

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

July 2, 2017

No. 27

Courage Through Confidence

Dee Bowman

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

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 233-5147
Tommy Coblenz..... (256) 232-3312
Jerry McGlocklin..... (256) 232-7620
Kenneth Smith..... (256) 777-6737
Bonnie Sutton (256) 232-2081

Deacons

Joel Hamm (256) 278-1977
Danny Holt (256) 206-2746
Larry Mitchell..... (256) 230-0185
Marcus Morris..... (256) 232-8871
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

The Philistines had gathered their armies against the people of God between Socoh and Azekah in the area of the valley of Elah. Only the narrow valley separated the two powers and a "fight of the finish" seemed to be imminent. The Philistines had chosen Goliath, a hulking mass of a man from Gath, to champion their cause. Periodically, the giant's booming voice could be heard echoing across the valley as he taunted the Israelites. "Choose you a man and let the two of us fight for the victory!" he screamed. "If he kills me, the Philistines will become the servants of the Israelites!" he bellows. But the men of Israel were afraid and shrank back in avoidance, weighing before in their minds the outcome of such an uneven conflict. No one in the entirety of the Israelite camp was obliged to accommodate the challenges of the Gathian giant.

David was a young, ruddy but handsome lad who was charged with "keeping the home fires burning." He had come to the Israelite camp to supply his older brothers with the things needed for the continuance of the fray. Hearing of the stalemate caused by the Philistine giant's challenge, he immediately, and with great courage, accepted the invitation to do battle for God. Armed with only a shepherd's sling and five smooth stones, he attacked and killed the taunting monster of a man.

David's confidence was apparent from the very beginning. Obviously, his courage was predicated on the immense faith he possessed that God was able to deliver him from the hand of the Philistine. And God did so.

Confidence in God is indispensable to accomplishing all that He has requested of us. Only when we are firmly convinced of His ability to deliver us can we courageously attack whatever powers are arrayed against us. Like David, we must put our total trust in Him and His way.

David is not the only one who showed such undaunted confidence in the assurances of God. This same abiding faith caused Noah to build the ark; caused Moses to lead the children of Israel away from Pharaoh and out of Egypt; caused Joshua and his people to defeat Jericho with obedience and a shout; caused kingdoms to be conquered; led to acts of

righteousness in the face of intense pressure; and ennobled the faithful in all ages. Confidence in the face of adversity. Courage gained for battle.

We need this kind of trusting faith in God today. The battle forces of evil are advancing at an alarming pace and sadly, many shrink back at the giant of ungodliness as he openly thumbs his nose at truth and holiness, and the people of God who practice such. If we aren't careful we turn away rather than face the powers of evil—even in our own lives. We're afraid of the giant! Why? A lack of confidence in the promises of God, that's why. And when I say that I don't mean merely giving intellectual acquiescence to the fact that God exists—we will admit that—but do we have faith in His promises? Confidence in God means believing all that He has said.

God will punish evil and reward good. Do we believe that? We must have a confident expectation of the coming judgment. And though some may taunt and ask, as in II Peter 3, “where is the promise of his coming?... for all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation,” we must remember that “God is not slack concerning His promise..” (verse 9) and “the day of the Lord will come,” (verse 10). Only faith in God can give us confidence when the judgment day comes.

David believed in the delivering power of God. He took his faith in God and the talent God had given him, along with the tools he possessed and went out to fight and ultimately to gain the victory.

We all have our giants to face, our difficulties that confront us. But we have the power to overcome. Only when we are confident that “God is” and that He “will reward those who diligently seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6) will we find the courage to overcome sin and its obstacles and the various huge enemies we face in life.

Let us lay aside our doubts. Let us cast out our fear. Let us put aside our hesitations and every dubiety which might inhibit our efforts. Let us say boldly—and with confidence—“the Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what men shall do to me” (Hebrews 13:6), and “let us come boldly to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:16).

~via *The Rockville Bulletin*; Fairfield, Callifornia.

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Discipleship and Self-Denial

Gary Henry

“Then Jesus said to His disciples, ‘If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me,’” (Matthew 16:24). Self-denial is a difficult discipline, to be sure, but it is one of life's most important virtues. If we wish to become “disciples” in any serious sense, then we must learn to deny ourselves, take up our crosses, and follow Christ.

One reason that we find self-denial so difficult is that it goes against the grain of our culture. The social environment in which we live is increasingly dominated by self-affirmation rather than self-denial. This ethic comes through loud and clear in the lyrics of our popular music. For example, a hit by one of the most powerful pop stars of the past decade tells us, “You've got to do what you've got to do.” Another song, this one even by an artist known for his spirituality, says, “You've got to do it in your own way.”

What is wrong with this philosophy? It is certainly true that when tough personal decisions have to be made, we have to have the courage to act on our own convictions. When we've asked for God's wisdom, consulted the scriptures, analyzed a decision from every angle, and considered the advice of others, the time comes when we have to make up our own minds. Integrity requires that we do what we believe is right, even if this conflicts with the collective judgment of everybody we know. But the philosophy of self-affirmation advocates far more than the simple following of conscience. Instead, when we're told that “you've got to do what you've got to do,” it's understood that what we've “got to do” is whatever we want to do. One of the scariest statements I have ever heard illustrates this ethic. The remark came from an up-to-date friend who said with evident satisfaction, “It feels so good at this point in my life finally to have the courage to do what I want to do and not what anybody else says I ought to do.” In our culture, “want” trumps “ought” every time.

