbidden fruit? We must differentiate between God's speech and our assumptions.

How can we avoid this pitfall of accepting incorrect conclusions? With respect to the Word of God, the careful Bible student will read and re-read the Word. He will test his religious convictions by that which he has read. Avoiding unwarranted assumptions could possibly save some friendships and perhaps our soul also.

-via *Teaching Truth*; Madison, Alabama.

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Overcoming Temptations

Gary Bagwell

Sin comes about when we are tempted. Temptations themselves are not wrong, for the Bible tells us that Jesus was tempted (Hebrews 4:15) "yet he was without sin." Temptations lead to sin. Temptations often come in the form of "the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the boastful pride of life" (1 John 2:15-17). Paul described those who gave into the temptations to get rich as those who fall into a "snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction" (1 Timothy 6-9).

God provides a way out of every temptation (1 Corinthians 10:13). We must be looking for the way to escape. The Ephesians were told that by putting on the full armor of God they could "stand firm against the schemes of the devil" (Ephesians 6:11), and to "extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil one" (Ephesians 6:16).

How does a person resist temptation? The Bible shows us at least five ways to do this.

1) **Flee.** Paul told Timothy to "flee youthful lust" (2 Timothy 2:22). On another occasion Paul wrote, "flee fornication" (1 Corinthians 6:18). This is what Joseph did in the book of Genesis. The wise father will instruct his children about this sin and others so they might have the ability to deal with the very prevalent sin (Proverbs 5:8).

2) **Respond With Bible Verses.** This is what our Lord did when tempted by the devil in Matthew 4. He used the expression "it is written" to all three temptations. The wise father in Proverbs 6 encouraged his son to let wisdom guide him. This wisdom was to watch over him and lead him (Proverbs 6:20-25).

3) **Put Aside Wrong.** In Colossians 3:1-10 Paul admonishes the Christians to be renewed in Christ. They were to do this by putting aside or laying aside the sins that they had in their lives. He says to "put them all aside" (v.8). The Hebrew writer said the same thing when he wrote, "lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin which so easily entangles us" (Hebrews 12:1).

4) **Change Your Thinking.** This is exactly what being "renewed in your mind" (Romans 12:1-2) means. Christians must concentrate and focus themselves upon heaven. They must seek the first kingdom of God and His righteousness (Matthew 6:33).

5) **Pray.** This is what the Hebrew writer has in mind when he tells us to come "boldly to the throne of grace." We can do this because Christ understands. He was tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin (Hebrews 4:15-16). Pray for help. Pray to find that open door out of temptation. Pray to be strong!

These are all things that can and will help us to fight the devil and overcome temptations in our lives. Learn these principles. Practice them. Be Better!

-via *Westview Church Bulletin*; Athens, Alabama.



Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

The Sanctuary

Tommy Poarch

I recall when we were discussing with an architect in Rome, Georgia about the plans of a new building, he continually referred to the sanctuary. He meant by that “the most sacred part of a religious building” (Webster). I understand that most religious thinking has our God dwelling in temples made by our hands and therefore, there is special attention given to that “sacred hall.” Obviously, the scriptures do not condone such thinking. “The Most High does not dwell in house made by human hands;” ... “The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands;” (Acts 7:48; 17:24).

Somewhat I feel as though our society is getting more building-oriented than God-oriented. I just read of a couple confessing to the pastor of the Roswell United Methodist Church that they were “joining the building.” I guess nothing should shock us in our day, -but it does.

These deluded souls fail to understand that the presence of the Lord makes the sanctuary - it is not the sanctuary that secures the presence of the Lord! Because of the great sin of Judah, God’s presence was not in the beautiful temple in Jerusalem. However, to the faithful remnant in exile God said “I was a sanctuary for them” (Ezekiel 11:16). Now we see a better use of the word sanctuary which can be defined as: “a place of refuge and protection” (Webster).

Can you imagine the Christians of the first century building huge edifices to secure the presence of God? Neither their circumstances nor their convictions would have allowed them to have a false security in buildings made by their own hands.

