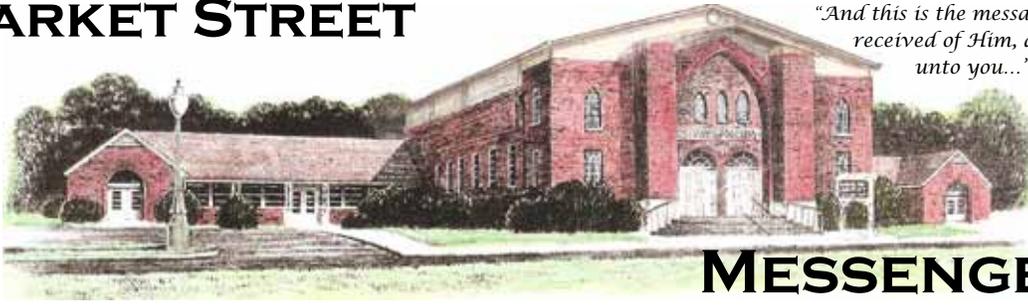


# MARKET STREET

*"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

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No. 27

## *We Are Personally Responsible*

**David A. Cox**

### 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) 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

### 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*

We have become a society of victims. Today, people will not accept personal responsibility but will cast blame on others for their problems. It is rare to hear someone say to another, "I am sorry, I was wrong or I have sinned. Will you forgive me?" The unwillingness to accept personal responsibility presents a real problem in having a relationship with God. Casting blame on others, or claiming to be the victim of circumstances does not allow one to see the personal responsibility they have to God for their conduct. The scriptures teach that God does not accept the casting of blame on others.

### Examples of Those Blaming Others

In Genesis 3, the first sin was committed in the Garden of Eden. After eating the forbidden fruit, God called for Adam who was hiding because he was naked. God then asked, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?" (Genesis 3:11). Adam responded, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate." God then asked Eve, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate" (Genesis 3:12-13). In both cases, God asked a question that required a simple yes or no answer, but Adam and Eve placed the blame somewhere else than on themselves.

King Saul of Israel is another example of casting the blame on others. God simply told Saul, "Now go and attack Amalek, and utterly destroy all they have and do not spare them. But kill both man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey" (1 Samuel 15:3). 1 Samuel 15:9 records, "But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was good, and were unwilling to utterly destroy them. But everything despised and worthless, that they utterly destroyed." It is clear that Saul disobeyed the command of God. The next day Samuel, the prophet of God, went to Saul and he proclaims, "I have performed the commandment of the Lord" (1 Samuel 15:13). To which Samuel replied, "What then is this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?"

(1 Samuel 15:14). The reply of Saul blamed others as he said, "They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and the oxen, to sacrifice to the Lord your God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed" (1 Samuel 15:15). Saul claimed to have obeyed the commandment of the Lord, but when he was called out for not obeying, he cast the blame on the people for sparing the Amalekites and not destroying them.

### **God's Reaction To Blaming Others**

How did God view Adam, Eve, and Saul for casting the blame on others? In the case of Adam and Eve falling into sin, God still held each of them accountable for their sin, and they suffered the consequences of their actions (Genesis 3:14-24). The response to Saul is the same. God was not pleased with Saul's disobedience regardless of how he might have reasoned within himself to be justified in his sin. Because of Saul's rejection of the word of the Lord, God rejected him as king of Israel (1 Samuel 15:17-24).

### **The Attitude God Desires**

The attitude toward sin that God desires is the attitude David displayed. In 2 Samuel 11 David, the king of Israel, committed the sin of fornication with Bathsheba. The sin resulted in Bathsheba becoming pregnant. David made significant efforts to cover-up his sin even to the killing of Uriah and taking Bathsheba to be his wife. Sometime after this, Nathan the prophet of God confronted David with his sins telling him "You are the man!" (2 Samuel 12:7). The reaction of David is entirely different than that of Adam, Eve and Saul. David responded to Nathan saying, "I have sinned against the Lord" (2 Samuel 12:13). Yes, David was personally responsible as was Adam, Eve and Saul, but he recognized this sin and humbly pleaded for mercy and forgiveness (Psalm 51). What a different reaction!

