

# 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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No. 49

### Schedule of Services

#### Sunday

Bible Classes..... 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship..... 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship..... 4:00 p.m.

#### Wednesday

Bible Classes..... 7:00 p.m.

### Elders

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 503-8843  
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

### Evangelists

Buc Chumbley ..... (256) 777-1065  
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*

## *What Sin Really Looks Like*

**Jim Jonas**

It can be reasonably inferred that when David saw Bathsheba bathing on her rooftop and he was fully in the throes of lust, he did not foresee the anguish that lay ahead: pregnancy, panic, scheming, murder of a loyal defender, death of a child, years of family strife and rebellion – and ultimately the loss of fellowship with God by his sin.

We might also infer that when Peter and Barnabas shunned Gentile brethren in Antioch, they did not fully grasp the seeds of division they were sowing. Perhaps not until Paul “withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed” (Galatians 2:1) did it fully dawn on Peter what he had done.

When sin is still in the temptation stage it appears harmless, desirable, maybe even beneficial. As he appeals to our selfish desires, Satan blinds our minds to the true nature of transgression (cf. 2 Corinthians 4:4). So, effectively resisting temptation involves taking a wider view, looking ahead to where our behavior will lead. What can help us take this wider view?

First, it helps to be honest about our own past experiences. How many times have we succumbed to temptation only to find that sin either made the issue worse or brought new, unforeseen troubles? Even if our sin is not detected by others, we have to deal with our own conscience. We know we did wrong, and that knowledge by itself often ruins whatever advantage we thought sin would gain. Before David accepted responsibility for his transgression he said, “When I kept silent, my bones grew old through my groaning all the day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my vitality was turned into the drought of summer” (Psalm 32:3-4). The weight of guilt is heavy; it withers our soul.

Second, as Moses warned the trans-Jordan tribes about their responsibility to help conquer Canaan, “But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the Lord; and be sure your sin will find you out” (Numbers 32:23). One of temptation’s biggest enticements – and falsehoods – is that our sins will remain secret. Of course, this ignores the obvious truth that God is always aware of our behavior. While we know

this intellectually, our feelings trump reason, and we only think about hiding our actions from our fellow man. But isn't it uncanny how often our sins are discovered, even when we thought we covered our tracks? And when caught, our knee-jerk reaction is to lie. Lying nearly always magnifies the original offense, yet we see people do it over and over again. Lesson to self: Getting caught in sin is always shameful, but lying about it reveals we aren't really sorry and our character is still defiled.

Third, while sin is devastating to the perpetrator, it has a ripple effect throughout society. "I'm not hurting anybody" is often disproven by a devastated spouse, neglected children, shamed parents, a grieving church, perhaps even compounded by criminal elements. Sin hurts everyone. If we could only pause and think, "Who am I going to hurt by my sin, and is it worth it?" Sin is often a manifestation that we really don't love others. If we did, why would we hurt them so badly?

If we are not circumspect, then "when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death. Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren" (James 1:15-16).

~via *The Melrose Memos*; Richardson, Texas..



## *Something Greater Than Solomon Is Here*

**Shawn Jeffries**

Solomon is one of the more intriguing people to study in the Bible. He was born to King David through Bathsheba. Since he was a man of peace, once he became king, God would use him to build His temple (1 Chronicles 22:8-10). He was a very wise man. In fact, Solomon's wisdom was so great that people from all over the world would come and ask him difficult questions (1 Kings 10). A great example of his wise judgment is found in 1 Kings 3:16-28.

Solomon was also an extremely wealthy man (2 Chronicles 1:17). He had much gold, silver, and many palaces, and chariots. He also had 700 wives and 300 concubines. Unfortunately, it would be many of his wives

who would lead him away from God (1 Kings 11:3-6).

Solomon is said to have told over 3,000 proverbs. A proverb is a wise saying or precept. Many of them are found in the book of Proverbs. Proverbs is a great book with much practical wisdom that can help people of any generation. It contains wisdom about parenting (13:24; 19:18), avoiding debt (22:7), how to pick good friends (17:17), the dangers of alcohol (23:29-35), and a host of other things. When reading Proverbs, it is always important to remember that the source of Solomon's great wisdom was God. Like all of the other great Bible writers, the things written by Solomon in the Proverbs were written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

While Solomon was indeed a great man who did much good in the cause of God, it is important to note that "something greater than Solomon is here." These words were spoken by Jesus in Matthew 12:42 to the scribes and Pharisees while rebuking them for rejecting His wonderful work. With this statement, Jesus is expressing frustration because the Queen of the South traveled a great distance to hear Solomon's great wisdom, but they had the Messiah right there in front of them and they constantly rejected Him. The Queen of the South knew there was something special about Solomon. Many of the scribes and Pharisees intentionally failed to see that in Jesus.

What makes Jesus "greater than Solomon?"

- Solomon was wise, but Jesus is the source from which all wisdom flows. He was the full embodiment of God's word (John 1:1). He contained perfect knowledge of the will of God because He came from God.
- Solomon was a man of peace, but Jesus is the "Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6). He is the source of peace between God and men (Romans 5:10). He is the King over a spiritual kingdom that doesn't fight with guns and swords, but with the "the gospel of peace" (Ephesians 6:15).
- Solomon was led away from God through his many wives, but Jesus always remained true and faithful to God. He was perfectly holy and sinless (1 Peter 2:21-22). He was determined to do the will of God no matter what obstacles came His way (Matthew 4:1-11; 26:39).

Unfortunately, many of the religious leaders in the first century failed to see the contrasts that existed between Jesus and Solomon. What about you? Do you see them? If so, will you allow them to change your life?

