

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 VII

September 13, 2015

No. 37

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship..... 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship 5:00 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 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

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

Come Join Us For Our

Gospel Meeting

September 13-17

(Sunday through Thursday)

Sunday Services

9:45 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Monday through Thursday

7:00 p.m.

Gardner Hall, Speaking

MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA

Choosing One of the Three

Gardner Hall

A Hispanic friend who could be described as “progressive” wrote the following, which I’ll translate literally;

Three types of believers: With which do you identify?

Three Types of believers: (1) Those that believe that they are justified only by the merits of Jesus and nothing more than the merits of Jesus. (2) Those that believe they are justified in part by Jesus Christ and in part by their own efforts, that is to say, salvation depends partly on Jesus and partly on man. (3) Those that believe that salvation depends completely on obedience to all the commandments. Only the first type of believer can enjoy true peace. The second will always have doubts. The third type will not know if they are saved until the last day. I personally identify with the first type. And You?

My friend uses a logical fallacy called “false trichotomy.” He presents three possibilities, using slightly vague language, in an attempt to have us conclude that the only logical choice is the Calvinist concept that it is not necessary to receive Christ's salvation.

If he has said something like, “those that believe that salvation *comes to us, or is provided* only by the merits of Jesus,” we would have no reservation in answering that the first option is correct. His error is trying to have us conclude that since Christ has done everything to *provide* salvation, therefore we have to do nothing to *receive* it.

Common Bible Illustrations:

The blind man of John 9 - Jesus told the blind man to wash in the pool of Siloam. He did so and returned seeing (9:7). Let’s try to apply the formula of my friend to the blind man. Was he healed: (1) Only on the merits of Christ? (2) Partly on the merits of Christ and partly on the blind man’s efforts? Or (3) Wholly by his own obedience? The closest answer to being correct is the first in the sense that his healing was *provided* only by Christ's power. However, that doesn’t take away from the fact that he had to comply with Christ’s conditions and wash in the Pool of Siloam to receive the blessing.

The children of Israel in Joshua 6 - God told the children of Israel to circle the city of Jericho once for six

days and seven times on the seventh. After they did this and the priests blew their trumpets, the walls fell and the Israelites conquered the city (vs. 20). Applying my friend's paradigm did the walls fall: (1) Only by God’s power? (2) Partly by God’s power and partly by the efforts of the Israelites? Or (3) Only by the obedience of the Israelites to God’s commands? Again, the correct choice is the first one if we think only of the provision of the power, but the Israelites still had to comply with God’s Conditions to receive it.

These and other Bible examples illustrate the concept of conditional grace. It’s not a complicated idea, nor is it difficult to understand. All of our blessings are provided 100% by God. Man has neither the power nor the ability to provide any of them. However, God wants us to accept His conditions. To accept His conditions (for example, by washing in the Pool of Siloam, marching around Jericho, being baptized for the remission of sins, etc.) doesn’t earn blessings, but is required to receive them. We don't have to understand everything or “get everything right” to have peace and confidence of salvation. God is merciful! However, we must be in Christ (Galatians 3:26-27) and be growing in Him (2 Peter 1:8). Let’s not allow sincere but mistaken people to confuse us with logical fallacies.

-via *Biblical Insights*; Vol. 15 No. 1; January 2015

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The Man Who Knew Too Much

Kris Emerson

Is it possible to have too much knowledge? I’m not talking about meaningless information, like the lyrics to every Taylor Swift song. I’m asking about true wisdom. Is it possible to know too much about life under the sun, and can one simply have too much understanding about God? It seems the answer should be, “No Way!” It might come natural to believe that all shortcomings in our daily lives would be minimized if we just knew more. After all, the more you know, the further you go.

Certainly there is a strong argument to be made for reading the Word of God daily and surrounding yourself with wise, godly people who can educate you

as to how to live. But if knowledge is the ultimate key to success, then what about Solomon?

You remember the story of Solomon, right? In 1 Kings 3, it is recorded that God granted the new king anything he asked. Solomon sought wisdom from God, and he was given “an understanding heart to... discern good and evil” (3:9). Many of us have heard the story about the two mothers. The story is recorded later in the same chapter, and tells how Solomon demonstrated his wisdom to determine which of the two was the mother of the baby which had survived the night. The Bible says, “when all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had handed down, they feared the king, for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him to administer justice” (3:28).

In fact, people travelled from great distances just to hear Solomon speak. And he wrote many incredibly profound things. The book of Ecclesiastes closes with testament to Solomon’s wisdom: “In addition to being a wise man, the Preacher also taught the people knowledge; and he pondered, searched out and arranged many proverbs. The Preacher sought to find delightful words and to write words of truth correctly” (Ecclesiastes 12:9-10). Today, we have access to several of his incredible works: Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon. No one can deny the immense depth of Solomon’s knowledge.

If knowing is all that is needed, then Solomon should have also been the most godly, righteous man who ever lived. And yes, he did many great things in the name of God. But how can we explain this record from the end of his life: “Now King Solomon loved many foreign women... from the nations concerning which the Lord had said to the sons of Israel, ‘You shall not associate with them...’, He had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines,” and his wives turned his heart away. For when Solomon was old, his wives turned his heart away after other gods, and his heart was not wholly devoted to the Lord his God” (1 Kings 11:2-4).

