

# 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**  
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Athens, Alabama 35612  
Phone (256) 232-1525

Volume VII

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No. 39

## *The People of God: A People of Vision*

**David A. Cox**

### 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  
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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*

In 2 Peter 1, Peter is writing to the people of God telling them of the qualities (graces) that the child of God should ever be adding to their lives. After completing this list Peter says, that a man that "lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins" (2 Peter 1:9). Peter makes it clear that he people of God are to be a people of vision. Even though every child of God might experience a decline in their physical vision, Peter talks about possessing spiritual vision as we live our life for the Lord.

### A Vision Based on God's Word

In thinking about God people being a people of vision, it must be understood that this can only be true as long as one keeps and respects the authority of God's Word. In Proverbs 29:18 we read, "Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he." The wise man points out that the blessed man is the man with godly vision that keeps God's law. Many might claim to be people of vision, but are doing things contrary to what the Bible teaches. As Peter and the wise man point out, God wants His people to be a people of vision, a vision based upon faith as the Christian sojourns through this life (2 Corinthians 5:7, Hebrews 12:2). Paul writes to the church at Rome concerning faith saying, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17). Therefore, the godly vision is based on what the word of God teaches.

### A Vision That Sees as God Sees

Godly vision, which is by faith, means that the people of God will begin to see things as God sees things. An example is seen when Samuel went to the house of Jesse to anoint a king of Israel. In 1 Samuel 16, the sons of Jesse come before Samuel to anoint the next king of Israel. The Lord told Samuel, "Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7). The vision of the people of God will be a vision that will see things as

God sees things.

How often our spiritual vision is based on our thoughts and desires. We look at the outward man and think we see clearly as God sees. We must learn that we may be pleased with self, but God may not be pleased. In Matthew 7:21-23, we read of people that in their view or vision of things were faithful and pleasing to God doing "many wonderful works." Again in Matthew 25:31-46, we have the judgment scene depicted and people being told they had not done what the Lord required of them. In their view, they were serving the Lord, but the Lord said, "ye did it not." When one sees as the Lord sees, he will see the eternal things as opposed to the temporal things or the inward as opposed to the outward.

### **A Vision That Looks Ahead**

With godly vision, one will not be blind to the spiritual things and forget "that he was purged from his old sins" (2 Peter 1:9). Rather, he will see his forgiveness of past sins and will put to death these sins (Romans 6:1-2, 6). He will also see the new beginning he has in his life by the sacrifice of Christ. This godly vision will be the kind of vision of that Paul describes himself saying, "forgetting the things which are behind, and reaching forth unto the things which are before, I press toward the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14).

In the life of Joseph, he exhibited a godly vision throughout his life. Joseph was sold by his jealous brothers and became a servant in Potiphar's house. He refused the advances of Potiphar's wife resulting in her telling lies about him and having him cast into prison. While in prison, he continued to trust God. Finally, he was released from prison after interpreting Pharaoh's dream and is given a high position in the land of Egypt. After the death of Jacob, Joseph speaks to his brothers concerning the evil they had done against him in the past by saying, "But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive" (Genesis 50:20). Joseph trusted God through all the struggles that he experienced and continued to look ahead for his reward.

Truly, God expects His people to be a people of vision; that is a godly vision. A vision that will see as the Lord sees, not just seeing the problems and mistakes of the past, but the hope and assurances of the future. A vision that change our attitudes and our outlook during

our pilgrimage on earth. May we ever strive to be the people of vision that God desires.

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## *We Spend Our Days*

**Dee Bowman**

We live in time. From a moral standpoint, time is neutral - neither good nor bad - though it contributes to both. The man who is evil will, in time, become more evil. The good man, given time, will invariably become better. Time does not stand still and neither does the character of the man who lives in it.

**Time is what life is all about.** We measure most everything in terms of time. We have divided it into sections of centuries, decades, months, weeks, days, minutes and seconds. Every day we set out to achieve what we can in the amount of time we have allotted to that project. Even our language is tied inseparably to time. Our verbs - the strongest terms in our language - are all set in time and tell of being or state of being. We even have a popular periodical called Time Magazine.

**Life is time.** The Bible speaks of the "beginning," meaning the origin of time (Genesis 1:1), when God created all things. "Once upon a time" is appropriate for every story, for everything has happened since time began to be counted.

**The Bible speaks of our lives in terms of time.** "We spend our years as a tale that is told" (Psalm 90:9). It also speaks of regulating time. Proverbs, particularly, has considerable to say about slothfulness and procrastination, both of which are but poor time management (Proverbs 6:9-10). "How Long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? When wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep. "The slothful man roasteth not that which he took in hunting; But the precious substance of men is to the diligent."

The New Testament speaks of "redeeming the time" and says, "for the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:16). The

Hebrew writer calls to mind the fact that time has to do with maturing, "for when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that someone teach you..." (5:12).

Men have always separated the time of our lives into basically three categories: youth, middle years and old age.

The **years of youth** are years of learning, growing, and understanding ourselves. For many, they are also times of foolishness, recklessness, and youthful pretensions. Solomon addressed the particular needs of young persons in the first five chapters of the Proverbs. He says that the word of God is sufficient to give "to the young man knowledge and discretion" (Proverbs 1:4). Paul warns young people to "flee youthful lust" (2 Timothy 2:22). Excessive curiosity, pride of learning, sexual experimentation, the tendency to criticize, and several other things which might be classified as "youthful lust," are treated in Scripture. Clear instruction for young persons and their peculiar problems is given in the closing chapters of Ecclesiastes (11:9- 12:1).

