

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
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Athens, Alabama 35612
Phone (256) 232-1525

Volume VII

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No. 9

Biblically or Politically Correct, Which?

David A. Cox

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 Coblentz(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

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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

It is not uncommon to hear people talk about the idea of being politically correct. At first, glance, this idea may not seem too bad. However, as one begins to examine those things expounded, by those desiring political correctness, one finds that being politically correct often requires one to be biblically incorrect. The prophet Isaiah said that there were those of his day that "call evil good and good evil" (Isaiah 5:20). How much this sounds like the day in which we now live. This notion of being politically correct with what the Bible teaches.

In Acts 4, we have recorded where Peter and John were in prison for teaching about Christ's resurrection from the dead. The first century was a period that the Jews had political power. At that time, to be politically correct meant that one could not teach concerning the resurrection of Christ because the Jews leaders would not allow it. In verses 5-7, Peter and John were brought before the Sanhedrin council, which was the high court in the Jewish state. They were there to defend not a crime that had been committed, but the things that they believed and taught that were politically incorrect in that day and time. When Peter and John came before this court, the members of the Sanhedrin heard them speak. The court conferred among themselves and decided that they would threaten them so they would not teach this doctrine (of the resurrection of Christ) anymore. Verses 18-20 says, "So they" (the Sanhedrin) "called them," (Peter and John) and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." Then, in Acts 5:27-29 Peter and John are brought again before the council and high priest says, "...Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us! But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: We ought to obey God rather than men." Remember that just prior to Christ's ascension into heaven, he

commanded the apostles to go teach (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:15). Here Peter and John were doing what they had been commanded to do. Not only did Peter and John suffer because of their “politically incorrect” beliefs, but Stephen was stoned to death, and Paul suffered from city to city as he preached in the first century. So it is abundantly clear that being politically correct at the expense of being biblically incorrect is wrong. Any issue that is against God’s word should be opposed even to death, as those in Smyrna were admonished in the wicked day in which they live (Revelation 2:10).

Now, consider a couple of issues that are being set forth today as being politically correct and compare them with what is biblically correct.

The issue of Homosexuality as an alternate lifestyle.

Those promoting political correctness will say, “Homosexuality is just an alternate lifestyle. Who can blame someone because they were born that way.” There is nothing in either statement that is true. First in Leviticus 20:13, we read, *“If a man lies with a male as he lies with a woman, both have committed an abomination. They shall surely be put to death...”* Then in Romans 1:26-27, Paul says concerning the Gentiles, *“For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.”* From these passages, it is clearly taught that homosexuality is a sin! Next, homosexuality is a learned (abnormal and perverse) behavior and not an inborn desire that one is not able to deny. God first made man, then, seeing that it was not good for man to be alone He made a helper comparable to him (a woman) (Genesis 2:18-ff). Paul in speaking of the homosexuality committed among the Gentiles in Romans 1 and makes it clear that men and women are not naturally attracted to those of the same sex. Paul said they had *“exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.”* To accept the idea that it is just an alternate lifestyle is wrong and makes one as guilty of the sin as those that practice it! (Romans 1:32). People who live this kind of life simply choose to live this kind of life.

The Issue of the Choice To Have An Abortion.

Another issue that those promoting the political correct idea is a woman’s right to have an abortion.

They will say, “A woman has the right to choose what she does with her body.” Far too, many people seem to have fallen for this line of thought. First, understand that all, men and women, have the freedom to choose. God has given men and women the ability to make decisions about what he is going to do. We see an example of this in Genesis 2:16-17, *“And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, ‘Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.’”* Here, God placed man in the garden and told him to eat of every tree but one, the tree of the knowledge, but told him not to eat and the consequences of doing so. As we come to Genesis 3, the woman had been created and told the serpent that which the Lord had commanded, but she made the choice to eat of the forbidden fruit. So it is today, God has set forth His principles concerning man taking the life of another (Genesis 9:6; Leviticus 24:17; 1 John 3:15). A man/woman has the choice to do what he/she will do, either right or wrong. So then, a woman can choose to have an abortion, but what is she choosing? She is choosing to murder the child or baby that is within her body. Yes, the unborn are babies. Notice what is said in Luke 1:41, *“And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb...”* Then when the shepherds came to see Christ after His birth. Luke 2:16 says, *“And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.”* Yes, by the inspiration of God, the word “babe” is used to described both Christ after His birth (while in the manger) and the unborn child within Elisabeth. Almost everyone would agree that it is wrong to murder a living being, but many believe that a child is not a living being until after birth, but this is just simply not so!

When one considers this idea of political correctness, it is clear that it has always been a problem encountered by the people of God. It does not matter how politically correct something may be, it does not make it right in God’s sight. God has revealed His will to us (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:13). Therefore, we do not need to be blind followers of the political thinkers of today. Let us study the word of God and know what God has revealed to us to ensure we are biblically correct and pleasing in God’s sight.

**Remember Our Service
This Afternoon at 4:00.**

Trust God and Go!

Micheal W. McLemore

How do you respond when you are asked to participate in a task that seems beyond your capabilities? Are you full of excuses? Do you give reasons why you are the wrong person? That is exactly how Moses responded to the Lord's call (Exodus 3). When the Lord gave him the gigantic task of leading the Israelites to freedom, He was calling Moses to a significantly higher level of commitment. If we hope to step obediently into our God-given challenges, we must answer the same questions Moses asked.