How can this be? How can a man who knew so much about life under the sun, and about the God who made it all, choose the wrong women and follow them to idolatry? Well, I can’t answer that. But it might cue us in on something about knowledge. Wisdom is powerful and helpful, but if the accumulation of facts and truths begins to overshadow or dismiss genuine faith, we may know too much!

Interestingly, in the book of Ecclesiastes, this man of incredible wisdom kept his conclusion quite concise: “The words of the wise are like goads, and masters of these collections are like well-driven nails; they are given by one Shepherd. But beyond this, my son, be warned: the writing of many books is endless, and excessive devotion to books is wearing to the body. The conclusion, when all has been heard is: fear God and keep his commandments, because this applies to every person” (Ecclesiastes 12:11-13).

We are hopeful that this was written at the very end of Solomon’s life, after he turned back to faithfulness to God. Perhaps it is unfair to say he was a man who knew too much. It wasn’t knowledge that led him from God. But we must also acknowledge that knowing things will never be a substitute for believing things. Knowing about life will never be enough to replace believing in life’s purpose. Knowing about God and even His word will never suffice to supplant revering God and believing in His power every day.

Learn, grow, and know. Study the Bible as often as possible. But let us be sure to use that to fuel our faith and lead us humbly to the God of all knowledge, lest we know too much and believe too little. We are saved by what He offers us, not by how much we know about it. We are saved by how our learning brings us to tears, to our knees, and to His throne of grace every single day. May God impart us with all the knowledge we need to faithfully seek His mercy and find Him every time.

-via *What Is True?*; Little Rock, Arkansas.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Anita Wheeler	Joe Hinkle
Ella Melvin	James Abernathy
Lona Killen	Reba Byram
Marjorie Dunnivant	Irene Inman
Jeanette Weir	Gwen Bullock
Essie Hardison	Carl Hargrave
Abby Gilbert	Linda Ordones
Ray Kennedy	Ava Brooke Campbell
Phillip Harwell	Gene Carpenter

Ann Bush Pam Perry
 Ben Hinkle Al Pollard
 Anita Willis Helen Rushing
 Matt Poff Una King Carrier
 Charles Burns Analynn Tegg
 Eli Williams Sharon Nave

In The Hospital:

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Jennifer Threet, rm. 81 Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
 Nelva Reed, rm. 111 Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
 Helen Trousdale, rm. 43 Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
 Robert Johnson, rm. 18 Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
 Gayle Mills, rm. 15 Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
 Mable Crafts, rm. 100 Mattye Murray, rm. 2
 Judith Groce, rm. 21 Terry Camp, rm. 91

Limestone Health Facility:

Frances Bowers, rm. 104 Mildred Landers, rm. 103
 Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E

Limestone Manor:

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 86

Limestone Lodge:

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 20W

Floyd E. "Tut" Fann Veterans Home - Huntsville:

Albert Bowers, rm. 115-C

Shut-In:

Hazel Brooks, at home
 Wynell Casteel, at home
 Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

BRIDAL TEA: *Annessa (Smith) Jenkins*, the bride of *Brent Jenkins* will be honored with a bridal tea on *Sunday, September 20th.* from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the *Gathering Place* at New Haven. All of the Market Street ladies are invited and there is an invitation on the bulletin board in the vestibule.

PICTURES: Remember we are currently making pictures for our directory in Classroom 20 in the east wing. If you have not had your picture made, or need to have it re-made, please do so after services today.

WORK GROUPS: Work Group two will be meeting this evening after our evening service. If you are in group two, remember to meet with your group.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for the week of Sept. 6th*

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 137
 Morning Worship 183
 Evening Worship..... 133
Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 126

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, September 13th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Keith Hinkle
 Song Leader Stefan Fudge
 Prayer Norman Brown
 Preaching Gardner Hall
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Mike Ogles
 Assisting Marcus Morris
 Serving Cody Kennedy Seth Todd
 Matthew Vaughn Heath Dollar
 Closing Prayer Russell Melvin

Evening Worship

Announcements Keith Hinkle
 Song Leader Joel Hamm
 Prayer Jerry McGlocklin
 Preaching Gardner Hall
 Lord's Supper Mike Ogles
 Closing Prayer Tony Thomas

Other Assignments for Sunday, September 13th:

Usher Larry Mitchell
 Work Sound System Landon Adams

Wednesday, September 16th:

Song Leader Tommy Burns
 Bible Reading (No Reading)

 Prayer Terry Andrews
 Invitation Gardner Hall
 Closing Prayer Keenon Carrier

Sunday, September 20th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Maty Adams
 Song Leader Joel Hamm
 Prayer Dwaine Allfrey
 Preaching Jordan Lovell
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Russell Melvin
 Assisting Jerry McGlocklin
 Serving Keenon Carrier ... Nathaniel Adams
 Landon Adams Stefan Fudge
 Closing Prayer Mike Ogles

Evening Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
 Song Leader Tony Thomas
 Prayer Landon Adams
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper Russell Melvin
 Closing Prayer Steve Usery

Other Assignments for Sunday, September 20th:

Usher Paul Hasting
 Work Sound System Terry Andrews