

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

May 28, 2017

No. 22

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

Evangelist

David A. Cox..... (256) 233-8910
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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

Does God Go On Vacation?

Shawn Jefferies

This is the last week of school, which means summer is almost here. Summer can be a really exciting time. The weather is usually nice. The kids are out of school. Family vacations are being planned and booked.

Will you be going on a vacation this summer? I can remember growing up as a kid in Texas and being excited about the summer because I knew my family would be taking at least one vacation. Usually we didn't go too far (maybe Houston or Galveston), but it was exciting nevertheless. Since that time I have been able to travel to many places further away. One of the things my family and I love to do is travel to places that we have never been before. We love to see God's creation in different places and meet new Christians. Over the last several years, we have been blessed to vacation in Daytona, Washington D.C., Virginia, San Antonio, New York City, Seattle, Philadelphia, and the Grand Canyon. This coming July we plan on visiting the Midwest for the first time (Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Chicago). We are very excited about this trip and are still trying to figure out all the things we want to do while there.

It is a blessing to be able to make long lasting family memories on vacations. The question is: Does God go on vacation with us as well? I certainly hope so. I hope and pray that God goes with me and my family when we go to the Midwest. In fact, I hope and pray that God's eyes are on us and His love and favor are with us wherever we go!

How frightening would it be if the one true God was only a "local" God? What if God was only with us when we were in our home town? What if He went with us to work and helped us through the day, looked over us when we went to the store and drove through town? What if He heard and accepted the worship we offered up to Him at the local church building where we attended, but whenever we left the state or country, God no longer went with us?

How would you feel if God stayed back while you went on vacation? Would you still go on vacation? Sure, vacation is fun, relaxing and exciting. Sure, there are beautiful places in the world to see and experience.

But would you really be willing to go to those places if you knew that God was not going with you as well? I wouldn't!

But thankfully this is not the case. Thankfully, there is no place on this earth we can go that God doesn't go as well. The Bible assures us:

“Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me.” - Psalm 139:7-10

“The eyes of the LORD are in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good.” - Proverbs 15:3

“And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.” - Hebrews 4:13

“teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” - Matthew 28:20

The Bible teaches us that God is everywhere! He is in the mountains in eastern Tennessee; He is on the road to Disney World in Florida; He is in a large city like New York; He is at the Grand Canyon; He will be with us in the Midwest when we go in a couple of months.

It is a comforting thought to know that God is faithful and goes with us everywhere we go. The more challenging question is: Will our faithfulness to God also go with us everywhere we go? Will our commitment to gather with other saints for worship, stand for truth, read our Bibles, and pray, also go with us on vacation? God will be with us, waiting and worthy, just as He was at home. But will we be faithful and true to Him while away from home?

I hope you have a great summer vacation. If you plan on traveling, be safe and have lots of fun. Remember that since God is the source of all your blessings, He deserves the same faithful attention from you when you are away that He gets when you are home.

~via *With God's Word*; Columbia, Tennessee.

How Does The Holy Spirit Lead?

Tommy Hagewood

The Holy Spirit leads the alien sinner to become a child of God (John 16:7-11). He also leads the Christian in living a godly life (Romans 8:14).

The question concerns how he leads. Does he lead individual sinners apart from the gospel by subjective feelings, urgings and experiences? Does He then lead Christians in similar ways apart from the written word? The answer to both questions is no!

In times past the Holy Spirit always spoke to the masses through selected individuals – the Old Testament prophets. In our time, He speaks to the masses through selected individuals – the New Testament apostles and prophets (Ephesians 3:1-5). Today, saints and sinners alike who are lead by the Holy Spirit are lead by the New Testament, God's written words as revealed by the Holy Spirit to the New Testament apostles and prophets (1 Corinthians 2:7-16). To say otherwise is to deny plain passages and to deny the all-sufficiency of the gospel (2 Peter 1:3; Romans 1:16). Such a view also denies Jesus' promise to His apostles that He would guide them into all truth (John 16:13). This false doctrine of personal guidance of the Holy Spirit apart from the written word also denies the apostles' claim that Jesus kept his promise to reveal all truth to them (cf. 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:3; Jude 3).

Those who claim a personal guidance of the Holy Spirit through their feelings, urges or experience can never find a passage to support their claim. Such people not only contradict the teaching of God's word, they also contradict each other, making the Holy Spirit speak out of both sides of His mouth telling one person one thing and another one something else. While many politicians of our time are skilled in such matters we must remember that it is impossible for God to lie and that he is not the author of division or confusion (1 Corinthians 1:10; 14:33).

The Holy Spirit is a speaking Spirit who always leads by His words (2 Samuel 23:2; Acts 1:16; 1 Timothy 4:1; Revelation 2:7,11,17,29; 3:6,13,22). He always revealed God's word to selected individuals only. It then became their task to make God's will be known to the masses by their speaking and by their writings. In the past through Noah (2 Peter 2:5; 1 Peter 3:18-20). Moses (John 1:17); the Prophets (Hebrews 1:1); Nehemiah 9:30; (2 Peter

Vacation Bible School

July 17-20, 2017 — 10:00 a.m.

1:21); John the Baptist (Luke 1:15; Mark 1:4; Luke 1:26,30). Now through the Apostles (John 14:26; 16:13; Mark 16:1; Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:1-4); in the written word (Ephesians 3:1-5; 1 Corinthians 14:37).

Acts 2 serves as a perfect example of such divine leadership of the Holy Spirit. He guided Peter to speak to the crowd. The Holy Spirit thus led the people through Him to believe and obey the gospel. After becoming God's in Christ, they continue to be lead by the Holy Spirit through the apostles' teaching (Acts 2:42).

