

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

October 15, 2017

No. 42

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 Coblentz..... (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

Evangelists

Buc Chumbley (256) 777-1065
David A. Cox..... (256) 233-8910
Cell: (256) 614-3757

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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

Gospel Meeting
October 15-18, 2017
Sunday: 9:45 a.m.; 10:30 a.m., & 5:00 p.m.
Monday — Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Speaker : Dee Bowman
of Pasadena, Texas

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CHURCH OF CHRIST**
514 West Market Street
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256-232-1525

Who Was That Masked Man?

Dee Bowman

When I was a kid we played outside a lot. We played games, games like Cowboys and Indians and Cowboys and Outlaws. The Cowboys always won. We'd strap on our guns and don our big hats and suddenly we were Cowboys. If we were the Indians, we'd put on a headband of some sort and stick a turkey feather in it and viola! we were Chief Red Fox or somebody. We called the game "p'like," a shortened form of play-like. It was fun. You could be whoever you wanted to be. If you wanted to be a Cowboy, you had to scream at the cattle and sing a dogie song, and you had to beat up the Outlaws with your bare fists. If you wanted to be an Indian, you rode a stick horse that had no saddle and learned to scream blood-curdling screams. It was all a matter of dressing the part, saying the right things, and playing the role.

Few things are more repugnant than hypocrisy. And yet it reaches into everyone's life at some time or the other. We almost always assign hypocrisy to the other fellow, but if we're honest, we'll all admit to having

played the hypocrite at some time in our lives.

A hypocrite is one who merely plays a part. He's an actor. In fact, the word came to us from a Greek term that originally described a thespian, a person who played different roles by wearing a mask. One person might play several roles; and he did so by merely changing his mask. Sounds somewhat like our idiom two-faced, doesn't it?

Jesus dealt with hypocrites in a firm way. In fact, it seems from a perusal of the Scriptures that He was more turned off by hypocrisy than by almost any other sin. The Pharisees practiced the art of hypocrisy with great skill. They had learned their lines well.

The Pharisees did their charitable deeds "to be seen of men" (Read Matthew 6). They were wont to herald the action by having a trumpet sound when they came to do their charity. What a sad sight! True philanthropy is mostly done in secret and is for the benefit of the recipient rather than the giver. The kind of charity Jesus recommends is the kind that is so obscure that even the left hand doesn't not know what the right hand is doing. There is no place in the church for feigned liberality.

And when they prayed, they emoted lines – memorized parts, if you please. They made grand speeches in their prayers and gave great utterances calculated to show their "piety" and "righteousness." They spoke in grand, swelling terms and took great care to make rounded tones, enunciate words, and inflect the language carefully. Only one problem: it was not real. In reality, they had little piety and even less righteousness. It was all a show.

When the Pharisees observed a fast, they disfigured their faces and made contortions to show (note the word) to men that what they were doing took great discipline. Actually, they just put on make-up. The whole act was a show. It was not real worship in which they dedicated themselves truly to God. They wanted others to see them do what they did, that's all.

What about our worship? Do we do what we do so as "to be seen of men"? When we pray is our prayer intended to help all of us reach out to God, or is it for the approval of those who hear the prayer? Do we sing so that someone might be impressed with our ability to sing in tune or blend perfectly; or do we sing our songs so that God is glorified and men are taught and edified? And when we make a comment, is it calculated to contribute something to someone's understanding or to prove to someone how "spiritual" and highly educated

we are? We best be careful, folks.

How can we guard against hypocrisy? Let each man examine his heart. Motive is a vital part of worship. "Walk prudently when you go to the house of God," said Solomon, "and be more ready to hear than to give the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they do evil" (Ecclesiastes 5:1-ff). We can just give lip service – and that's a "sacrifice of fools." If we don't come to the house of God with the desire of heart to laud and glorify our Father, we end up just going through the motions – and that's a sacrifice of fools. We can repeat what we do so often and for so long that we even forget the reasons for doing it ("for they do not know that they do evil") – and that's the sacrifice of fools as well.

