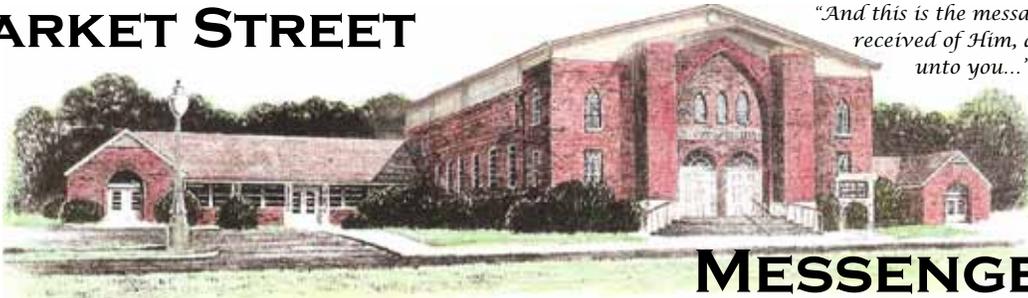


MARKET STREET

"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 IX

February 12, 2017

No. 7

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

Evangelist

David A. Cox..... (256) 233-8910
Cell: (256) 614-3757

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

Why Be A Christian?

John L. Nosker

There are so many reasons for being a Christian; it is difficult to understand why anyone would elect to live outside the family of God. Perhaps a few comments on four of these reasons will help some lost soul to understand why he or she should become a Christian.

God Loves You

We owe our very existence to the love of God. We came into this world by His power to create life. He provides every blessing we enjoy: the air we breathe, our food, raiment and shelter. "...He maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust" (Matthew 5:45). Beyond temporal matters, He gave His son to die for our sins. "For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). His goodness and His love for us should cause us to love Him and serve Him, for "the goodness of God leads to repentance" (Romans 2:4).

Christ Died For You

Of all the acts of God for man's benefit, none compares with the gift of His son, the brightest jewel of heaven. Jesus came to earth, lived a sinless life, and went about doing good and preaching the gospel of the kingdom. His reward was rejection by the Jews, bitter opposition to His noble efforts and finally a shameful death. After degrading treatment and cruel scourging, He bore the cross to Calvary. From the cross He sought God's forgiveness for those who were putting Him to death: "Forgive them Father, for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34). Those who reject Him today are crucifying Him afresh. Free flowing forgiveness is extended to them also. "The Lord...is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).

Heaven Is Waiting For You

There will be none saved in this dispensation of time except faithful Christians. The one who has spurned Christ must face Him in the judgment along with the redeemed. "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands

of the living God” (Hebrews 10:31).

Those not found written in the book of life will be “cast into the lake of fire” (Revelation 10:15). Yes, the fire of hell awaits those who spurn the invitation of heaven. Torment will last eternally. “And these shall go away into everlasting punishment but the righteous into life eternal” (Matthew 25:46).

Life More Abundantly

As recorded in John 10:10 Jesus said: “I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly.” Jesus was here promising life in heaven to faithful children of God. That is a compelling reason to become a Christian and live faithfully until death. However, earthly life in Christ is also a life more abundant.

Blessings of such a life include the knowledge of sins forgiven; the privilege of communing with God in prayer; the inspiration and personal development that comes from studying God’s word; the beauty of fellowship with brethren of Christ, and the comfort that comes from knowing that, “If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin” (1 John 1:7).

~via *Pause-Ponder-Profit*; Paragould, Arkansas.



The Character of Nathanael

Kent E. Heaton, Sr.

He was not numbered as one of the twelve but Nathanael was a man of great character before God. Little is known of him as the gospel writer; John is the only one who mentions him. The two references given of Nathanael are found in John 1 and 21. On the first occasion, we find Philip coming to Nathanael to tell him that he had “found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph” (John 1:45). Nathanael was unsure of what value anyone would be who came from Nazareth.

