

# 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) 233-2081

#### Deacons

Marty R. Adams.....(256) 233-5147  
Tommy Coblenz .....(256) 232-3312  
Joel Hamm.....(256) 278-1977  
Larry Mitchell .....(256) 230-0185  
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](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*

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No. 3

## *Ostriches Anonymous Association*

**Ed Harrell**

Ostriches Anonymous Association is the name of an organization formed by a group of amateur airline crash investigators. They give an award each year to the incident that most clearly illustrates "risk denial" in the airline industry.

This year's award was given to an attorney defending one of the Northwest pilots fired recently for drinking before flying. The attorney allegedly stated: "My client's high blood alcohol [level] did not degrade his flight performance. He is an alcoholic and has a high degree of tolerance." Thanks a lot for the assurance, but I think that I prefer sober pilots.

According to the Ostrich organization, "Risk denial is a factor in all aircraft accidents." It seems to me that risk denial is a factor in almost all accidents. Our government goes to great lengths to warn people about risks - particularly health risks. There are warning messages on products ranging from cigarettes to beer; even seemingly innocent foods have labels in fine print telling us how many calories and how much fat we are eating. Generally speaking, except in the case of dangerous drugs, no one makes us heed the warnings. In this country we prize our constitutional right to be an ostrich. Americans are masters of self-deception; we support our risk taking with some wonderfully lame excuses.

I think the world needs a Moral Ostriches Anonymous Association. Some of the lamest excuses I have ever heard were given by people who were in hot pursuit of sin. "Don't worry about me, I can handle it" I had a preacher friend a few years back who was a bit too friendly with the opposite sex. He told me with a straight face that he has never been sexually attracted to but one woman in his life - his wife. We didn't talk about airplanes, but I suspect that he could also fly airplanes while he was drunk. Less than two years later he was living with another man's wife.

The trouble with ostriches is that they are dumb. They do illogical things. But it is not an ostrich's fault, "because God hath deprived her of wisdom, neither hath he imparted to her understanding" (Job 39:17).

Human ostriches have no excuse. We know what we are doing when we rationalize.

Christian survival depends not so much on overcoming the risks of life, and certainly not on denying them; it demands rather that we avoid risks. "Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry" (1 Corinthians 10:14). "For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness" (1 Timothy 6:10-11).

Watch out for alcoholic pilots, cholesterol and calories. More important, watch out for temptation. "Let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober" (1 Thessalonians 5:6).

~via *Items*; Athens, Alabama.

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## *Abraham Believed*

**Don Truex**

"Abraham believed God." There is no statement that so succinctly and, yet, so thoroughly describes the life of this "friend of God" (James 2:23).

He believed God when, as yet, he had no heir (Romans 4:17). The seemingly impossible promise was made, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them. And He said to him, So shall your descendants be" (Genesis 15:5). Thus it was said of this man of faith, that "contrary to hope, in hope (he) believed, so that he became the father of many nations" (Romans 4:18).

He believed God when Jehovah renewed the promise of an heir, even though, by reason of age, all reproductive capabilities were diminished for both Abraham and Sarah. "He did not waver" ("stagger" KJV) at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform" (Romans 4:20-21).

He believed God when called upon to do that which he did not understand and, certainly, did not enjoy. "Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?...And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, 'Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness'" (James 2:21,23).

Abraham believed God. This is not mere intellectual assent, nor is it the forced confession of one conquered by another's might. It is knowing the Father so well and having a relationship so strong, that there is absolute confidence in His character, unreserved acceptance of His values, and unquestioned trust in His word. When our faith is of that ilk, two practical realities come into play.

First, like Abraham, we will believe and obey even when we don't understand God's reasoning. Let's be honest; God sometimes asks us to do things that, from a human perspective, seem illogical.

For example, suppose someone has mistreated you, maligned you, or misrepresented you. The natural response? Retaliate! In fact, our carnal nature urges us to retaliate with such ferocity that, not only do we get even, but we teach a lesson about what happens when someone "messes with us." To the contrary, God says, "Do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay,' says the Lord. Therefore 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him drink...Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good'" (Romans 12:19-21).

Or suppose you are in a marriage that simply has not worked out as you had hoped and dreamed. Infidelity has not wrecked the relationship but a lack of passion, compassion and concern have conspired to extinguish the love that was once felt. The natural (and unscriptural) inclination, particularly given our society, is to divorce and be done with the matter. God's prescription is much more challenging: "Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them" (Colossians 3:19).

In both cases, God asks that we truly "go the extra mile." Why? Because He sees both of these matters from a different perspective. He sees them with the end in view that souls will be saved, not necessarily that we will be circumstantially happy. How deep is our faith in such times?

Second, like Abraham, we will obey even when we

do not like what God commands. Did Abraham want to leave his homeland? Probably not. Did he want to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice? Absolutely not. Why, then, would he do either? Because he believed God. Both involved him personally and both cost him dearly. Isn't it amazing how many "positions" get "re-thought" when suddenly they are no longer theoretical in nature but very real, either for ourselves, some family members or some friends?