Who is God? This answer is important because it determines the authority of the One telling us what to do. The two names the Lord used - the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (v.6) and "I am who I am" (v.14) - identified Him as the sovereign Creator and self-existent, everlasting One who keeps his promises. This means there is no higher authority, and He has every right to command our obedience.

Who and I? When Moses questioned whether he was the right man for the job, the Lord gave him a promise: "Certainly, I will be with you" (v.12). Moses was able to fulfill the assignment only because God chose to enter into a relationship with him. The Christian's source of adequacy is his or her relationship with the Lord.

When God's word compels you as a Christian to a tough assignment, remember that as your Creator, He has designed a specific tasks for you to achieve. If you refuse to obey, you will miss what He has planned to bring you to maturity in Christ. Just think what Moses would have forfeited had he said, "No!" Too many is at stake. Trust God and Go!

-via *Weatherly Weekly*; Huntsville, Alabama.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Shelia Barrett
Sarah Collier
Irene Inman
Gilbert Hardy

Lona Killen
Judy Brown
Joe & Mary Hinkle
Patsy Thomas

Carl Hargrave
Buddy Pepper
Essie Hardison
Al Pollard
Matt Poff
Ann Bush
Helen Rushing
Dan Williams
Pat Goodin
Gene Carpenter
Irene Mitchell
Eli Williams

Robert & Mot Beasley
Marjorie Dunnivant
Gwen Bullock
Michael Vaughn
Charles Burns
Gabriel Brown
Ava Brooke Campbell
Anita Willis
Analynn Tegg
Una King Currier
Elizabeth Kate Miller
Phillip Harwell

In The Hospital:

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 111 Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7 Evelyn Hogan, rm. 39
Robert Johnson, rm. 18 Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Mattye Murray, rm. 2 Gayle Mills, rm. 15
Mable Crafts, rm. 100 Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Judith Groce, rm. 42

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
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

THE FOURTH ANNUAL SINGING: Our Fourth Annual Singing was a great success Friday. We had 401 present and it was a thrilling evening to be able to assemble with this group on Friday evening and lift our voices together in praise to God. This singing, like the previous years, was truly uplifting and edifying night for those who were present. There were a number of members from numerous congregations this region. There were also visitors that came who were not members of the church, but many expressed to me how much that they enjoyed being with us and look forward to being with us again. I appreciate the work of **Jim Deason, Johnny Felker and Steve Klein** in leading the singing. They did their work well. This year the singing revolved around the themes: *Faith, Hope and Love; Redemption*

and Singing About Heaven. I want to thank each member at Market Street that worked hard and diligently in helping to prepare and to make the singing what it was: those who helped in preparation of the singing by setting up the chairs, the audio/visual area, users, greeters, parking lot workers. Also, I want to thank all who extend invitations to other to come join us and the elders here at Market Street for their leadership and support in this effort. This could not be done without the work done by each one. I truly appreciate the work and it was noticed by all who attended.

The singing was recorded, if you would like a copy of the CD please note that on the members card that you fill out this morning.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Oneal church* will be having a gospel meeting this week through Wednesday. *Buc Chumbley* will be the speaker in this meeting... The *Jackson Drive church* will be having a gospel meeting through Friday evening. *Jeff Himmel* will be the speaker in this meeting.

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.

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE TIME: Remember next Sunday evening, March 8th, our service time will move back to 5:00 p.m. Remember the change in time and tell others.

THE RECORD: Attendance for week of February 22nd
Sunday: Bible Classes..... 121
 Morning Worship 166
 Evening Worship..... 112

Gospel Meeting

April 26-30, 2015

(Sunday through Thursday)

Schedule of Services

Sunday 9:30 a.m; 10:45 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
 Monday through Thursday- 7:00 p.m.

Bill Hall, Speaking

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street
 Athens, Alabama

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, March 1st:

Morning Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
 Song Leader Tyler Cox
 Prayer Jerry McGlocklin
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Joel Hamm
 Assisting Bonnie Sutton
 Serving Tommy Burns Mot Dollar
 Bill Claxton Marvin Putman
 Closing Prayer Dan Reed

Evening Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
 Song Leader Hunter Cox
 Prayer Ronnie Locke
 Preaching Jordan Lovell
 Lord's Supper Joel Hamm
 Closing Prayer Larry Mitchell

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 1st:

Usher Russ Wulfekuhl
 Work Sound System Marty Adams

Wednesday, March 4th:

Song Leader Stefan Fudge
 Bible Reading Romans 15:1-13
 Danny Johnson
 Prayer Dan Reed
 Invitation Keenon Currier
 Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Sunday, March 8th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Terry Andrews
 Song Leader Stefan Fudge
 Prayer Bonnie Sutton
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Norman Brown
 Assisting Tommy Coblentz
 Serving Keenon Currier Bart Brown
 Jason Conn Heath Dollar
 Closing Prayer James Johnson

Evening Worship

Announcements Terry Andrews
 Song Leader Tommy Burns
 Prayer Marty Adams
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper Norman Brown
 Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 22nd:

Usher Ronnie Locke
 Work Sound System Nathaniel Adams