The **midyears** are times of production, progress, and maturing. But they are also dangerous times, for it is during these times that we become, if we are not careful, too independent, too wrapped up in the secular, too impressed with success and failure. While this time is a time for provision (1 Timothy 5:8), it is also a time to recognize that too much emphasis on the worldly impedes spiritual progress which should also be apparent at this time (see Matthew 6:19, 24-34). We are warned to "set your affections on things above, not to things on the earth" (Colossians 3:1-2). And James warns about trusting in fleeting riches (James 5:1-3).

The **years of our sunset** are years of wisdom and reflection, years where hope is closer because the end is nearer. The Bible speaks to these times as well. It tells us to "number our days," that "the days of our years are threescore and ten..." and that "life is soon cut off and we fly away" (Psalm 90:10). The wise man describes the gradual demise of the body in Ecclesiastes 12 and concludes, "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was..." But in spite of such resignation to old age and death, the assurance of the Scriptures buoys our spirits and heightens our perspective as we think of the inheritance "incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you" (1 Peter 1:2).

Let us spend our time well. Let us number our

days carefully. In the days of happiness, let us rejoice. In the days of adversity, let us consider.

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

## News & Notes

### THE SICK:

Anita Wheeler	Joe Hinkle
Jennifer Threet	Betty Pepper
Scottie Reed	Arvid McGuire
Ella Melvin	Gilbert Hardy
Reba Byram	James Abernathy
Lona Killen	Irene Inman
Marjorie Dunnivant	Jeanette Weir
Gwen Bullock	Robert & Mot Beasley
Essie Hardison	Carl Hargrave
Abi Gilbert	Linda Ordonez
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 Currier
Charles Burns	Analynn Tegg
Eli Williams	David Richardson
Sharon Nave	Betty Hamm

### *In The Hospital:*

#### *Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:*

Nelva Reed, rm. 111	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Helen Trousdale, rm. 43	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Judith Groce, rm. 21	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Gayle Mills, rm. 15	Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
Mable Crafts, rm. 100	Matty Murray, rm. 2
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
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#### *Limestone Lodge:*

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 20W
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**Shut-In:**

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

**SYMPATHY:** We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Summer Todd and all the family**, in the passing of her cousin, Mark Cole, this passed Wednesday morning. His funeral was in Hamilton on Saturday.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** *The College View church* in Florence beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Phil Robertson...* *The Somerville Road church* in Decatur beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Terry Francis*.

**SERMON IN SONG:** Remember this Wednesday night, September 30th, will be a "Sermon in Song."

**NURSING HOME SINGING:** Remember the singing at the Athens Rehabilitation and Senior Care on Tuesday evenings at 5:30.

**OUT OF TOWN:** *The Carters: Delmer and Margaret* are on vacation this week in Michigan visiting with family.

**PREACHING TODAY:** This morning we are privileged to have *Ashley Goosen* here to preach for us. We help to support Ashley in his work in South Africa.

**BAPTISM:** We rejoice that *Charles Mote*, a friend of *Jerry McGlocklin*, was baptized here this past Monday morning. We wish a long and faithful life for him in the service of the Lord...Also, we rejoice that *Ronnie and LeAnn Hughes* made the same decision to put on Christ and were baptized Saturday afternoon. May we all encourage them as they have and will encourage us.

**PICTURES:** Remember that 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 one** will be meeting this evening after our evening service. If you are in group one, remember to meet with your group.

**THE RECORD:** *Attendance for the week of Sept. 20th*

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 146  
Morning Worship ..... 198  
Evening Worship..... 165

**Wednesday:** Bible Classes..... 126

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, September 27th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Joel Hamm  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer ..... Marty Adams  
Preaching ..... Ashley Goosen  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Norman Brown  
Assisting ..... Ronnie Locke  
Serving ..... Charles Vaughn ..... David Terry  
..... Russ Wulfekuhl ..... Marvin Putman  
Closing Prayer ..... Arvid McGuire

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Joel Hamm  
Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
Prayer ..... Kenneth Smith  
Preaching ..... Song Service  
Lord's Supper ..... Norman Brown  
Closing Prayer ..... Kenneth Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, September 27th:

Usher ..... Danny Johnson  
Work Sound System ..... Nathaniel Adams

**Wednesday, September 30th:**

Song Leader ..... Sermon in Song  
Bible Reading ..... No Reading  
.....  
Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell  
Invitation ..... David Cox  
Closing Prayer ..... Tommy Coblentz

**Sunday, October 4th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Kenneth Smith  
Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Bonnie Sutton  
Assisting ..... Ronnie Locke  
Serving ..... Dwaine Allfrey ..... Heath Dollar  
..... Kenneth Adams ..... Bart Brown  
Closing Prayer ..... Keith Hinkle

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Kenneth Smith  
Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
Prayer ..... Jason Conn  
Preaching ..... Jordan Lovell  
Lord's Supper ..... Bonnie Sutton  
Closing Prayer ..... Dan Reed

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 4th:

Usher ..... Marin Purman  
Work Sound System ..... Landon Adams