Let each man look up. Up toward God, not out toward man. We look to please God. And if I please God and you please God, we will be pleasing to one another. But it starts with a desire to be right with Him, to accord to Him the praise and honor He rightfully deserves. He is the object of our worship and we need to remember not to look down, not to look around, not to look over to one side or the other, but to look up toward God. He is our object.

Let each man remember Who He Is. We are mortal. We have all sinned. We must be more cognizant of our dependence on God. No matter how much I impress you with my look of sanctity, I have, by doing so, done nothing to secure my salvation or to broaden my hope. We must remember that God is on His throne and in order to please Him we must point our worship to Him where He is. We have no time to waste impressing one another; we must make sure He is impressed with us, with our devotion, our filial feelings of love, as well as our total dedication. Any less will not do. We owe Him the best we have to offer because of Who He Is.

There is no place in the kingdom for masks. There is no place for make-up or costumes. There is no place for memorized lines and staged entrances and exits. There is only room for honest hearts. That's all.

~via *Southside Bulletin*; Pasadena, Texas.

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Come Join Us As We Study Together

Be An Enabler

Rick Liggin

In the field of civil law, there are sometimes people who “aid and abet” criminals, and there are also those who “contribute to the delinquency of a minor.” To do either of these is against the law, and those who do it become criminals themselves. In the field of psychology, there are sometimes people who are identified as “enablers,” because they enable others (often their own loved ones) to be involved in addictive behavior. “Enablers” are not necessarily people who would themselves participate in the addictive conduct; they may actually even oppose it. But by their actions they make it easy for the addict to continue in his addiction.

In spiritual matters, we also unfortunately have people who “aid and abet” evildoers, or who “contribute to the delinquency” of sinners, or who become “enablers” of those who are doing wrong! Now, you might be thinking of those who practice deeds that are “worthy of death,” while also giving “heartily approval” to those who practice “such things” (Romans 1:32). But these are not the “enablers” we are talking about. The “enablers” we are talking about would not practice the sins that they “aid and abet.” In fact, they would oppose and carefully avoid such practices in their own lives. And yet, they enable others (especially when the “others” are their own family or loved ones) to practice sinful behavior. How does that happen? In what way do they “aid and abet” evildoers or “enable” those who are given to sin

Often, it is done by downplaying the person’s sin or by even offering excuses for the “poor helpless sinner.” More often than not, they enable sinners by their silence. Instead of lovingly confronting the sinner (Matt. 18:15) and exposing his crime (Eph. 5:11), they ignore the sin and pretend it isn’t really happening. Even worse, they hamper the local church’s efforts to correct the sinner by continuing to socialize and associate with the one who has been collectively disciplined by the group (1 Cor. 5:1-13). When will we learn that this does not help the sinner to correct his ways? It only enables him to continue in his evil deeds!

Don’t you dare be an “enabler” of sin! Don’t you dare “contribute to the delinquency” of one who is caught up in a trespass or “aid and abet” a sinner in the error of his way! Instead, be an encourager and “enabler” of that which is good, even if it means you must confront and oppose someone you love. If you really love someone in

sin, you will not enable him to continue in the error of his way; you will, instead, do whatever you can to turn him back to God...to “save his soul from death” and to “cover a multitude of sins” (James 5:19-20).

