

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 X

January 14, 2018

No. 2

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 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

Given to Change

Stacy D. Crim

“My son, fear thou the LORD and the king: and meddle not with them that are given to change: For their calamity shall rise suddenly; and who knoweth the ruin of them both?” Proverbs 24:21-22

Solomon’s wise instruction to his son is that he “not meddle with them that are given to change.” The word meddle is also translated “company not with” (ASV) or “do not associate with” (NKJV). Why is such a charge given from such a wise man? Isn’t change good?

We are living in a time where things change rather rapidly around us. The economic landscape has changed dramatically. Most politicians run their campaign promising some form of change. Forms of new religions take hold all over the place as “innovators” and “deep thinkers” seek change and persuade people to get on the religious change bus.

Some things are not meant to be changed. When it comes to religion God’s word is not to be changed.

“I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, if any man shall add unto them, God shall add unto him the plagues which are written in this book: and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life, and out of the holy city, which are written in this book” (Revelation 22:18-19).

Paul told Timothy to “Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus (2 Timothy 1:13).

A dangerous spirit that has its effect upon a human mind is that of religious change for a lack of contentment with what God has revealed. People seek religious freedom while the Scriptures set bounds and limits.

Consider Hebrews 2:1-4:

“Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For

if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

Change is good when change is necessary to be in harmony with the Word of God, but Solomon's wisdom in this matter is for those who fear the Lord to stay away from those who are "given to change." God's people are to be the quiet people of the land and loyal unto Him. We should stay away from those who like to fish in troubled waters. Those who are restless usually draw mischief upon themselves. Solomon says "their calamity shall rise suddenly." There is no reason for you and me to keep company with such trouble makers. Good advice from a man whom God gave "a wise and understanding heart".

~via *Tri-Cities Edifier*, Muscle Shoals, Alabama.



An Expensive Bowl of Soup

Jason Garcia

We've all made purchases we wished we could take back. Either we invested in a product that we thought would be fantastic and make life easier only to discover that it would work better as a paperweight. Maybe we bought something and found out a short time afterwards that we were horrendously overcharged. Whatever the case, we've all committed to something that, at a later time, we desperately wished we could undo. A man named Esau was no stranger to this kind of feeling. He was a man who stood to gain a great deal from his father Isaac. Esau, however, was impulsive and imprudent. If we aren't careful, we can easily make the same mistake as he did. We too may awake one day to find that the inheritance promised to us will have passed by forever—lost for an eternity.

We can learn much from Esau's mistake, and we do not have to share his legacy. How does Scripture remember Esau? We find the answer in Hebrews:

"See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled; that there be no immoral or godless person like Esau, who sold his own birthright for a single meal. For you know that even afterwards, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought for it with tears" (Hebrews 12:15- 17 NASB).

Esau may have very well purchased the most expensive bowl of soup in history. Tragically, many follow in his footsteps. Every new day of life is another opportunity for one to accept the grace of God, and every day there are millions who settle for less. In short, they are too easily satisfied—they have been swindled by the devil. They prefer the fleeting pleasures of sin rather than the eternal satisfaction and fulfillment offered by their Creator. Sadly, even among brethren, there have been those seduced by the flesh, and have abandoned their inheritance. How can we avoid making the same mistake, knowing that sin can so quickly entangle us? (cf. Hebrews 12:1) Let us reflect on some of the Lord's teaching regarding the Kingdom, the worth of the soul, and the awful clarity that will come to those on the Day of Judgment who made the same mistake as Esau.

Paul tells us that, as Christians, we have been rescued from the domain of darkness, and transferred to the kingdom of God's beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins (cf. Colossians 1:13-14). All the wealth in the world could never purchase such a gift. The Lord likens the Kingdom to priceless treasures that demand all of our resources upon discovery. He says, "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field" (Matthew 13:44). Again, He says, "The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls, and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it" (Matthew 13:45-46). Would we relinquish such treasure for a single meal—one moment of passing pleasure? The Spirit says only an immoral and godless person would do such a thing. To be a part of God's Kingdom is a privilege that few people have recognized and enjoyed in man's history, and to give up the Kingdom is to cast away one's most precious treasure—the salvation of his or her soul. Incidentally, the Scripture speaks to the

worth of the soul as well.

Jesus asked a powerful question in order to help His hearers grasp the precious value of the soul. He said, "For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul? For what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Mark 8:36-37). The soul has value beyond anything this world can offer. There is perhaps no greater illustration than the man who invested all of his time and resources into procuring earthly things, yet gave no attention to his soul (cf. Luke 12:18-21). Though we are confronted with many economic woes, we still live in a very affluent country relative to the rest of the world. Have we, like the rich man, said, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry" (Luke 12:19)? If we are not cautious, brethren, we too can fall into the same trap, become spiritually bankrupt and forfeit our soul for the transient goods of this world. Our souls stand to gain untold wealth, prosperity, and rest, but not in this time. Let us hold fast to the promised inheritance that our souls may rejoice when they are required of us, or else we will share in Esau's disappointment and we will experience first-hand the awful clarity that comes with the realization of squandering something priceless that can never be recovered.

