

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

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No. 45

The Second Coming of Jesus Christ

Carl Witty

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) 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

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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

Bible teaching often reflects the times in which it is presented. The messages of God's prophets in the Old Testament were tied to the events and struggles through which God's people were passing. Likewise, the New Testament Apostles and other evangelists preached Jesus within the context of the lives people were living. Always Old Testament and New Testament proclaimers of the word pointed people toward the future. New Testament hearers after Pentecost were often reminded of Christ's second coming, judgment, heaven and hell.

The Holy Spirit revealed to these proclaimers of the word that God had already appointed a day of judgment "Because He hath appointed a day, in which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained: Whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead." Our Lord plainly said "I will come again" (John 14:1-3), in reference to His second coming to receive those who were His unto Himself. At Christ's ascension (Acts 1:9-11), the angels declared that "This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

Paul the apostle taught the brethren at Thessalonica that the Christian's hope is based upon the second coming of Jesus, (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). Our belief in the resurrection is tied to our faith in the events to occur when Jesus returns, including the fact that "the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first; then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord." Paul adds additional details in 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10, especially in regard to the wicked.

Hebrew Christians were taught to look for His return in Heb 9:28: "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation."

How will the Lord come again? It will be a personal coming (Acts 1:11) "This same Jesus" as the person who ascended will, in that day, descend from heaven. It will be a sudden coming (1 Thessalonians 5:2), like a "thief in the night," unexpectedly (2 Peter 3:10). His coming will not be in secret, however, because John wrote "behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him..."

The second coming will be audible, even to the extent that "all that are in the graves shall hear His voice" (John 5:28). His coming and judgment will be the most public event imaginable, because "then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory; and before Him shall be gathered all nations." You and I will be present for His coming, either then alive, or having been raised from the dead. "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that everyone may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad" (2 Corinthians 5:10).

When Jesus returns, He will be accompanied by His holy angels (Matthew 25:31), whose power and might will be expressed in the certain vengeance on the wicked, who "Know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ; Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power" (2 Thess. 1:8-9).

We do not know, and should not speculate, as to the imminence of His coming. Peter, writing of these events, points out that "one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day" (2 Peter 3:8). God will not be affected by our attempts to set a date or timeline for these events. All such efforts have been a failure throughout all the centuries since New Testament times.

The greatest concern we should have is that we are ready for His return. In an old song, Fanny J. Crosby has asked: "When Jesus comes to reward His servants, Whether it be noon or night, Faithful to Him will He find us watching, With our Lamps all trimmed and bright?"

-via *Teaching Truth*; Madison, Alabama.

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Our View of People

T. Doy Moyer

There is much talk these days about the racial divisions around us. We hear of wars, riots, murders, and various other crimes and offenses which all have one thing in common: a disrespect for people who are created by God. God made man (male and female) in His image (Genesis 1:26-27). From these original parents, all of the people of the earth have come. Paul stated that God "made from one, every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth" (Acts 17:26). Those who respect God will respect people. It doesn't matter what color the skin is, the shape of the body or eyes, or the country of origin. People are still people; and it is the height of arrogance and conceit to think that one is better than another. Racism, in any form, is not tolerable for Christians.

Jews and Gentiles were racially divided. It was difficult for Peter to put aside his feelings for Gentiles and go preach the Gospel to them. However, he went and proclaimed: "I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is, welcome to Him" (Acts 10:34-35). The Jews needed to overcome their racial feelings for Gentiles.

When Saul was rejected as king, and Samuel was told to anoint David, the Lord said to Samuel: "Do not look at his appearance or at the height or his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7). If only we could learn to view people the way God does. Viewing people based upon outward appearance is so shallow and superficial. So what that someone is taller or shorter, bigger or smaller, light-skinned or dark-skinned, blue eyed or brown eyed. None of these things tell us about a person's heart. These things do not define the soul of a human being; and it is the soul that is most important.

Our view of people must be built upon a proper view of God, who made us in His own image. If our view of God is faulty, then our view of man-kind will be faulty. For this reason, a theory such as evolution can only increase racial problems and harm society. If there is no God, and we are only the products of nature – time and chance mutations – then how can we place upon

people the value and honor that belong to us because we have been created in the image of God? We would be nothing more than brute beasts who trample over whatever gets in our way of “survival.” Just remember: ideas have consequences.

When we listen to the word of God and understand both who He is and who we are, we can begin to view each other in the proper light. We all belong to the brotherhood of humanity.