In all of this, we are not condemning the use of buildings for worship. Obviously, the scriptures require such when they instruct us to assemble together for worship. The point is: the emphasis is the worship, not the meeting place. When we assemble together to worship God in spirit and in truth, we secure God’s presence as He dwells in our hearts by faith. However, that does not mean that we leave God’s presence when we leave the assembly. The Lord will continually dwell with His people wherever they go. To be the child of God is to

have the Father continually dwell in your heart by faith. That means that we continually dwell in the presence of the Almighty in the Christ.

Again, it is the presence of the Lord that makes the sanctuary. It is not the sanctuary that secures the presence of God.

-via *Light*; Birmingham, Alabama.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Mot Dollar	Fay Ferguson
Lola Colwell	Shelia Barrett
Carol Dean	Betty Pepper
Buddy Pepper	Carl Hargrave
Marjorie Dunnivant	Crutcher Harbin
Gwen Bullock	Robert & Mot Beasley
Michael Vaughn	Ruth Lawson
Una King Currier	Gene Carpenter
Dorothy Casteel	Ava Brooke Campbell
Alex Reed	Phillip Harwell
Charles Burns	Shawn Felker
Eli Williams	Analynn Tegg
Elizabeth Kate Miller	Kim Pressnell
Dianna Ritter	Marcelino Ordonez-Zetino
Ann Bush	Anita Willis

In The Hospital:

Matt Poff; Vanderbilt Hospital; Nashville, Tenn.

Adam Davidson; Children’s Hospital; Birmingham

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	Deannie Britton; rm. 66

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:

Wynell Casteel, at home

Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

OUR MEETING: Our meeting this past week went very well. The speakers all did their jobs well. We averaged 144 per service of the meeting. I appreciate all of the work each of you did by inviting others to come to join us and by greeting the visitors that came.

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

BAPTISM: We rejoice last Sunday afternoon in **William Thomas** decision to be baptized into Christ. We appreciate William's good heart and desire to please God. May we all encourage him as he has encouraged us demonstrating his desire to please God. May Lord bless him with many days to faithfully serve Him..

OUT OF TOWN: The Vaughns: Phillip and Margaret are in Houston, Texas this week... **The Carters:** Delmer and Margaret are out of town on vacation this weekend... **The Ogles:** Mike and Nikki are in Auburn visiting with Drew today.

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 Sept. 21th

- Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 143
- Morning Worship 187
- Evening Worship 161

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 146



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

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, September 28th:

Morning Worship

- Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
- Song Leader Tommy Burns
- Prayer Joel Hamm
- Preaching David Cox
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding Keith Hinkle
- Assisting Steve Usery
- Serving David Terry Marvin Putman
- Dan Lovell Heath Dollar
- Closing Prayer Tommy Coblentz

Evening Worship

- Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
- Song Leader Todd Williams
- Prayer Steve Usery
- Preaching Song Service
- Lord's Supper Keith Hinkle
- Closing Prayer Hunter Cox

Other Assignments for Sunday, September 28th:

- Usher Keenon Currier
- Work Sound System Landon Adams

Wednesday, October 1st:

- Song Leader Tony Thomas
- Bible Reading Romans 4:13-25
- Tommy Coblentz
- Prayer Marcus Morris
- Invitation Todd Williams
- Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Sunday, October 5th:

Morning Worship

- Announcements Terry Andrews
- Song Leader Todd Williams
- Prayer Kenneth Smith
- Preaching David Cox
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding Larry Mitchell
- Assisting Joel Hamm
- Serving Paul Hasting Keenon Currier
- Russ Wulfekuhl Jason Conn
- Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Evening Worship

- Announcements Terry Andrews
- Song Leader Hunter Cox
- Prayer Ronnie Locke
- Preaching Jordan Lovell
- Lord's Supper Larry Mitchell
- Closing Prayer Mike Ogles

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 5th:

- Usher Heath Dollar
- Work Sound System Nathaniel Adams