~via *The Russellville Reminder*; Russellville, Alabama.

wrong (notice that Jesus said it left them "guiltless"). Jesus was simply pointing out the inconsistency of the Pharisees in this matter.

And so, we have here no justification for any 'situation ethics' type of reasoning. Jesus was not holding up David as a worthy example. He was not saying that the law can be broken under extreme circumstances. He was not justifying the disciples in a sinful deed. He was pointing out the hypocrisy of the religious leaders of His day. Learn the lesson!

~via *Collegevue Bulletin*; Columbia, Tennessee.



David and the Shewbread

Greg Gwin

Okay, let's try this one more time and see if we can get it straight. We continue to hear folks, even some Christians, who would like to use Jesus' reference to David and the shewbread as a justification for a kind of 'situation ethics' reasoning.

Do you remember the incident (Matthew 12:1-8)? On a Sabbath day the disciples had passed through a field and gathered some grain to eat. The old law allowed such gathering (it was not stealing). But the Pharisees criticized them as doing that which was "unlawful". Their complaint was about the 'work' involved in gathering the grain. While not forbidden by the law of Moses, the Jews had invented certain traditions which prohibited this.

In response to this criticism by the Pharisees, Jesus said: "Have ye not read what David did, when he was an hungered, and they that were with him; how he entered into the house of God, and did eat the shewbread, which was not lawful for him to eat, neither for them which were with him, but only for the priests?" (vs. 3,4). He went on to rebuke the Pharisees for "condemning the guiltless" (vs. 7).

The point here is clear. The Jews regarded David as their great national hero. In the matter of the shewbread, David sinned. (We must take Jesus at His word; David's deed was "not lawful".) The Pharisees overlooked this clearly sinful act. But, in the case of Jesus' disciples, they criticized something that was not

News & Notes

THE SICK:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Nancy Abernathy | Patsy Thomas |
| Doris Lovell | Cindy Glass |
| Don Osborne | Tracy Hodges |
| Linda Jones | Ashley Sims |
| Sara Ogles | Shaun Carruth |
| Ann Bush | Everette "Bud" Dollar |
| Wayne Gooch | Shelly Scruggs |

Updates:

Reba Byram fell this past week and is in the Athens Rehab and Senior Care for rehab... **Priscilla Tucker** is beginning her round of treatments. There will be 15 treatments.

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

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

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

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

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

- Reba Byram, rm. 93 Nelva Reed, rm. 61
- Helen Trousdale, rm. 43 Judith Groce, rm. 10-B
- Dorothy Draper, rm. 73 Oneal Martin, rm. 81
- Joyce Martin, rm. 73 Gayle Mills, rm. 15
- Matty Murray, rm. 2 Christine Hudson, rm. 77
- Valeria Dalton, rm. 7 Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
- Mable Crafts, rm. 39 Mildred Frantz, rm. 31

Shut-In or Away From Home:

- Robert Beasley, at Morningside, Decatur
- Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
- Wynell Casteel, at home
- Marjorie Dunning, 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.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Bradleys:* Steve and Marilyn are in Texas with family... *The Holts:* Larry Sheila, Griffin and Addison are in San Diego, California today... *Jim Whitt* has been in Louisiana this week with his work.

SERMON IN SONG: We will have our quarterly sermon in song on Wednesday night. We will be singing on the theme "*The Sacrifice of Jesus*". I hope that everyone will be able to be present for this service.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES: This past week was graduation week for the schools in Athens and Limestone county. We want to congratulate *Austin Hobson, Griffin Holt & Elizabeth Usery* for their accomplishments and their graduations. Elizabeth graduated from *Athens Bible School* on Tuesday night. Austin and Griffin graduated Thursday night from *West Limestone High School*. We wish the very best for them as they continue their education and may they continue to excel in all their endeavours for good.

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 May 21st

| | | |
|------------|-----------------------|-----|
| Sunday: | Bible Classes | 133 |
| | Morning Worship | 170 |
| | Evening Worship | 131 |
| Wednesday: | Bible Classes | 95 |

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, May 28th:

Morning Worship

- Announcements.....Keith Hinkle
- Song Leader Tyler Cox
- Prayer.....Jerry McGlocklin
- Preaching..... David Cox
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding.....Mike Ogles
- AssistingTommy Coblentz
- ServingMatthew Vaughn..... Terry Andrews
-Kenneth Adams..... Danny Holt
- Closing PrayerKeenon Currier

Evening Worship

- Announcements.....Keith Hinkle
- Song LeaderAshton Gatlin
- Prayer.....Landon Adams
- Preaching..... Song Service
- Lord's SupperMike Ogles
- Closing PrayerDan Reed

Other Assignments for Sunday, May 28th:

- Ushers..... Steve Usery/Larry Mitchell
- Work Sound System.....Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, May 31st:

- Song Leader Griffin Holt
- Bible Reading Colossians 2:8-19
- A. J. Price
- Prayer..... Marty Adams
- Invitation..... Joel Hamm
- Closing Prayer Arvid McGurire

Sunday, June 4th:

Morning Worship

- Announcements..... Steve Usery
- Song LeaderAshton Gatlin
- Prayer..... Larry Holt
- Preaching..... David Cox
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding.....Keith Hinkle
- AssistingDwayne Allfrey
- ServingDanny Johnson..... Marcus Morris
-Charles Vaughn..... Russ Wulfekuhl
- Closing Prayer James Johnson

Evening Worship

- Announcements..... Steve Usery
- Song Leader Joel Hamm
- Prayer..... A. J. Price
- Preaching..... David Cox
- Lord's SupperKeith Hinkle
- Closing PrayerKeenon Currier

Other Assignments for Sunday, June 4th:

- Ushers..... Larry Mitchell/Heath Dollar
- Work Sound System..... Marty Adams