

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

August 6, 2017

No. 32

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
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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

The Strong Heart Is Not Callous

Gary Henry

"I am weary with my groaning; all night I make my bed swim; I drench my couch with my tears," (Psalm 6:6).

If we think the strong don't feel pain, we know little of what strength is. Soldiers know that courage is not the absence of fear, but fortitude in the face of fear. The truly strong understand that strength is not the absence of pain, but nobility in the face of pain. The truly strong deeply experience pain without giving up either their reverence or their gratitude. They remain honorable, doing their duty despite pain and fear. Rather than going around pain, strong people go through it. There is no shortcut to any place worth going to.

We usually think of "skill" as the ability to do difficult things. If because of natural talent a person finds himself easily able to do things that are difficult for other people, that may be somewhat remarkable. But how much more remarkable it is when someone has the drive and the discipline to do things that he himself finds difficult. In a similar way, it would be no great accomplishment for a person to bear an emotional pain that he didn't really feel. But those who open their hearts and feel the pain this world can inflict, still maintaining a gracious respect and gratitude toward God—those are the ones with godly strength, Luke 23:34, 47! When we're suffering, friends may remind us that God's intent is not to shield us from all pain, but to strengthen us so that we can deal with the pain in His right way. Do we really believe that? Perhaps what we believe is something slightly different: that God will help us find a kind of "strength" that will anesthetize us so that we won't feel the pain quite so much. Perhaps we don't really trust God to comfort us or help us to acquire real strength, the kind that protects us without deadening our hearts and rendering us unable to feel what we need to feel, cf. 2 Corinthians 1: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, Who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

The immense spiritual strength that Jesus demonstrated did not in-

volve anesthesias. He refused anything to diminish His pain: "They gave Him sour wine mingled with gall to drink. But when He had tasted it, He would not drink," (Matthew 27:34).

He not only felt the full range of emotions that are the lot of humanity, but He felt them vividly and intensely. Let us aspire to a strength that is no less alive. Genuine discipleship to the Son of Man will not turn us into unfeeling robots. It will teach us to feel what God feels. God makes our hearts tender when we enter into His covenant, because our hearts are "circumcised (cut) with the circumcision not made with hands," (Colossians 2:11-12, Philippians 3:3,10; Deuteronomy 10:16;30:6; Romans 2:29). We weep as He wept. "We are healed of a suffering only by experiencing it to the full." —Marcel Proust

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



Led By The Spirit

Mark W. White

No good Bible student denies that Christians are "led by the Spirit." Galatians 5:18 affirms this great truth. But is this "leading" direct, supernatural, and miraculous? May Christians expect that the Holy Spirit will personally lead them in their decisions and thoughts? Many Pentecostals believe this. Some Christians of my acquaintance have accepted this idea. Years ago, an old Arkansas brother argued with me that whenever he needed to know the truth, he prayed and God sent the Holy Spirit to illuminate his understanding. With such a view, he was never wrong about any conclusion he drew (or so he averred.)

Consider the way in which the idea of "God leading" people to do this or that is used in Scripture. Psalm 106:9 indicates that God "led them through the depths (of the Red Sea) as through the wilderness." However, Psalm 77:20 shows "You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron." Isaiah's record of this event is revealing, too. God "led them by the right hand of Moses, with His glorious arm, dividing the water before them ..." (Isaiah 63:12). We can conclude from these passages that God led Israel through the Red Sea "by the hand of Moses." He did not directly lead them,

but utilized Moses as His agent.

Christians today are "led by the Spirit" when they heed the Spirit's teaching in the Word He has given. We are "walking in the Spirit" and "led by the Spirit" when we obey the Spirit's teaching. We "walk in the truth" revealed by the Holy Spirit (1 John 2:3- 6; 2 John 4).

It is not possible for someone to claim they are being led by the Spirit when they are disobeying God's Word—the Bible. God says, "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go. I will guide you with My eye." (Psalm 32:8) But how does God do this? "You will guide me with Your counsel" (Psalm 73:24). God's counsel is His Word! "Your testimonies are my delight and my counselors" (Psalm 119:24). There is simply no way for modern men to get around the guidance of the Word of God and claim some supernatural, miraculous leading from the Holy Spirit.

The only means of being led by the Spirit is to walk in the truth, and the truth is the Word of God (John 17:17).

~via *Cyfair Family Notes & News*; Cypress, Texas.



Is It Well With You?

Ron Mosby

Paul wrote to Timothy that "godliness with contentment is great gain...If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content" – 1 Timothy 6:6, 8. We are further exhorted in Hebrews 13:5 to "keep our lives free from the love of money, and to be with what we have."

A perfect example of godliness with contentment is found in the account of Elisha and the woman at Shunem – 2 Kings 4:8-37. The record says she was a prominent woman and apparently a godly woman because she recognized Elisha as a holy man of God. She and her husband extended their hospitality to Elisha as often as he passed by and persuaded him to stop and eat bread at their house. They further extended hospitality by making a little walled upper chamber for him with a bed, a table, a chair and a lampstand, that when he passed by he could turn in and rest. The walled upper chamber would allow him to come and go freely without

having to join in with their family life each time he passed that way.

Elisha appreciated her kind hospitality and wanted to repay her in some way. He had Gehazi call the Shunammite woman who came and stood before Gehazi who acted as a go-between for her and Elisha. Elisha offered to speak to the king or the captain of the army in her behalf. She just answered in effect, no thank you, "I dwell among my own people." This illustrates the contentment of this great and godly woman. Had she been a covetous person, she might have read off a list of things she already had formulated in her own mind. She did not.