What must have that been like for Esau—to suddenly realize that he had traded his father's greatest gifts for a single bowl of soup? The Hebrew writer gives some idea in the words "he found no place for repentance" and "he sought for it with tears" (Hebrews 12:17). When Esau realized the full weight of consequences his choice carried, he could not repent—no amount of sorrow or weeping or wishing would return his inheritance to him. It was simply too late. Now we have been promised an inheritance infinitely greater than anything Esau ever knew in his life—salvation and an eternal home with God. Do you suppose that on the Day of Judgment there will be those willing to give anything to gain that inheritance? They, like Esau, may wail and beg and seek for it with tears, but they will find no place for repentance. Brethren, we must see to it that we not "come short of the grace of God", or the tragedy of Esau will be our own.

~via *Faithful Sayings*; Amarillo, Texas.

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Nell Barksdale

Harvey Nixon

Lucille Craig

Kenia Adams

Sharon Nave

Matthew Vaughn

Dwaine Allfrey

Jo Dunnavant

Shirley Miller

Helen Blankenship

Doris Lovell

Chuck Stiles

Linda Jones

Adrian Maynard

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Joe Leopard

Janice Cagle

Priscilla Tucker

Bobby McLemore

Phillip Christopher

Linda Ordonez

Cindy Walker

Gene Carpenter

Betty Christopher

Al Pollard

Elizabeth Howard

Will Weir

Leigh Ann McGlocklin

Charles Vaughn

James Adams

Pat Nixon

Arvid McGuire

Loretta Warner

Judy Brown

Brenda Jones

Bobbie Adcock

Mike & Anita Wheeler

Marion Mitchell

Ann Bush

Wayne Gooch

Cindy Glass

Jeanette Weir

Patsy Thomas

Ella Melvin

Matt Poff

Everette "Bud" Dollar

Wayne Wooldridge

Brittany Bates Carter

Charles Burns

Una King Currier

Ava Brooke Campbell

Phillip Harwell

Susan Cox

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Helen Trousdale, rm. 43 Nelva Reed, rm. 61

Mattye 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 Flossie Smith, rm. 102

Shut-In or Away From Home:

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

Irene Inman, at home

Elvin Stoffregen, at daughter's in Rutherford, Tennessee

William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison

Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

Updates:

Dwaine Allfrey went home from the hospital on Wednesday after being hospitalized for blood clots... *Priscilla Tucker* is under-going her radiation treatments ... *Susan Cox, Jackie Cox's granddaughter-in-law*, has been diagnosed with stage 4 breast cancer. She lives in Brisbane, Australia. She is undergoing radiation and chemo treatments..

OUT OF TOWN: *Christian Usery* is travelling in Europe for his schooling. He will be returning home this week... *Martha Chumbley* is in Houston, Texas.

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.

GRADYTHREET—(1920–2018): It is with sadness that we note the passing of brother Grady Threet. Grady had not been with us very long, but it was a joy to have him here. Brother Threet lived for 97 years. He loved the Lord and used his life in serving Him. He served as an elder and a deacon at the College View church in Florence. We want to extend our deepest sympathy to Martha, Buc, Molly and all the family in the passing of brother Threet.

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

- Brettlyn Carrier*, at Auburn University
- Keenon Carrier*, at the University of Alabama
- Griffin Holt*, at the University of Alabama
- Drew Ogles*, at Auburn University
- Christian Usery*, at LaGrange College
- Elizabeth Usery*, at Mississippi State University.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of Jan. 7th

Sunday:	Bible Classes	128
	Morning Worship	154
	Evening Worship	100
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	90

Seventh Annual Singing

February 23, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.

Song Leaders: Jim Deason, Johnny Felker & Jeff Warnke



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

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, January 14th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Steve Usery
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Hunter Cox
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	A. J. Price
Assisting	Marcus Morris
Serving	Kenneth Adams..... Charles Vaughn
.....	Tommy Burns..... Matthew Usery
Closing Prayer	Keenon Currier

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Steve Usery
Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Prayer.....	Tommy Coblentz
Preaching.....	Buc Chumbley
Lord's Supper	A. J. Price
Closing Prayer	James Johnson

Other Assignments for Sunday, January 14th:

Ushers.....	Russ Wulfekuhl/Marvin Putman
Work Sound System.....	Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, January 17th:

Song Leader	Marty Adams
Bible Reading	1 Timothy 6:1-11
.....	Larry Holt
Prayer.....	Harvey Nixon
Invitation.....	A. J. Price
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Smith

Sunday, January 21st:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Terry Andrews
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Steve Usery
Assisting	Larry Holt
Serving	Matthew Usery..... Russ Wulfekuhl
.....	Heath Dollar Matthew Vaughn
Closing Prayer	Danny Holt

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Ashton Gatlin
Preaching.....	Buc Chumbley
Lord's Supper	Steve Usery
Closing Prayer	Mike Ogles

Other Assignments for Sunday, January 21st:

Ushers.....	Terry Andrews/Keenon Currier
Work Sound System.....	Landon Adams