

# 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. 50

## *Make Your Calling Sure*

**Bubba Garner**

### 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 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*

“Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you” (2 Peter 1:10). After instructing those aliens and pilgrims who were scattered throughout Asia Minor about the need to supply virtue and knowledge and brotherly kindness to their faith, Peter tells them of the peace and assurance that comes with “making your calling and election sure”.

No one is going to accidentally go to heaven, nor is anyone going to sneak in the back door or slip through the gate unaware. On the other hand, we need not fear or spend our time worrying about this imminent meeting with God at the judgment.

The Bible speaks of the Christian’s confidence, not arrogance, in being certain and sure of their final destination. Near the end of his life, Paul told Timothy, “in the future, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness” (2 Timothy 4:8), and John wrote in his letter, “these things I write to you that you may know that you have eternal life” (1 John 5:13). Do you know? Are you that sure? How can we make our calling and election sure?

Remember what you know. We are, at times, a people with short-term memories and a people that need a little reminding, especially in the realm of spiritual things. Such was Peter’s task in this same letter: “therefore, I shall always be ready to remind you of these things, even though you already know them” (2 Peter 1:12). Don’t ever forget what sin is (1 John 3:4), don’t ever forget what sin does (Isaiah 59:1-2), and don’t ever forget that only God has the power and ability to cleanse you of your sin and save you from its grasp (Matthew 19:25-26). But it takes more than a good memory to make your calling and election sure.

Do what you can. Being certain about your reservation in heaven means rising to your full potential and doing everything that is within your abilities and opportunities to be a servant of Jesus Christ. You may

have to overcome your fears, swallow your pride, or stand up against impossible odds, but you must do it with the boldness that Paul had when he said, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). You can live a godly life in an ungodly world, you can pray more, you can be a better student of the Bible, or you can't be certain about your calling and election.

Leave the rest to the Lord. One brother said a long time ago, "stop whittlin' on God's end of the stick." If we will remember what we know to be true from His word and if we will apply that message in obedience and do what we can, then we must trust in His promise of "be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10). As David said in all confidence and faith, "But as for me, I trust in Thee, O Lord, I say, 'Thou art my God.' My times are in Thy hand" (Psalm 31:14-15). Just do your part, and let Him provide the rest.

Make your's certain today. Receive the grace of God through faith by obeying Jesus and having your sins washed away through baptism (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; Acts 8:36-38; Ephesians 2:8-10).

-via *Hueytown Bulletin*; Hueytown, Alabama.



## *If You Could See Him Now*

**Johnny Felker**

What picture comes to mind when you think of Jesus now? For most of us the image might be the one that we commonly associate with His earthly life, the humble servant who partook of our humanity. Yet is there another picture that should come to mind when we think of Jesus now?

### **Exalted Above All**

Paul reminds us what happened to Jesus in the aftermath of His crucifixion. "Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name..." (Philippians 2:9). God "seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above

all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come. And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all" (Ephesians 1:20-22).

### **Radiant In Glory**

As the exalted Christ, Jesus now radiates a glory that shines forth from His divine nature. Three of the disciples were given a preview of this glory at the transfiguration. Matthew gives this description of Him: "His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light" (Matthew 17:2). This vision was to foreshadow the unveiled glory of Jesus as the resurrected Lord.

Years later, the apostle John was given another vision of Him. The picture he draws is awesome indeed. He was "clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His breast with a golden girdle. And His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire; and His feet were like burnished bronze, when it had been caused to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters. And in His right hand He held seven stars; and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength" (Revelation 1:13-16).

### **Worshiped By Heaven**

Later John saw the whole creation bowing and giving their praise to the Lord. "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing" (Revelation 1:12). On earth He was the thorn-crowned man, but now He is the golden-crowned King of kings. On earth He was the suffering servant, but now He is the sovereign ruler of all. On earth His name was blasphemed, but now He has a name that is above every name. On earth He looked like any other man, but now He radiates the glory of His divine nature. Awesome!

If we could see Him now, we would join the heavenly hosts in bowing before Him and giving Him unceasing praise. If we could see Him now, we would honor Him as the King of kings, ruler of the nations. If we could see Him now, we would render to Him complete obedience as the Lord of all. If we could see Him now, our hearts would leap with the anticipation of seeing Him in heaven. If we could see Him now, we would be thrilled at the prospect of what we will become. The

truth is, that with the eye of faith, we can see Him now!  
Let us see His glory and worship and serve Him as the  
exalted Lord He is!

-via *Focus Magazine*; May 2004



## *A Man and His Lord*

**Mike Wilson**

According to Dr. Dean Ornish, there are two basic strategies often employed in the selfdefeating search for happiness. In the first approach, the person becomes compulsively driven to distinguish himself from others. "The compulsively driven person's net worth is always on the line. . . . In the second approach, the person. . . creates a persona, a mask, an image to make people think that he did indeed achieve it. On one end of a spectrum, the persona has some basis in truth; on the other, it is a pure fabrication" (Dr. Dean Ornish's Program For Reversing Heart Disease, p. 978).

We men are particularly susceptible to these temptations. We want to abstain from anything perceived as wimpy, while we cling tenaciously to a macho image. Out of profound feelings of not measuring up - of not feeling lovable - we have perfected the art of projecting a masculine facade. The media has helped to stereotype this male persona with images of a man and his girl, a man and his wheels, a man and his dog, etc. When in popular culture has manhood been defined in terms of a man and his Lord?

