

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

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No. 42

Recognizing Jesus

Edwin L. Crozier

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

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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

It was a Sunday afternoon when the two men walked the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus. All hope had been shattered on Friday. The one they thought was the Messiah had died. But some women had told them the tomb was empty and angels had said He was alive.

As they walked a man joined them. Luke 24:15-16 says, "Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him" (ESV).

This reminded me of a couple of conversations I have had online. In one, I was told how every generation reads the Bible to justify their worldview and outlook on life. In another, I was told Jesus was far more post-modern than I seemed to believe. I remembered it wasn't too many years ago I was told Jesus was the quintessential modernist—light years ahead of His time.

It really is true. We easily see Jesus as being just one of us. We can read the New Testament to see Jesus in just about any light we want. To some He was the quintessential Renaissance man. To our grandparents' generation He was the example of hard work and industry. To our parents' generation He was the iconoclast rebel. To some He was a philosopher of philosophers. To others He was the first feminist. He was a modernist before there was modernism. And now He is post-modern pre-post-modernism. To some He is all inclusive. To others He is elitist. Each race pictures Him as one of their own. And every group is convinced they have finally seen the real Jesus.

Jesus was right beside these travelers and they didn't recognize Him. I worry about us. With all the pictures of Jesus out there, do we recognize Him when He is standing right in front of us?

Romans 10:6-8 points out we do not have to ascend into heaven to bring Christ down or into the abyss to raise Christ from the dead. Rather, the word is near us. We can meet Jesus in the Word.

Sadly, we too often want to meet the Jesus who will fit in today instead of the Jesus who stood out 2000 years ago. We have to make sure our eyes are not blinded to the real Jesus who stands out in front of us through the Word. I imagine He won't be a philosopher, an iconoclast, a modernist, feminist or post-modernist. He is going to be just Jesus.

I know that is not as spectacular and shocking. Many people won't have any use for Him, thinking He is boring and downright foolish. However, to those who believe on Him, He will be the power of God unto salvation.

Don't take my word about the real Jesus. Meet Him for yourself. Get in the Bible. Take off your societal glasses and get to know Jesus. Why not start today?

~via *Franklin Church Bulletin*; Franklin, Tennessee.



The Foolishness of the Cross

Mike Wilson

“For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God” (1 Corinthians 1:18). In this one statement, Paul exposes the perverse human tendency to measure the revelation of God by the standards of human wisdom. As Helmut Thielicke has said, “When God's thoughts are actually higher than our thoughts, we regard him as being refuted. For under all circumstances we want our thoughts to be the program according to which God operates.”

The problem is exacerbated when we consider that God has revealed the depths of supernatural wisdom in plain workingman's clothes. He has not spoken to us in the “tongues of angels” or in “unutterable groans.” Instead, He has employed human thought forms and “blue collar” vocabulary to change our wicked ways and stir our souls. Some were saying of Paul, “His personal presence is unimpressive and his speech contemptible” (2 Corinthians 10:10). Exactly how is it, some have

thought, that the intense pleadings of a dying martyr (Acts 7:51), the tears of an old man (Philippians 3:18), the parodies of singing prophets, and the gentle but firm rebukes of a Galilean Carpenter have turned the world upside down? Besides, the central facet of the message is a scandalous story of a would-be Savior dying on a cross! “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

The scorn and derision of unbelievers have caused a reactionary tendency of believers to desperately want to dress the gospel up in philosophical clothes, to make it more respectable. Paul's appeal to the church at Corinth, in short, is, “This is the wrong approach!” Human achievement is limited. Once in a long while, a mere mortal will make a great discovery. Galileo said, “I render infinite thanks to God for being so kind as to make me alone the first observer of marvels kept hidden in obscurity for all previous centuries.”

These discoveries pale compared to the power of the Almighty Creator. Moreover, we need to be reminded, as Paul reminds the worldly saints at Corinth, that God is God and man is man (1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5). Men are inclined to worship the human spirit. A “we-can-do anything” mentality seems to pervade human thought. Nevertheless, man's capacity to determine the will of God does not reside in his own unaided powers. No mere mortal can manufacture a divine message, no matter how hard he tries (Deuteronomy 30: 11-14). God has utilized the “foolishness” of the gospel to confound the world's wisdom, that “no man should boast before God” (1 Corinthians 1:29).

That does not mean the revealed message lacks power to do what it was intended to do. Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's 1972 “Nobel Lecture on Literature” was directed to answering the question of what literature can do “in the face of the remorseless assault” on human freedoms. At the height of the cold war, he said, “One word of Truth shall outweigh the whole world.” Truth is more powerful than a nuclear arsenal, an oppressive government, or a tight network of secret police. It is also more powerful than Satan's propaganda mills, which continue to churn out lies. Hugh Hewitt has rightfully surmised, “But believers do themselves enormous harm by overestimating the pure numbers of their opponents and by underestimating how insecure these opponents are in their collective disbelief” (The Embarrassed Believer, p. 35).