~via *Think On These Things*; Cortland, Illinois.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Barbara Allfrey	JoAnn Gilbert
Patsy Thomas	Doris Lovell
Ann Bush	Wayne Gooch
Linda Jones	Cindy Glass

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Joe Leopard	Irene Inman
Janice Cagle	Jeanette Weir
Priscilla Tucker	Bobby McLemore
Jenny Pickens	Ella Melvin
Phillip Christopher	Everette “Bud” Dollar
Linda Ordonez	Wayne Wooldridge
Cindy Walker	Brittany Bates Carter
Gene Carpenter	Charles Burns
Betty Christopher	Una King Currier
Al Pollard	Ava Brooke Campbell
Elizabeth Howard	Matt Poff

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

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

Limestone Health Facility:

Bobbie Adcock, rm. 112-A

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Robert & Mot Beasley, at Riverside Sr. Living, Decatur
Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter’s in Huntsville
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:

Ann McLemore has been dealing an infection and has unable to be at services ... *William Thomas* is in the Ardmore Health & Rehab ... *JoAnn Gilbert* has had an open wound vac. on the knee that she had surgery

on. She is to go back to the doctor on Tuesday of this week ... **Steve Usery's sister, Deela Hicklin**, had surgery this week in Huntsville and has had complications ... **Adrian Maynard**, a preacher for the Hindsbury Rd. church in Barbados, is scheduled for surgery for the tumor on his back on October 25th.

AWAY AT SCHOOL: Remember our young people that are away in college:

Brettlyn Currier, at Auburn University
Keenon Currier, at the University of Alabama
Austin Hobson, at the University of North Alabama
Griffin Holt, at the University of Alabama
Drew Ogles, at Auburn University
Christian Usery, at LaGrange College
Elizabeth Usery, at Mississippi State University.

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

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to **Cornelia Pepper** and *all the family* in the passing of Cornelia's aunt, **Dean Meadows**. Her funeral and visitation will be Tuesday at Limesone Chapel.

OUT OF TOWN: **The Bradleys:** *Steve and Marilyn* are in Texas ... **The Whites:** *Jason, Joy, Addison, Mason & Dawson* have been in Orlando, Florida... **The Burns:** *Tommy & Susan* are on a cruise this week.

OUR GOSPEL MEETING: Today we are beginning our gospel meeting with **Dee Bowman** preaching. We will meet at our regular times today and will meet Monday through Wednesday at 7:00p.m. It is good to have Dee and Norma with us again. Dee will do an excellent job of opening the scriptures and teaching us things that will help us get to heaven. I hope that everyone will make their plans to be at every service. The songleaders will be Monday night - *Joel Hamm*; Tuesday night - *Tyler Cox*; & Wednesday night - *Larry Holt*.

CONFESSION: Last Sunday morning, **Sherry Davis** came forward stating that she was struggling in doing the things that a Christian ought to be doing. She asked for prayers for her strength that she desires to have to please God. It is good to see people like Sherry who have good hearts and desire to please the Lord in all things. May we all encourage Sherry as she has and will encourage us.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for the week of Oct. 8th*

Sunday: Bible Classes 133
Morning Worship 165
Evening Worship 119
Wednesday: Bible Classes 103

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, October 15th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
Song Leader Ashton Gatlin
Prayer..... Dwaine Allfrey
Preaching..... Dee Bowman
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Harvey Nixon
Assisting Larry Holt
Serving Steve Usery..... Matthew Vaughn
..... A. J. Price..... Marvin Putman
Closing Prayer Mike Ogles

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer..... Keith Hinkle
Preaching..... Dee Bowman
Lord's Supper Harvey Nixon
Closing Prayer Dan Reed

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 15th:

Ushers..... Marcus Morris/Tommy Coblentz
Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, October 18th:

Song Leader Larry Holt
Bible Reading No Reading
.....
Prayer..... Tommy Coblentz
Invitation..... Dee Bowman
Closing Prayer Marcus Morris

Sunday, October 22nd:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader Tyler Cox
Prayer..... Hunter Cox
Preaching..... Buc Chumbley
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Marty Adams
Assisting Terry Andrews
Serving Russ Wulfekuhl David Terry
..... Nathaniel Adams... Kenneth Adams
Closing Prayer Keith Hinkle

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer..... A. J. Price
Preaching..... Song Service
Lord's Supper Terry Andrews
Closing Prayer Larry Holt

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 22nd:

Ushers..... Steve Bradley/Steve Usery
Work Sound System..... Landon Adams