There is something fundamental about the apostle Paul's statement in 1 Corinthians 11:3. "But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man. . . ." Just as woman has been assigned a subordinate role to man in God's order, so man's place in God's world is a place of subordination to Christ. Every man has a basic need to recognize the headship of Christ and heartily submit to his Lord.

Intrinsic to this faith commitment is the utter realization that we are not masters of our own destiny.

There must be a personal forfeiture of all rights and prerogatives to lead our own lives as we please. True manhood is an all-out attempt to "attain the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13).

There is something in this that cuts against the grain of our natural tendencies, especially those which are culturally defined. We must let down the facade and admit that the true strength of manhood is not in ourselves. We are sinners in desperate need of help, and our Savior provides the only place of refuge. We must say, with the apostle Paul, "Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may dwell in me. . . . for when I am weak, then I am strong" (2 Corinthians 12:9-10).

The inner strength that comes from total dependence on and submission to our Lord will make us men in the fullest sense. Without this subordination to Christ, we will never enjoy unanimity of spirit. We will never be whole. Real men are New Testament Christians. Jesus Christ fills the void.

-via *Christianity Magazine*; July 1995; Vol. 12 No. 7

## *News & Notes*

### **THE SICK:**

Frances Bowers	Bettye Harrison
Allsion Usery	Alvis & Ann McLemore
Mike Ogles	Mot Dollar
Bobbie Adcock	Gayle Ball
Margaret Vaughn	Ella Melvin
Mitzi Carruth	Marjorie Dunnivant
Reba Byram	Robert & Mot Beasley
Janice Cagle	Irene Inman
Gilbert Hardy	Gwen Bullock
Essie Hardison	Carl Hargrave
Jeanette Weir	Ann Bush
Elizabeth Howard	Ava Brooke Campbell
Donald Cole	Eli Williams
Abi Gilbert	Betty Hamm
Helen Rushing	Matt Poff
Linda Ordonez	Una King Currier
Phillip Harwell	David Richardson
Margaret Frost	Gene Carpenter

Ben Hinkle Pam Perry  
 Analynn Tegg Al Pollard  
 Charles Burns

***In The Hospital:***

*Faye Allen*; Huntsville Hospital, rm. 1758

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

Nelva Reed, rm. 111 Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102  
 Mattye Murray, rm. 2 Dorothy Draper, rm. 97  
 Judith Groce, rm. 45 Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36  
 Terry Camp, rm. 91 Mildred Frantz, rm. 31  
 Gayle Mills, rm. 15 Valeria Dalton, rm. 7  
 Mable Crafts, rm. 98 Helen Trousdale, rm. 43

***Limestone Health Facility:***

Mildred Landers, rm. 103  
 Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E

***Limestone Lodge:***

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 20W

***Limestone Manor:***

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 86

***Shut-In:***

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

**PLACED MEMBERSHIP:** We rejoice that *Joy and Loretta Warner* have let it be known that desire to be members of the church here at Market Street. Let us all extend a warm welcome to them.

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

**CONFESSIONS:** This past Sunday *James Adams, Gayle Ball, Christina Banks, Tyler Banks, Shelia Clark, Sharma Hamm, Heather Lovell & Summer Todd* came to confess unfaithfulness and asked for prayers for forgiveness and strength. We appreciate the good heart and attitude of these and their desire to please God. May we all encourage and help one another as we strive to serve the Lord.

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

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

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 140  
 Morning Worship ..... 191  
 Evening Worship..... 146

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

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

***Sunday, December 13th:***

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
 Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
 Prayer ..... Keith Hinkle  
 Preaching ..... David Cox  
 Lord's Supper  
 Presiding ..... Joel Hamm  
 Assisting ..... Norman Brown  
 Serving ..... Heath Dollar ..... James Johnson  
 ..... Kenneth Adams..... Charles Vaughn  
 Closing Prayer ..... Mike Ogles

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
 Song Leader ..... Stefan Fudge  
 Prayer ..... Marcus Morris  
 Preaching ..... David Cox  
 Lord's Supper ..... Joel Hamm  
 Closing Prayer ..... Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for Sunday, December 13th:

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

***Wednesday, December 16th:***

Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox  
 Bible Reading..... (1 Corinthians 15:21-34)  
 ..... Russ Wulfekuhl  
 Prayer ..... Landon Adams  
 Invitation ..... Tommy Coblentz  
 Closing Prayer ..... Mot Dollar

***Sunday, December 20th:***

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Kenneth Smith  
 Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
 Prayer ..... Marty Adams  
 Preaching ..... Jordan Lovell  
 Lord's Supper  
 Presiding ..... Mike Ogles  
 Assisting ..... Keith Hinkle  
 Serving ..... Bill Claxton ..... Matthew Vaughn  
 ..... David Terry ..... Nathaniel Adams  
 Closing Prayer ..... Keenon Carrier

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Kenneth Smith  
 Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
 Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell  
 Preaching ..... David Cox  
 Lord's Supper ..... Mike Ogles  
 Closing Prayer ..... Jason Conn

Other Assignments for Sunday, December 20th:

Usher ..... Seth Todd  
 Work Sound System ..... Terry Andrews