

# 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

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## *God Judges!*

**Roger Shouse**

*"For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment" – 2 Peter 2:4*

The second chapter of second Peter is a page of the Bible that many do not like to think about. God judges. The warnings of this page are directed toward those in Peter's days that left the truth and were disturbing the faith of other Christians. The words are serious. The picture of judgment is severe. Peter walks through history, first with angels, then Noah, then Lot and ties it all in with the present. God doesn't take lightly those who misrepresent Him, distort things, or exploit others with false words and ideas.

There are three historical accounts listed: angels, Noah and Lot. We know about the last two. They are found in Genesis. They are in chronological order. It's the first one that brings questions to our minds. When did the angels sin? What was the occasion? Why did they sin? If these were all to be in a historical order, then it happened before Noah and the flood. Passages in Nehemiah and Psalms lead us to understand that God created angels when He created the world. Angels haven't always been. Nor are angels a form of pre-humans that are later sent to earth. Nor are angels departed souls that turn into angels. Our images of cute, chubby babies that are angelic do not fit the picture the Bible gives us. Angels are definitely in. Go to a gift store and you'll find all kinds of angel figurines. Most are those fat babies or long haired women, not what you find in the Bible. There are two angels we know by name in the Bible, they both happen to be male names. Many conclude that this is where Satan came from. He was an angel that went bad. There is a reference to Lucifer in Isaiah 14 that many think point to an angel being kicked out of Heaven. The arrogant words and rebellion led him to be cast down. There are two problems with this. First, Isaiah 14 is telling us about the king of Babylon, not the origin of Satan. Second, if Satan was an angel who sinned, why was he not cast into the dark pit with the others? God did not spare angels when they sinned. That statement holds a lot of thought for us.

### 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

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### 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*

First, it tells us that God does not play favorites nor has a double standard. Angels dwell with God. We read of angels being sent from Heaven. There is that special expression, “the Lord's angel,” which may be a special angel or one of unique position. No one seems closer to the presence of God than angels. When they disobeyed, they were condemned. They will be judged.

This ought to tell us that God doesn't let us get away with wrong things because we are so cute or we are His children. If anything, Peter's warnings remind us that we too must be obedient to God. Obedience is a word that has dropped off the chart when it comes to religious messages these days. You'll never hear the popular national preachers talking about obedience. Jesus did. He did often. Obedience was a sign of our love to God. Today, the message is, “Just love.” The Beatles had it with “All you need is love. Love is all you need.” That works in a pop song. It doesn't fly with God. Love is not an emotion, it's a choice. You show love by doing what God said. Even angels were sent away when they disobeyed. If the angels couldn't get away with wrong, you know that we can't either.

Second, God did not have a saving plan for angels. Jesus didn't die for angels. He died for mankind. Unlike the angels, God doesn't send us away and put us in pits of darkness when we do wrong. Had He done that, most of us would have been in those dark pits since we were teenagers. We did wrong early in life. It didn't take much but we sure were good at it. Most of us have followed that prodigal to the far country. Most of us know the shame, guilt, pain and trouble that has come from our disobedience. Caught by parents, caught by teachers, caught by the police – we know that we very well could have been in those dark pits where the disobedient angels are. Instead, God redeemed us. God gave us a second chance. God did not give up on us. God sent Jesus to save us, rescue us and give us a new life. God has done more for us than He did for the angels.

Third, these words are intended to serve notice to those who are going the wrong way. It's not enough that they don't care about their own souls, but they were twisting things and getting some of God's people to go along with them. These words, these judgments, were a warning siren to startle, wake up and get people to realize what was going on. Some folks are never content with things. They always have to change. They even want to change God. They mess around with God's word. They twist things, bend things and position God to say things that He never did. This happened then and it continues to happen today. People can read a passage and say, “it