The truth of Christ does not need to be repack-

aged in garb that makes it more respectable to sinners whose pride blinds them to the light. What is needed is an army of courageous and dedicated soldiers of the cross who will not be silenced by the scorn of the world — in short, Christians who are “in no way alarmed by your opponents – which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that from God” (Philippians 1:28).

-via *Edwards' Lake Bulletin*; Birmingham, Alabama

looked past the miracles and the closeness of being one of Jesus' 12 apostles for 30 pieces of silver (Matthew 26:14-16). Mary could see who Jesus really was, regardless of the influences and hatred of the Pharisees.

Let us focus on Christ and His great love that caused Him to die for our sins. Let us have hearts like Mary that are always looking for opportunities to do what is right.

-via *The Lilbourn Light*; Lillbroun, Missouri



What Is Your Focus?

Shane Williams

I read a somewhat humorous story recently from the perspective of one who had picked up a hitchhiker and spent some time with him. While driving down a road at highway speeds, the hitchhiker constantly wanted to stop. “Look! There’s a good pair of shoes.” “Slow down. that was a good looking jacket in the ditch!” I imagine you might start to look at things differently if you were a hitchhiker. It seems that for a hitchhiker, life consists mainly of things found by the side of the road.

A more important observation from this would be that all of us see what we're looking for. Not many of us stop on the side of the road for shoes or a jacket. We aren't looking for these things. As we go through life, what we focus on reveals the desire of our hearts.

During the week before Jesus was crucified, the chief priest and scribes were seeking how to seize Jesus by stealth and kill Him (Mark 14:1). Judas was looking for an opportunity to betray Jesus (vs. 11). Mary in Bethany (the sister of Martha and Lazarus) was looking for a way to show her love to the Lord (John 12:1-3). She anointed the feet of Jesus with very costly perfume. All of these examples show the people found the opportunities they were seeking. The Jews were able to ignore the miracles and the great teaching of Jesus because that wasn't what they were looking for. Judas

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Ida Nell Griffin	Mot Dollar
Fay Ferguson	Carl Hargrave
Carol Dean	Betty Pepper
Marjorie Dunnivant	Robert & Mot Beasley
Crutcher Harbin	Gwen Bullock
Pat Goodin	Michael Vaughn
Adam Davidson	Ruth Lawson
Ann Bush	Fred Yarbrough
Gene Carpenter	Elizabeth Kate Miller
Dorothy Casteel	Ava Brooke Campbell
Phillip Harwell	Charles Burns
Shawn Felker	Dianna Ritter
Eli Williams	Analynn Tegg
Anita Willis	Kim Pressnell
Una King Currier	Marcelino Ordonez-Zetino

In The Hospital:

Buddy Pepper; Huntsville Hospital; rm. 731
Matt Poff; Vanderbilt Hospital; Nashville, Tenn.

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Irene Inman, rm. 81	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Nelva Reed, rm. 75	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Matty Murray, rm. 2	Gayle Mills, rm. 15
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Judith Groce, rm. 63	Mable Crafts, rm. 100
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	

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

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

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy **Doris McGuire** and *all the family* in the passing of Doris' aunt, **Mildred Pack**, this past Thursday. Her funeral was Saturday afternoon at Limestone Chapel.

NURSING HOME SINGING: 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..

OUT OF TOWN: **The Vaughns:** Phillip and Margaret are back home now after being in Houston, Texas for several weeks... **The McLemores:** Alvis and Ann have been out of town this week on vacation... **Helen Blankenship** is in the mountains this week on vacation.

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 Oct. 12th

Sunday:	Bible Classes.....	147
	Morning Worship	185
	Evening Worship.....	119

Wednesday:	Bible Classes.....	104
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**The Market Street
church of Christ Website at:
MarketStreet-church.com**

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, October 19th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Tyler Cox
Prayer	Norman Brown
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Dwaine Allfrey
Assisting	Ronnie Locke
Serving	Bart Brown..... Nathaniel Adams
.....	James Johnson..... Stefan Fudge
Closing Prayer	Keenon Currier

Evening Worship

Announcements	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Todd Williams
Prayer	Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Dwaine Allfrey
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 19th:

Usher	Larry Mitchell
Work Sound System	Landon Adams

Wednesday, October 22nd:

Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Bible Reading.....	Romans 6:1-14
.....	Steve Usery
Prayer	Tommy Coblentz
Invitation	David Cox
Closing Prayer	Mike Ogles

Sunday, October 26th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader	Stefan Fudge
Prayer	Terry Andrews
Preaching	Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Bonnie Sutton
Assisting	Jerry McGlocklin
Serving	Danny Johnson..... Bill Claxton
.....	Mike Ogles..... Kieth Hinkle
Closing Prayer	Dan Reed

Evening Worship

Announcements	Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader	Marty Adams
Prayer	Hunter Cox
Preaching	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Bonnie Sutton
Closing Prayer	Joel Ham

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 26th:

Usher	Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System	Nathaniel Adams