As “self-actualized” people, then, it is hard for us to learn self-denial. We do not find it easy to yield to God when what we want is on a collision course with His standards of what is right. Yet self-denial is what we must learn. Somehow we must recover the old-fashioned virtue of **sacrifice**—the willingness to let go of everything except what pleases God and advances His glory.

“We tend to be devoted, not to Jesus Christ, but to the things which allow us more spiritual freedom than total surrender to Him would allow,” – Oswald Chambers.

~via *His Workmanship at Westside*; Golden, Colorado.



Paul's Mother

Steve Fontenot

Greet Rufus, a choice man in the Lord, also his mother and mine” (Romans 16:13 - NASB). Paul is the author of this letter. Is this Paul's mother in the flesh, or in spirit (i.e., had enjoyed maternal care from her in some way)?

We know hardly anything of Paul's family except that his father was a Pharisee (Acts 23:6). Paul was reared and learned in the Hebrew religion (Acts 22:3, Galatians 1:14, Philippians 3:5). Unless he was raised by other relatives, this points to his parents (or one of them if the other had passed away) being strong devotees to the strict Jewish religion triumphed by Pharisees. The woman in the text was a Christian and was living in Rome.

If this is Paul's fleshly mother, this is the only mention of her in all his epistles, and it is but an allusion. If this is his fleshly mother and she was now a Christian, it seems all the more strange that he would but make a passing reference to her and also mention her as the mother of Rufus first.

It seems more probable (and most, if not all, commentators take this view) that Paul calls her his “mother” because of her motherly care in some way expressed toward him (cf. Mark 10:30; Judges 5:7).

~via *College View Family Report*; Florence, Alabama.

**The Market Street
church of Christ Website at:
MarketStreet-church.com**

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Nikki Ogles	Ross Melvin
Loretta Warner	Doris Lovell
Patsy Thomas	Cindy Glass
Linda Jones	Ashley Sims
Sara Ogles	Shaun Carruth
Shelly Scruggs	Wayne Gooch
Ann Bush	Everette “Bud” Dollar

Updates:

Betty Harrison fell and broke her arm recently and is not able to drive and be out ... **Ross Melvin** has been sick with bacterial pneumonia ... **Betty Pepper** had some oral surgery this past week ... **Patsy Thomas** had arthroscopic knee surgery on Friday ... **Donna Wright** will be having a heart valve replacement upcoming soon. Keep her in your prayers... **Kaleigh Conn** was born with a hole in her heart. The doctors had hoped that it would correct itself. In recent tests, they have determined that something will need to be done for her. She is going to the doctor in Birmingham for this in August. Keep her in your prayers... **Priscilla Tucker** had another treatment on Thursday. Prayer that the treatments will be effective.

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

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

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Anna Price; Huntsville Hospital; NICU
Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Reba Byram, rm. 64	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

Limestone Health Facility:

Opal Conn, rm. 117

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Robert & Mot Beasley, at Riverside Sr. Living, 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.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to **Irene Putman** and *all the family* in the passing of Irene's aunt, *Lucy Fudge Waller*. She passed about last weekend and her funeral was Monday in Nashville.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Bradleys: Steve and Marilyn* are in Texas with family... *The Userys: Allison, Christian, Elizabeth & Matthew* have been in Orlando, Florida this week... *The Coxes: David, Kerry and Hunter* and **Heather Hammonds** are in Bridgetown, Barbados working with the church there in gospel meeting and VBS work.

PLACED MEMBERSHIP: We are rejoicing over **Roger and Wendy Hammonds** and **Donna Wright** expressing their desire to be members of the church here at Market Street. We are thankful for them and look forward to our working together with them. Let's extend a warm welcome to them. They will be in *Work Group 2*.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of June 25th

Sunday:	Bible Classes	130
	Morning Worship	164
	Evening Worship	120



July 17 – 20, 2017
 (Monday through Thursday)
 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

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

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, July 2nd:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader	Tyler Cox
Prayer.....	Dwaine Allfrey
Preaching.....	Joel Hamm
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Keith Hinkle
Assisting	Harvey Nixon
Serving	Russ Wulfekuhl
	Kenneth Adams
	Nathaniel Adams.....
	Ashton Gatlin
Closing Prayer	Keenon Currier

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Prayer.....	A. J. Price
Preaching.....	Warren Glass
Lord's Supper	Keith Hinkle
Closing Prayer	Steve Usery

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 2nd:

Ushers.....	Heath Dollar/Marvin Putoman
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews

Wednesday, June 5th:

Song Leader	Griffin Holt
Bible Reading	Colossians 4:1-9
	Joy Warner
Prayer.....	Landon Adams
Invitation.....	Mike Ogles
Closing Prayer	Nathaniel Adams

Sunday, July 9th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Marty R. Adams
Song Leader	Ashton Gatlin
Prayer.....	Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching.....	A. J. Price
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Mike Ogles
Assisting	Terry Andrews
Serving	Danny Johnson.....
	Matthew Vaughn
	Charles Vaughn
	Landon Adams
Closing Prayer	Dan Reed

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Marty R. Adams
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Larry Holt
Preaching.....	Buc Chumbley
Lord's Supper	Mike Ogles
Closing Prayer	Danny Holt

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 9th:

Ushers.....	Larry Mitchell/Heath Dollar
Work Sound System.....	Nathaniel Adams