When Elisha asked Gehazi for a suggestion to repay her kindness, he said, "Truly, she has no son and her husband is old." Gehazi called her back and Elisha said to her, "At this season, about this time next year, you will embrace a son." The woman was so taken aback she said in effect, "Since you are a holy man of God, surely you would not deceive me about this would you?" Elisha did not deceive her. The child was born and the context suggests he had grown probably to the age of four or five years old because he was old enough to go out in the field with his father, but young enough for a servant to carry him back to his mother when he had become ill (maybe with a sun stroke, we are not told). The child sat on his mother's lap until noon and then died! The woman became bitterly troubled. She took her son's body to Elisha's room since it was he who had promised the miracle birth of her only child.

When her husband questioned her wanting to find Elisha at this odd time since it was not a feast day or the Sabbath day, her answer here is significant. She said, "It will be well," (with probable reference to the child). When Elisha saw her coming, and not knowing of the child's death, he sent Gehazi to ask her three questions: "Is it well with you? Is it well with your husband? Is it well with the child?" Again, her answer here is significant. She merely said, "It is well."

The story has a happy ending, but there are always lessons we can glean: You may have to learn to smile through pain and tears, but it will always be well and great gain for the godly who learn contentment. But, it will always be ill for the wicked who will get what they deserve in the end. Isaiah 3:11; Matthew 25:24-30; Romans 6:21.

Gentle reader, how is it with you and me? Is it well with my soul? Am I a godly one with contentment? Are you a godly one having learned contentment in this

life? If so, it will always be well with your soul!

~via *Sloutside Sunday*; Pasadena, Texas.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Mitzi Carruth
Doris Lovell
Cindy Glass
Ashley Sims
Wayne Gooch

Freddie Mae Elmore
Patsy Thomas
Linda Jones
Ann Bush

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	Everette "Bud" Dollar

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 61	Helen Trousdale, rm. 43
Dorothy Draper, rm. 73	Oneal Martin, rm. 81
Joyce Martin, rm. 73	Mable Crafts, rm. 39
Matty Murray, rm. 2	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36

Limestone Health Facility:

Jane Meredith, rm. Gilbert Hardy, rm. 115

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Robert & Mot Beasley, at Riverside Sr. Living, Decatur
Gwen Bullock, at granddaugther'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
Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

Updates:

Freddie Mae Elmore continues to recover from her pneumonia... **Paul Adcock** received a good report from the scans done on Wednesday. He will further tests...

Donna Wright had a PET scan done on Wednesday. She is scheduled for open heart surgery to replace the aortic valve on August 15th at Huntsville Hospital... **Opal Conn** is home from her rehabilitation ... **Essie Hardison** is going home from rehabilitation today ... **Arvid McGuire** was able to be back a Bible study Wednesday night after falling last week... **Patsy Thomas** has been having trouble with her blood pressure recently... **Sherry Davis' uncle, James Davis**, was critically injured in a water accident this week and in critical condition in a Michigan hospital... **Kaleigh Conn** is scheduled for surgery in August in Birmingham to repair the hole in her heart... **Priscilla Tucker** did not have a treatment this week and will not the next one until next week.

WORK GROUPS: Work Group One will be meeting this evening after our evening service. If you are in group one, remember to meet with your group tonight.

OUTOFTOWN: **Jim Whitt** has been out of town with his work this week in Seattle, Washington... **Harvey Nixon** is out of town this week... **Sherry Davis** is in Michigan this week with her uncle that is in critical condition... **The Rogers: Mark, Kim & Peyton** are in Vernon this weekend visiting with family.

SINGINGS: The **Weatherly Heights church** in Huntsville will be having their annual singing on Friday night, August 11th. **Jackie Bradford, John Kilgore and Tim Stevens** will be leading the singing... The **Cartwright church** will be having their annual singing on Saturday night, August 12th. **Tim Stevens, Scott Richards, & Jeff Warnke** will be leading the singing.

THE CHUMBLEYS: The Chumbley family will be with us tonight for our evening service. They will not need help unloading as originally thought tonight. In two weeks they will make their final move and will need help then.

Buc will preaching for our service this evening, I hope that everyone will be able to be present.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The **Oakland church** is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The speaker in this meeting will be **Greg Chandler**.

SINGING AT NURSING HOME: Remember the singing at **Athens Rehab & Senior Care** on Tuesday evening at 5:30.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of July 30th

Sunday:	Bible Classes	118
	Morning Worship	152
	Evening Worship	130
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	92

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, August 6th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Ashton Gatlin
Prayer.....	Hunter Cox
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Kenneth Smith
Assisting	Mike Ogles
Serving	Nathaniel Adams... Marvin Putman
	Tommy Burns..... James Johnson
Closing Prayer	Keenon Currier

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Griffin Holt
Prayer.....	Keith Hinkle
Preaching.....	Buc Chumbley
Lord's Supper	Kenneth Smith
Closing Prayer	Arvid McGuire

Other Assignments for Sunday, August 6th:

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

Wednesday, August 9th:

Song Leader	Larry Holt
Bible Reading	1 Thessalonians 2:10-20
	Keenon Currier
Prayer.....	Ashton Gatlin
Invitation.....	A.J. Price
Closing Prayer	Steve Usery

Sunday, August 13th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Larry Holt
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Joel Hamm
Assisting	Marcus Morris
Serving	Danny Holt Christian Usery
	Tony Thomas Kenneth Adams
Closing Prayer	Keenon Currier

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Griffin Holt
Prayer.....	Tommy Coblenz
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer	Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, August 13th:

Ushers.....	Marvin Putman/Danny Johnson
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews