

# 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 VIII

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No. 13

## *The Preaching of the Gospel*

**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 Coblenz .....(256) 232-3312  
Joel Hamm.....(256) 278-1977  
Larry Mitchell .....(256) 230-0185  
Russ Wulfekuhl .....(256) 683-9396

### Evangelists

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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 Mark 16:15, Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Among the last instructions Jesus gave His disciples was this commission to preach the gospel. It is evident that Jesus considered the preaching of the gospel very crucial for Him to impress the urgency of preaching to His disciples before ascending back to heaven. Yes, the preaching of the gospel was important then and is still very important today.

Jesus alluded to why preaching the gospel was so important in Mark 16:16 when he said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Jesus makes very clear that salvation requires the gospel being preached to the lost, the lost believing the gospel and then obeying the commands. Paul stressed the same importance of preaching the gospel to the Corinthians as he wrote, "...it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe" (1 Corinthians 1:21). Paul is not saying that the preaching of the gospel is foolishness, but that those who claimed to be the wise viewed preaching of the gospel as foolishness. Paul declared that regardless of how men may consider the preaching of the gospel, it still will save men when preached, believed, and obeyed. Paul wrote to the Romans, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." The importance of the gospel is in its power to save the lost.

One might ask who are the lost? The lost are those separated from God by sin (Isaiah 59:1-2). In Romans 3:9, 23 we learn that all, both Jew and Gentile, are under sin, "for all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." But through our belief and obedience of the gospel, our sins are washed away and forgiven.

Another question that may come is, "What is the gospel?" The gospel includes the death, burial and resurrection of Christ (1 Corinthians 15:1-4). However, it includes the teaching that the inspired men did in

the first century. The Holy Spirit guided them into all truth, and the gospel being preached by them, not apart from them (John 16:13; 1 Peter 1:12). Paul referred to their preaching the gospel as a “treasure in vessels.” Therefore, the gospel includes the teachings of Christ, as well as the life, death, burial, resurrection of Christ and the teachings throughout the New Testament written by inspired men.

Today, when we preach the same gospel preached by those in the first century, we are preaching the gospel that will save those that believe it and obey it. Share the good news of the gospel with others. It is the power to save. The gospel is powerful!



## *Cause and Concern*

**Blake Edwards**

What do you do when you are concerned about something? What do you do when something scares you? I’m not talking about spiders, snakes, storms or anything like that. I mean what kinds of situations or people cause you to be concerned and alter your decision. For example, when I am driving and notice a person that seems to be distracted, I’m concerned. They swerve a little while looking down and then continue to look down maybe. Well, I stay away from that car. When possible, I go past them quickly. Why? I’m afraid of what might happen because of their actions. The things they are doing give me a reason to alter what I do.

People have a way of determining what the rest of us do in life. Total strangers can shift my thoughts and actions because of fear and concern. A boss will worry how an employee will respond to firing them. The boss should still fire them though. A student will be concerned about the reaction of a teacher when they don't do their schoolwork. The student still needs to talk to the teacher. It's understandable, but it shouldn't determine what we do or don't do.

*“And they discussed it with one another, saying If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say, ‘Why then did you not believe*

*him?’ But shall we say, ‘From man?’ – they were afraid of the people, for they all held that John really was a prophet. So they answered Jesus, ‘We do not know.’” Mark 11:31-33*

*“It was now two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to arrest him by stealth and kill him, for they said, ‘Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar from the people.’” Mark 14: 1-2*

The priests and scribes were terrified of people! They wanted to take Jesus and kill Him, but they were afraid of the people. They wanted to respond to a question Jesus asked, but were worried what people's reaction would be. Obviously, their motives were wrong, but, the point remains, they were a bunch of scared men. They knew what they wanted, how to get what they wanted and were unwilling to take the necessary steps because of the people. Jesus even spoke a parable directed right at them and they did nothing because “they feared the people” (Luke 20:19). Granted, there could have been a mob that arose and they would have been outnumbered, but it doesn't matter. It shouldn't matter to us.

We can be exactly like these scribes and priests. The difference is that we don't want to trap or harm Jesus, we want to follow Him and lift Him up. No matter what people think and no matter who those people are, we should never allow them to stop us from doing what we **know** needs to be done. What makes it even worse for us is that it might only be one or a few voices that could speak out against us and we sit back and do nothing. Even if you are outnumbered, don't fear the people.

Teachers (preachers especially) can never allow fear get in the way of teaching what is right. Leaders (in the home and in the church) ought to be strong enough to lead no matter what people might think or say. All Christians should ignore any fear of people that might cause them to not live how Christ wants us to live. God is our judge and we ought to let that fear direct us in all we do.

It's not just about right and wrong either. Sometimes it's just what needs to be done. Unlike the priest and scribes, we can be sure of what needs to be done **and** do it. Will you let people's feelings and wishes be a cause for concern for you? Will you be afraid of people? Or will you do what needs to be done out of fear for our Lord?

-via *The Family Report*; Florence, Alabama.

## Scarcely Saves?

William Beasley

It has well been said, “Hardly any verses in the New Testament have been misunderstood any more than” (James Burton Coffman, *Commentary on James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1, 2, & 3 John, & Jude*, Page 239). 1 Peter 4:17-18. Sometimes reads, “And if the righteous is scarcely saved, where shall the ungodly and sinner appear?” (1 Peter 4:18), without any thought as to the context, or one glibly renders a free quotation of 1 Peter 4:18, and leaves the totally false impression that the Apostle Peter is saying that the righteous will just barely make it to heaven. False teachers come in many varieties. There are those who intentionally teach error for worldly gain (“...teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre’s sake” – Titus 1:11), and there are those who are simply ignorant of what is actually being taught.

Question: Peter, is it true that in the final day of judgment, the righteous will scarcely be saved? Answer: “Wherefore, brethren, give the more diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never stumble: for thus shall be richly supplied unto you the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 1:10-11). Well, which is it? Is it “scarcely saved” or “richly supplied”? Is it possible that Peter forgot what he wrote in 1 Peter and contradicted himself in his second letter? No, the apostles, Peter included, were guided into all the truth (John 14:26; 16:13). If Peter was not correcting a mistake he made, nor had he contradicted himself, what is the answer? How are these two verses reconciled?

Peter was writing about two totally different things, two different judgments, two different salvations’. In 1 Peter, written just five or six years before the destruction of Jerusalem by the armies of Rome, he wrote of the trials and tribulations that were shortly to befall the saints in Jerusalem. Our beloved brethren in Jerusalem had been warned, by Jesus Himself, to flee from the city when her destruction was imminent (see Matthew 24:15-28), and these were “scarcely saved” from physical death, or of being sent to Rome as slaves. In 2 Peter he writes of the entrance “into the eternal kingdom” (i.e. heaven), and comforts his readers (including you and me) by assuring us that if our life is characterized by the doing of God’s will our “entrance into the eternal kingdom”

(i.e. heaven) will be “richly supplied” (2 Peter 1:11).

-via *Lincoln Bible Reader*; Iron Station, North Carolina

## News & Notes...

### THE SICK:

Jane Meredith	Opal Conn
Nikki Ogles	Jordan Lovell
Bobbie Adcock	Frances Bowers
Patsy Thomas	Charles Vaughn
Doris Lovell	Gilbert Hardy
Irene Inman	Reba Byram
Linda Jones	Wayne Gooch
Ann Bush	Shaun Carruth
Cynthia Smith	

### Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Jeanette Weir	Ella Melvin
Mot Dollar	Gayle Ball
Janice Cagle	Eli Williams
Gene Carpenter	Betty Hamm
Linda Ordonez	Charles Burns
Annalynn Tegg	Al Pollard
Ray Kennedy	Ava Brooke Campbell
Elizabeth Howard	Ben Hinkle
Phillip Harwell	Una King Currier
Shayna Tollison	Daniel Ogles
Staley Jackson	Anita Willis
Matt Poff	

### In The Hospital:

*Doris Claxton*; Crestwood Hospital, rm. 268  
*Mot Beasley*; Huntsville Hospital, rm. 598

### Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 111	William Thomas, rm. 70
Matty Murray, rm. 2	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Judith Groce, rm. 45	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Terry Camp, rm. 91	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Gayle Mills, rm. 15	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Mable Crafts, rm. 98	Helen Trousdale, rm. 43
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	

### Limestone Health Facility:

Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E

**Limestone Lodge:**

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 20W

**Limestone Manor:**

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 86

**Shut-In or Away From Home:**

Robert Beasley, at home

Hazel Brooks, at home

Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville

Wynell Casteel, at home

Marjorie Dunnivant, in Huntsville in assisted living

Carl Hargrave, at granddaughter's home in Hartselle

Essie Hardison, at home

Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** The **Danville Road church** in Decatur is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday evening. *Ben Walker* will be the speaker in this meeting...The **Elon church** in New Hope is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. *Frank Richey* will be the speaker in this meeting.

**SYMPATHY:** We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Russ Wulfekuhl* and all the family in the passing of Russ' aunt, *Marcia Wulfekuhl*. She passed away last Saturday in Biloxi, Mississippi, and her funeral was Thursday in Biloxi.

**RESPONSES:** Last Sunday morning *Peggy Smith* came forward asking for prayers for forgiveness and to make a new start in her spiritual life. We appreciate Peggy and her desire to please God... *Vickie Brown* came forward Sunday night asking for prayers for forgiveness and strength. Vickie said she wants to go to heaven and wants to start with a clean slate. We appreciate both Peggy and Vickie and their good hearts. May we all encourage them as they have encouraged us.

**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.

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

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

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 143  
Morning Worship ..... 190  
Evening Worship..... 133

**Wednesday:** Bible Classes..... 109

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, March 27th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Marty Adams  
Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
Prayer ..... Joel Hamm  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Keith Hinkle  
Assisting ..... Russell Melvin  
Serving ..... Cody Kennedy ..... Heath Dollar  
..... Charles Vaughn ..... Danny Johnson  
Closing Prayer ..... Steve Usery

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Marty Adams  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer ..... Harvey Nixon  
Preaching ..... Song Service  
Lord's Supper ..... Keith Hinkle  
Closing Prayer ..... Jerry McGlocklin

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 27th:  
Usher ..... Larry Mitchell  
Work Sound System ..... Terry Andrews

**Wednesday, March 30th:**

Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox  
Bible Reading..... (Sermon In Song)  
..... Dan Reed  
Prayer ..... Kenneth Adams  
Invitation ..... David Cox  
Closing Prayer ..... Seth Todd

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**Sunday, April 3rd:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Marcus Morris  
Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
Prayer ..... Dan Reed  
Preaching ..... Lance Taylor  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Assisting ..... Harvey Nixon  
Serving ..... A. J. Price ..... Heath Dollar  
..... Landon Adams ..... Marvin Putman  
Closing Prayer ..... James Johnson

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Marcus Morris  
Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox  
Prayer ..... Jason Conn  
Preaching ..... Lance Taylor  
Lord's Supper ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Closing Prayer ..... Jordan Lovell

Other Assignments for Sunday, April 3rd:  
Usher ..... Norman Brown  
Work Sound System ..... Nathaniel Adams