-via *Truth and Reason*; Forest Park, Ohio.

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How Old Are You?

Shane Williams

Hebrews 5 was addressed to Christians who should have been mature enough to teach others but they were still babes in Christ. They were like infants, lacking spiritual growth and in danger of falling away from the Lord. They were urged to get with it and grow up!

The writer said, “Leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection” (Hebrews 6:1). He is talking about “maturity.” The recipients of this letter were to get beyond the milk stage and grow up to be mature (Hebrews 5:14) by feeding on the solid meat of the Word.

Hebrews 5:14, “But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.”

Many churches today have this same problem. They should be strongholds of faith but instead they are just nurseries for infants. There’s nothing wrong with a “nursery” for new Christians, but how sad it would be for the babies to not grow up. You would be a terrible parent if you only fed your baby milk for years and years. It’s unnatural. The baby would suffer and you would also.

Hebrews 5:12, “For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach

you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food.”

How long have you been a follower of Christ? How much have you grown? The apostle Peter challenged us to “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 3:18). We must not settle for where we are but rather aim for maturity!

-via *The Sutton Lane Sower Monthly*; Mayfield, Kentucky.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Mot Dollar	Mot Beasley
Jim Whitt	Jewel Dean Kennamer
Ella Melvin	Reba Byram
Gilbert Hardy	Marjorie Dunnivant
Essie Hardison	Irene Inman
Jeanette Weir	Carl Hargrave
Gwen Bullock	Elizabeth Howard
Donald Cole	Abi Gilbert
Betty Hamm	Ava Brooke Campbell
Linda Ordonez	David Richardson
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	

In The Hospital:

Bobbie Adcock; Athens-Limestone Hospital, rm. 214
Mot Beasley; Huntsville Hospital, rm. 290
Helen Trousdale; Athens-Limestone Hospital, rm. 201

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 111	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Matty Murray, rm. 2	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. 98	Terry Camp, rm. 91

Limestone Health Facility:

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm.107
Mildred Landers, rm. 103
Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E

Limestone Lodge:

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 20W

Shut-In:

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

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to **James Adams** and *all the family*, in the passing of his brother-in-law, **Crutcher Harbin**. Crutcher passed away on Sunday. His funeral was on Wednesday at Limestone Chapel, and he was laid to rest in the Sunny Hill Cemetery.

JAMES ABERNATHY (1939 – 2015): We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Patricia Abernathy** and *all the family of James Abernathy*. James passed away on Tuesday evening at his home. James has been sick for about the last year and unable to be at services. His funeral was on Friday at McConnell Funeral Home, and he was laid to rest in the Roselawn Cemetery.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The **Jackson Drive church** is beginning a gospel meeting today, and it will continue through Friday evening. **John Gibson** will be the speaker...The **Midway church** in Green Hill is beginning a gospel meeting today, and it will continue through Wednesday evening. **Steve Klein** will be the speaker.

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

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 Nov. 1st

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 150
Morning Worship 184
Evening Worship..... 129

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 116

Remember Our Service This Afternoon at 4:00.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, November 8th:

Morning Worship

AnnouncementsSteve Usery
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer Bonnie Sutton
PreachingDavid Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Tommy Coblenz
AssistingMike Ogles
Serving Kenneth Adams Heath Dollar
..... Seth Todd Cody Kennedy
Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Evening Worship

AnnouncementsSteve Usery
Song Leader Tommy Burns
PrayerJerry McGlocklin
PreachingDavid Cox
Lord's Supper Tommy Coblenz
Closing Prayer Arvid McGuire

Other Assignments for Sunday, November 8th:

Usher Paul Hasting
Work Sound System Terry Andrews

Wednesday, November 11th:

Song Leader Stefan Fuege
Bible Reading..... (1 Corinthians 14:1-12)
..... Mot Dollar
Prayer Kenneth Smith
Invitation Jordan Lovell
Closing Prayer Keenon Carrier

Sunday, November 15th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Terry Andrews
Song LeaderJoel Hamm
Prayer Marty Adams
Preaching Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper
Presiding Kenneth Smith
AssistingSteve Usery
Serving Charles Vaughn Landon Adams
..... Stefan Fudge Marvin Putman
Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements Terry Andrews
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer Jason Conn
PreachingDavid Cox
Lord's Supper Kenneth Smith
Closing Prayer Norman Brown

Other Assignments for Sunday, November 15th:

Usher Heath Dollar
Work Sound System Landon Adams