The prophets had written that the Messiah would

come from Bethlehem. Philip refers to Jesus as from Nazareth and Nathanael cannot see any purpose in the Messiah coming from Nazareth. At the bidding of Philip, Nathanael agrees to investigate the man who claimed to be the Son of God. Jesus becomes aware of Nathanael’s coming and greets him with great enthusiasm. “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!” (John 1:47).

Jesus knows the hearts of all men. He knew the heart of Nathanael and expressed it with words of confidence to the noble character he possessed. To be without guile is not to suggest that Nathanael was without guilt. Jesus acknowledges that Nathanael is a man of integrity, honesty and truth. Guile is a character of deceit, treachery and cunning. A person who is filled with guile cannot be trusted and is full of dishonesty. In a world filled with the wickedness of men, an honest heart is a rare commodity.

Nathanael was known by his friends and by the Lord as one whose heart was measured by truth and righteousness. He had a character that was humble before God and he sought to conduct his life with the integrity of virtue. David wrote in Psalm 32:1-2, “Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.” To be without guile is found in the actions of our speech. Peter writes in 1 Peter 3:10, “For he who would love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit.” Honesty and truth find themselves in the lives of God’s people by the manner of speech. The power of the influence of the Christian is discovered in Nathanael. The measure of character is exemplified in the character of Nathanael. Honesty and truth are a must!

The apostle Paul exhorts the Christians at Ephesus to live their lives without guile. “Therefore, putting away lying. Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor, for we are members of one another. Be angry, and do not sin: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil. Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you” (Ephesians 4:25-32).

The final place we find Nathanael is John 21:2 where he was gathered with the disciples and Jesus appears to them. Nathanael remained faithful to the Lord and one can only imagine the great influence and power of teaching Nathanael gave to the early church. His character still lives on today as an example of truth and the noble character of virtue. "But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue ..." (2 Peter 1:5).

~via *The Bulletin*; Trenton, Florida.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Lucille Craig	Lona Faye Jackson
Cornelia Pepper	Patsy Thomas
Doris Lovell	Cindy Glass
Ashley Sims	Linda Jones
Shelly Scruggs	Sara Ogles
Wayne Gooch	Shaun Carruth
Everette "Bud" Dollar	Ann Bush
Wayne Bolton	Betty Brackeen

Updates:

Mary Will Johnston learned this week that the treatments she has been taking have not had the desired affect. Her condition has worsened and she has dignosed with Acute Lukemia ... **JoAnn Gilbert** had a procedure to get her heart back in rhythem on Thursday morning ... **Joyce McGlocklin** had shots put in her back on Wednesday for the back pain she has been experiencing ... **Betty Brackeen, the sister-in-law of Cornelia Pepper,** had hip replacement surgery on Sunday at the Athens Limestone Hospital.

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Joe Leopard	Ella Melvin
Reba Byram	Irene Inman
Gayle Ball	Janice Cagle
Jeanette Weir	Daniel Ogles
Diane Kilpatrick	Linda Ordonez
Wayne Wooldridge	Cindy Walker
Jenny Pickens	Gene Carpenter
Charles Burns	Betty Christopher
Al Pollard	Ava Brooke Campbell
Elizabeth Howard	Matt Poff
Phillip Harwell	Una King Currier

Shayna Tollison Eli Williams
Brittany Bates Carter Bekka Martin

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 61	William Thomas, rm. 18
Judith Groce, rm. 10-B	Dorothy Draper, rm. 104
Mattye Murray, rm. 2	Helen Trousdale, rm. 43
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Joyce Martin, rm. 73
Terry Camp, rm. 82	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Gayle Mills, rm. 15	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Mable Crafts, rm. 39	Christine Hudson, rm. 77

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Robert & Mot Beasley, at Morningside, Decatur

Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville

Wynell Casteel, at home

Marjorie Dunnivant, at Brookdale Farms, Huntsville

Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison

Carl Hargrave, at granddaughter's home in Hartselle

Essie Hardison, at home

Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Nancy Abernathy** and all the family in the passing of Nancy's sister, **Barbara Gordon**. She passed away last Sunday morning. Her funeral was Wednesday afternoon at Limestone Chapel. Barabara was laid to rest in the Roselawn Cemetery... We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Ida Nell Griffin** and all the family in the passing of Ida Nell's uncle, **Ellis Burchell**. He passed away Monday. His funeral was Thursday morning at Spry Funeral Home. He was laid to rest in the Myers Cemetery... We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Kim Rogers** and all the family in the passing of Kim's uncle, **Paul Matthews**. He passed away last Friday. His funeral was Sunday afternoon in Sylacauga... We also want to express our deepest symapthy to the King family in the passing of **Betty King**. Betty and her husband, H. L. attended Market Street for many years. **H. L. King** served as an elder at Market Street for several years. Her funeral will be at Limestone Chapel this afternoon at 2:30... We also want o express our sympathy to the family of **Grady Tomerlin**. Grady was a resident at Athens Rehab and Sr. Care. He often expressed to me how much he appreciated the church at Market Street and the way that so many showed care for him. Grady passed away last week and his funeral was last Wednesday.

GOSPEL MEETING/LECTURES: The **Oakland church** is beginning a gospel meeting today. It will continue through Friday with **Allan Dvorak** speaking... The **Parkway church** in Lawrence county near Trinity

is beginning a gospel meeting today. It will continue through Wednesday with *Greg Chandler* speaking... The *Jackson Heights church* in Columbia, Tennessee will be having a Teen Weekend Bible Study beginning Friday, Feb. 17th. It will continue through Sunday, February 19th. *Philip Russell* will be the speaker.

BARBADOS: This July, I will be going down for the Vacation Bible School in *Bridgetown, Barbados*. The Vacation Bible School is scheduled for *July 3-14*. We will be doing a VBS as well as Evangelistic work and meetings. I will remain in Barbados until July 11th to help coordinate the two weeks. *Wiley Deason* from Indianapolis, Indiana will be going down to cover the *second week July 10-14*, but there will be a need for ladies to teach the children's classes that week. If you are interested in doing this either the first or the second week, please let me know.

I will be compiling the information in the next week or two about the cost and the schedule. If you are interested in doing this let me know. I know that it would be a great experience for any who can and are able to do so.

THANKYOU: I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to everyone for your kind words, cards, gifts, food thoughts and prayers during the passing of my sister Anita. I want to thank the elders for allowing me to be away the last two Sundays to see Anita and for her funeral. I appreciate *Joel Hamm* and *A. J. Price* for preaching for me the first week and *Everette Conn* coming and preaching for me the second week. I appreciate *Harvey Nixon* for teaching my classes while I was away. I have heard many good reports of their work. It is truly a blessing to be at Market Street and to be around a group of people like you.

WORKGROUPS: Work Group one will be meeting this evening after our evening service. The work groups have been modified, so please check the announcement loop to see if this is your group.

Sixth Annual Singing

February 24, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.

Song Leaders: Jim Deason, Johnny Felker & Jeff Warnke



MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST
514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, February 12th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Steve Usery
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer..... Russell Melvin
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Mike Ogles
Assisting..... Marcus Morris
Serving Clayton Hamm Marvin Putman
..... David Terry Kenneth Adams
Closing Prayer Marty Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Steve Usery
Song Leader Tony Thomas
Prayer..... Joel Hamm
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Mike Ogles
Closing Prayer Keenon Currier

Other Assignments for Sunday, February 12th:
Ushers..... Steve Bradley/Heath Dollar
Work Sound System..... Terry Andrews

Wednesday, February 15th:

Song Leader Tommy Burns
Bible Reading..... Ephesians 6:10-24
..... Danny Johnson
Prayer..... Landon Adams
Invitation..... Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer Joy Warner

Sunday, February 19th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer..... Dan Reed
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Harvey Nixon
Assisting..... Dwaine Allfrey
Serving James Johnson Nathaniel Adams
..... Charles Vaughn Marvin Putman
Closing Prayer Kenneth Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer..... Larry Mitchell
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Harvey Nixon
Closing Prayer A. J. Price

Other Assignments for Sunday, February 19th:
Ushers..... Jason Conn/Keenon Currier
Work Sound System..... Landon Adams