doesn't mean that.” They stuff their ideas, their agendas, their theology into the discussion and before long, the outcome is something very different from what the Bible teaches. Churches take on cultural and social reform rather than preaching the saving message of Christ. Sin is tolerated. Folks are accepted without commitment and without changing. The church doesn't look like the holy bride of Christ. Instead of changing the people, the message is changed. The wellness and happiness of man replaces the dignity and respect of God. Good times replace the Gospel message. Folks dance with the wolves rather than watching out and avoiding the wolves. Preachers smile. The pews are packed. The money flows in. Church buildings are replaced with stadiums. All is well. However, no one notices that God is no longer smiling. This word, these warnings are pitched aside. Error has filled the hearts and folks are believing a lie rather than the truth. These very words of Peter are not read. They are not taught. They are not understood. The pits of darkness do not make the sermon series. It doesn't fit well with a happy church that has donuts in one hand and is rock climbing with the other. No time for judgment. No time for warnings. It's a happy message for a fun people in the neighborhood. That sells. And the crowds are deceived. They are having such a good time how could God not be pleased.

Peter's warnings remind us. God did not spare angels. God did not spare Noah's world. God did not spare Sodom. It's time to tighten things up and get back to what God wants. It's time to quit playing and start becoming the people of God. It's time to put down the food and pick up the Bible. It's time to read every page of that Bible and think about what is being said. It's time to study. It's time to know things. It's time to let God set the course. Even the angels were judged.

~via *The Beacon*; Newton, North Carolina.

## Beacon of Truth

Radio Program

Every Sunday Morning

on WVNN

770AM – 92.5 FM

8:30a.m. - 9:00a.m.

Market Street church of Christ  
514 West Market Street  
Athens, Alabama

## “When We Suffer”

Randy Harshbarger

“Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble” (Job 14:1). It is the fate of humanity to suffer. In various ways, in various forms, at different times—we all suffer. It seems that some suffer more than others. Job is an example of someone who suffered greatly. We sometimes say about someone we know: “It just seems like they can’t catch a break.” We know what that means; it means that some people have an inordinate amount of trial and tribulation in their lives. How are we to react when we hear the words “cancer,” “car wreck,” “plane crash,” “operation,” “treatments,” or “no hope?”

Suffering can (should) cause us to think about the fact that we will die—if not today then someday. “And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment” (Hebrews 9:27). The wise man said that finally we “all go to one place: all are from the dust, and all return to dust” (Ecclesiastes 3:20). Suffering can cause us to evaluate our lives; are we ready to die and meet the Lord? The Apostle Paul was ready. For him, it was “far better” to depart; such departure meant he would be with the Lord (Philippians 1:21). If you knew because of human suffering that your time to depart was getting closer, would you not begin to think about making peace with that fact? And are you at peace with God?

Suffering can cause us to experience the power and presence of God in a more meaningful and deeper way than before. When Job was suffering, he thought often about God. It is not that Job received all the answers he desired to his many questions. It was, though, an opportunity to focus on the bigger picture of life. Admittedly, when you are in pain it is not always easy to look beyond the present into the future. But can we not find peace and solace in the fact that we know God? “You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore” (Psalm 16:11). This joy is deep seated; all is well in your relationship with God.

Suffering can help us realize our need for others. The Hebrew Christians were encouraged to remember their brethren who were in adverse circumstances (Hebrews 13:3). Paul was concerned about Epaphroditus, who was sick “almost unto death” (Philippians 1:27). Christians do not (should not) live their lives in isolation from each other. “One another” Christianity has a very practical

benefit for all in the body of Christ.

Finally, in the midst of suffering we can turn to God in prayer. When you are having trouble, there are many Christians who are praying for you. Prayer is powerful. Prayer is doing something. Prayer takes you and your needs before God’s throne. We pray in recognition of God’s authority. “If you ask anything in My name, I will do it” (Jn. 14:14). When praying let us say: “O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will” (Matt. 26:39).

~via *Stallings Drive*; Nacogdoches, Texas.

## News & Notes

### THE SICK:

Freddie Mae Elmore	Jackie Cox
Patsy Thomas	Doris Lovell
Cindy Glass	Priscilla Tucker
Joan Glass	Ashley Sims
Linda Jones	Shelly Scruggs
Sara Ogles	Shaun Carruth
Ann Bush	Everette “Bud” Dollar
Wayne Gooch	Tracy Hodges

### Updates:

**Priscilla Tucker** received word on her tests done following her surgery and there are some cancer cells present. They will be determining the future course of treatment. Continue to keep Priscilla in your prayers...

**Tracy Hodges, the daughter of Paul and Dale Adcock**, came home from the hospital on Tuesday following her heart surgery last week... **Alvis McLemore’s brother, Bobby McLemore**, continues to battle Acute Leukemia.

### Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Joe Leopard	Gayle Ball
Reba Byram	Irene Inman
Janice Cagle	Jeanette Weir
Ella Melvin	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    Bobby McLemore

***In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:***

*Mot Beasley*; River City Health & Rehab. – Decatur  
*Norman Hamm*; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

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

Nelva Reed, rm. 61      Mildred Lambert, rm. 106  
 Helen Trousdale, rm. 43    Judith Groce, rm. 10-B  
 Dorothy Draper, rm. 73    Glen Brackeen, rm. 91  
 Mattye Murray, rm. 2      Christine Hudson, rm. 77  
 Valeria Dalton, rm. 7      Joyce Martin, rm. 73  
 Mable Crafts, rm. 39      Mildred Frantz, rm. 31  
 Gayle Mills, rm. 15      Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36  
 Oneal Martin, rm. 81

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

Robert Beasley, at Morningside, Decatur  
 Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville  
 Wynell Casteel, at home  
 Lucille Craig, 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  
 William Thomas, at home

**SINGING AT NURSING HOME:** Remember the singing at *Athens Rehab & Senior Care* on Tuesday evening at 5:30. If you are available to participate in this, I know that you would be benefitted from the time spent there.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** The *Brookhill church* in Kilen is beginning a meeting today and it will contnue through Wednesday evening. *Don Patton* will be the speaker in this meeting.

**CONFESSION:** This past Sunday evening, *Jimmy Marshall* came forward asking for prayers forgiveness in not being faithful and living the kind of life that Christ should live. We appreciate Jimmy and the good heart to want to be do what is right in the Lord sight. May we all encourage Jimmy as he has and will encourage 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 tonight.

**THE RECORD:** *Attendance for the week of April 30th*

Sunday:      Bible Classes ..... 135  
                  Morning Worship ..... 168  
                  Evening Worship ..... 113  
 Wednesday: Bible Classes ..... 103

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

***Sunday, May 7th:***

*Morning Worship*

Announcements..... Kenneth Smith  
 Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
 Prayer..... Larry Mitchell  
 Preaching..... David Cox  
 Lord's Supper  
 Presiding..... Bonnie Sutton  
 Assisting ..... Mike Ogles  
 Serving ..... Griffin Holt..... Hunter Cox  
                  Tony Thomas ..... Charles Vaughn  
 Closing Prayer ..... Kenneth Adams

*Evening Worship*

Announcements..... Kenneth Smith  
 Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox  
 Prayer..... Dwaine Allfrey  
 Preaching..... David Cox  
 Lord's Supper ..... Bonnie Sutton  
 Closing Prayer ..... Terry Andrews

Other Assignments for Sunday, May 7th:

Ushers..... Danny Holt/Jerry McGlocklin  
 Work Sound System..... Marty Adams

***Wednesday, May 10th:***

Song Leader ..... A. J. Price  
 Bible Reading ..... Colossians 1:9-17  
                  Arvid McGuire  
 Prayer..... Harvey Nixon  
 Invitation..... Larry Holt  
 Closing Prayer ..... Landon Adams

***Sunday, May 14th:***

*Morning Worship*

Announcements..... Jerry McGlocklin  
 Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
 Prayer..... Larry Holt  
 Preaching..... David Cox  
 Lord's Supper  
 Presiding..... Marty Adams  
 Assisting ..... Harvey Nixon  
 Serving ..... Heath Dollar ..... Tommy Burns  
                  Keenon Currier.... Nathaniel Adams  
 Closing Prayer ..... James Johnson

*Evening Worship*

Announcements..... Jerry McGlocklin  
 Song Leader ..... Tony Thomas  
 Prayer..... Keith Hinkle  
 Preaching..... David Cox  
 Lord's Supper ..... Harvey Nixon  
 Closing Prayer ..... Marcus Morris

Other Assignments for Sunday, May 14th:

Ushers..... A. J. Price/Kenneth Smith  
 Work Sound System..... Landon Adams