It would be a shame if we read and applied the teaching of Proverbs but rejected the words of the gospel because with Jesus, "something greater than Solomon is here."

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



## *Denying God Secretly*

**Rick Liggin**

For most people, it seems like faith just sort of happens (or doesn't). In other words, they have faith (or don't), but they don't really know why. To them it's a feeling, something they've just always known was for them, or it just seems right, something they can't imagine being without (or for some, it's not).

Bible faith is way more than this. Bible faith involves...

- Thinking: "...think on these things" Philippians 4:8
- Reasoning: "...he reasoned" Acts 17:2
- Reading: "...have you not read" Matthew 12:3
- Understanding: "do you understand" Acts 8:30
- Trusting: "Abraham... went" Hebrews 11:8

True faith doesn't just somehow happen, we have to fully participate.

### **Reasonable Faith**

Faith has always been word-based, whether coming directly from God (i.e., speaking directly to Adam and Eve or Moses), or through a messenger (i.e., an angel or a prophet). True faith is a response to communication from God. "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17).

That means that a person takes the Word of God, determines it to be from God, then listens to it, tries to understand the message God intended, and then makes necessary personal applications. This requires thinking and reasoning. Faith is a conclusion that is based on information. It isn't a guess or a feeling.

### **Trusting Faith**

Biblical faith is not simply a compilation of true or important facts. Abel sacrificed. Noah built. Abraham went. Sarah conceived. Isaac blessed. Joseph worshipped. Moses refused and forsook. All these, and more, from

Hebrews chapter 11 highlight the trust aspect of true faith.

Faith is not simply confidence in the truth of the believed; it is confidence in God who said it. Our trusting faith is in God, and that gives us confidence that what He has said is true, is best for us, will happen (or did happen), is good, etc. True faith trusts.

### **Faith Faith**

Faith is not sight, and it won't be sight until heaven. "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Heb. 11:1). No matter how much proof there is for the things we have faith in, it will never be enough to become sight. Faith based on evidence gives us assurance of the reality of things we can't see and hope for. It sounds funny to say that we need faith that is faith, but it's true. Some people want faith that is sight. They don't want to have to reason and trust. They insist seeing is believing, but actually, seeing is seeing. The question is whether we will truly trust God, and put faith in Him, even when we can't see. That's true faith. Do you have true faith?

~via *Pruett & Lobit Street*; Baytown, Texas.

## *News & Notes*

### **THE SICK:**

Virginia Meyer  
Patsy Thomas  
Wayne Gooch  
Linda Jones

Grady Threet  
Doris Lovell  
Cindy Glass  
Ann Bush

### ***Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:***

Joe Leopard  
Janice Cagle  
Priscilla Tucker  
Jenny Pickens  
Phillip Christopher  
Linda Ordonez  
Cindy Walker  
Gene Carpenter  
Betty Christopher  
Al Pollard  
Elizabeth Howard  
Will Weir

Irene Inman  
Jeanette Weir  
Bobby McLemore  
Ella Melvin  
Everette "Bud" Dollar  
Wayne Wooldridge  
Brittany Bates Carter  
Charles Burns  
Una King Currier  
Ava Brooke Campbell  
Matt Poff  
Phillip Harwell

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

*Norman Hamm*; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

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
Kathleen Wales, rm. 103	Helen Evans, rm. ???

Robert & Mot Beasley, at Riverside Sr. Living, Decatur  
Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville  
Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison  
Carl Hargrave, at granddaughter's home in Hartselle  
Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

**Margaret Carter** came home from the hospital Wednesday afternoon late. She will be having home health to come to the house...**Dale Adcock** is at home following her stay in the Huntsville Hospital last week...**Bobbie Adcock** went to the heart doctor this week and they determined that heart surgery was not needed now...**Ross Melvin** had some skin cancer's removed on Monday in Huntsville...**Grady Threet** continues under hospice care...**Steve Usery** has oral surgery scheduled on Friday in Birmingham...**Carol Dean's son-in-law, Matt Poff** has received a bad report on his cancer. Keep Matt in your prayers...**William Thomas** is at Madison Manor.

*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 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 Nov. 26th*

Wednesday: Bible Classes.....98

Announcements.....	Larry Holt
Song Leader .....	Tyler Cox
Prayer.....	Nathaniel Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Joel Hamm
Assisting .....	Keith Hinkle
Serving .....	Tommy Burns.....Clayton Hamm
.....	Kenneth Smith.....Charles Vaughn
Closing Prayer .....	Keenon Currier

Announcements.....	Larry Holt
Song Leader .....	Tony Thomas
Prayer.....	Bonnie Sutton
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper .....	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer .....	Marion Mitchell

Ushers..... Terry Andrews/Hunter Cox  
Work Sound System..... Landon Adams

Song Leader .....	A. J. Price
Bible Reading .....	1 Timothy 3:8-16
.....	Dan Reed
Prayer.....	Tommy Coblentz
Invitation .....	Harvey Nixon
Closing Prayer .....	Kenneth Adams

Announcements.....	Harvey Nixon
Song Leader .....	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Marty Adams
Preaching.....	Buc Chumbley
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Dwaine Allfrey
Assisting .....	Mike Ogles
Serving .....	Matthew Usery..... Nathaniel Adams
	Russ Wulfekuhl ..... Landon Adams
Closing Prayer .....	James Johnson

Announcements.....	Harvey Nixon
Song Leader .....	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Kenneth Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper .....	Dwaine Allfrey
Closing Prayer .....	Danny Holt

Ushers..... Ashton Gatlin/Steve Usery  
Work Sound System..... Terry Andrews