Honesty may be the best policy but it is not always the easiest policy. "Till death do us part" rolls easily off the tongue during the ceremony, but may exact a terribly high price in physical or emotional energy in later years. "Love one another as I have loved you" makes fine fodder for Bible class discussions, but can stretch our self-control to the limit when in the crucible of controversy. So why then be honest, loyal to your mate, and honorable in dealing with brethren? Because such is commanded by God. The same God who asked Abraham to believe the illogical and do the unpleasant, often asks us to do the same.

God Rewarded Abraham's faith and will reward ours, too. Abraham believed God. How about you?

~via *Pepper Road Bulletin*; Athens, Alabama.



## *Daniel's Influence*

**Shane Williams**

Daniel's life revealed the authenticity of his faith in God. He conducted himself so honorably in his high office that Darius "planned to appoint him over the entire kingdom" (Daniel 6:3).

The other governors and satraps, however, were jealous and began to devise means of getting rid of Daniel. As hard as they tried, however, they could find nothing in his life to use against him. They said "We shall not find any ground of accusation against this Daniel unless we find it against him with regard to the law of his God" (vs. 5). The Bible says that "he was faithful; and no negligence or corruption was to be found in him" (vs. 4).

What a record of faithfulness! He was loyal and diligent on the job, all the while giving God first place. Daniel's life was so far above criticism that his enemies had to create a situation in which his commitment to God would come into conflict with his position.

Would we stand up under such close examination like this? Are we so faithful in our work that our fellow employees could "find no charge or fault" in us? It's obviously commendable to talk about religious things and Christianity. However, don't leave out the influence of a godly life and a job so faithfully performed that others could find no fault.

Like Daniel, our behavior should be blameless. Then we too will have a life that gives praise and glory to God.

~via *The Sutton Lane Sower*, Mayfield, Kentucky

## *News & Notes*

### **THE SICK:**

Fay Ferguson  
Lona Killen  
Doris Lovell  
Buddy Pepper  
Patsy Thomas  
Gwen Bullock  
Carl Hargrave  
Al Pollard  
Michael Vaughn  
Pat Goodin  
Gene Carpenter  
Dorothy Casteel  
Eli Williams  
Phillip Harwell

Carol Dean  
Mot Dollar  
Irene Inman  
Marjorie Dunnivant  
Robert & Mot Beasley  
Essie Hardison  
Crutcher Harbin  
Ann Bush  
Anita Willis  
Analynn Tegg  
Una King Currier  
Elizabeth Kate Miller  
Ava Brooke Campbell  
Charles Burns

### *In The Hospital:*

*Paul Hasting*; Huntsville Hosp.; rm. 665

### *Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:*

Nelva Reed, rm. 111	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Matty Murray, rm. 2	Gayle Mills, rm. 15
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Judith Groce, rm. 42	Mable Crafts, rm. 100

### *Limestone Health Facility:*

Albert Norton, rm. 36      Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E  
Moveline Thomas, rm. 109-A

### *Limestone Lodge:*

Yvonne Sherbert, rm. 11

### *Limestone Manor:*

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 86

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 84

### *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.

**OUT OF TOWN:** *Mike Ogles* has been in Louisiana this week with his work... *Ida Nell Griffin* has been away this week.

**CONFESSION:** *Landon Adams* came forward Wednesday evening asking for prayers for strength and forgiveness. We rejoice over the good heart that Landon has and his good example in wanting to make his life pleasing to God. May we all encourage him as he will and has encouraged us in our service to the Lord.

**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.

**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 week of January 11th

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 120

Morning Worship ..... 178

Evening Worship..... 119

**Wednesday:** Bible Classes..... 103

## *Fourth Annual Singing*

February 27, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.

Song Leaders: Jim Deason, Johnny Felker & Steve Klein



**MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST**

514 WEST MARKET STREET  
ATHENS, ALABAMA

## **Men Privileged To Serve:**

### **Sunday, January 18th:**

#### *Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Steve Usery  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell  
Preaching ..... Jordan Lovell  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Bonnie Sutton  
Assisting ..... Marcus Morris  
Serving ..... Bart Brown ..... Paul Hasting  
..... Heath Dollar ..... Stefan Fudge  
Closing Prayer ..... Keenon Currier

#### *Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Steve Usery  
Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
Prayer ..... Norman Brown  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper ..... Bonnie Sutton  
Closing Prayer ..... Mike Ogles

### Other Assignments for Sunday, January 18th:

Usher ..... Delmer Carter  
Work Sound System ..... Terry Andrews

### **Wednesday, January 21st:**

Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
Bible Reading ..... Romans 12:1-8  
..... Mot Dollar  
Prayer ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
Invitation ..... Jordan Lovell  
Closing Prayer ..... James Johnson

### **Sunday, January 25th:**

#### *Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
Prayer ..... Keith Hinkle  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Ronnie Locke  
Assisting ..... Steve Usery  
Serving ..... Bill Claxton ..... Russ Wulfekuhl  
..... James Johnson ..... Nathaniel Adams  
Closing Prayer ..... Tommy Coblentx

#### *Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer ..... Terry Andrews  
Preaching ..... Song Service  
Lord's Supper ..... Ronnie Locke  
Closing Prayer ..... Kenneth Adams

### Other Assignments for Sunday, January 25th:

Usher ..... Paul Hasting  
Work Sound System ..... Landon Adams