May we all accept personal responsibility for our actions like David did. The blame game is not the way to go. Doing so will leave us to stand condemned for our actions.

## ***Gospel Meeting***

**September 16-19, 2018**

(Sunday through Wednesday)

Paul Sheehan, Speaking

**MARKET STREET  
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

## ***Faith That Overcomes***

**Sewell Hall**

In Atlanta, as in all metropolitan areas, there are thousands of displaced Christians who once were faithful, but now are completely inactive spiritually. When approached, they almost always have excuses. Some blame others: their parents, families, or brethren in Christ who they feel have mistreated them. Others blame their new environment where the church is strange or unknown and where unbelief and immorality are the norm among their new acquaintances. A few even blame God, complaining that He has forsaken them; they have been sick, had accidents, lost jobs or suffered other disasters from which they feel He should have saved them.

In the book of Genesis, we read of a young man who was abruptly removed from his homeland and taken into a strange country—Egypt. Joseph had been a faithful servant of God in Canaan and could have made all of the excuses described above if he had chosen to forsake God in Egypt.

Joseph had been wronged. He was in Egypt because his brothers had sold him into slavery. With no way of knowing that his father assumed him dead, he had reason to blame his father for not sending to rescue him. When he refused to be seduced by his master's wife, she lied about him and he was imprisoned; then a prominent fellow-prisoner whom he befriended forgot his promise to remember Joseph after his release. The situation in which he found himself was strange. No longer a son, he was a slave; no longer a native, he was a foreigner. The God of his fathers was unknown in Egypt and idols were worshipped instead. Immorality was the rule in the land and a young teenager could hardly be expected to resist the fleshly appeal of such an environment, especially when so much of his suffering was a direct result of his efforts to please his God. Surely God had forsaken him!

### **Joseph's Response**

Joseph did not forsake God. He did forget his father's house, as indicated by his naming his first born son "Forgetfulness" (Genesis 41:51), but this was the means by which he escaped the bitterness that otherwise would have clouded his life. He made a new place for himself in his new home. As a slave, he became the best slave he could be; imprisoned, he became an exemplary prisoner; as prime minister, he was loyal to his king and highly respected for his service to his adopted land. But, above all things, he remained loyal to God in his

personal life and worship. He gave God time to work out His purpose for him and in later years he was able to see that God had used even the reverses of his life as the means of bringing his own exaltation and the salvation of his people.

As remarkable as these evidences of faith are, however, they are not the one featured in Hebrews. There it is noted: "By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones" (Hebrews 11:22). Joseph was aware of the promise made to Abraham that his seed should inherit the land of Canaan after a sojourn in Egypt. Though none of that land actually belonged to his family at the time of his death, God's promise meant more to him than all of his achievements in Egypt. He might have had an extremely honorable burial in Egypt with a great monument erected to the memory of Zaphnath-Paaneah (his Egyptian name), but he understood the transient nature of human honors and preferred to lay hold of the promises of God and be buried in Canaan. He did not even ask for immediate removal of his body to Canaan, but chose rather to have it taken when God's promise of an exodus was accomplished.

### Joseph's Reward

As prime minister of Egypt, Joseph enjoyed the best which that land had to offer for the remainder of his lifetime. In addition, his descendants received a double portion of Israel's inheritance, for his two sons were given an inheritance equal to that of each of his brothers. But, above all of this, he lived with a clear conscience and peace of mind in knowing that he was approved of God. And you and I, who likely would never have heard of Zaphnath-Paaneah, now honor Joseph and imitate his faith in the hope of sharing with him in that eternal reward which God has for all of the faithful. Faith is the victory!

~via *South Bumby Church*; Orlando, Florida.



## 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*

# News & Notes

## THE SICK:

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| James Johnson     | Virginia Meyer  |
| Marcella Coblentz | Peggy Pepper    |
| JoAnn Gilbert     | Cornelia Pepper |
| Bobbie Adcock     | Doris Lovell    |
| Linda Jones       | Wayne Reyer     |
| Ann Bush          | Damien Powers   |

## *Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:*

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Irene Inman         | Jeanette Weir    |
| Janice Cagle        | Patsy Thomas     |
| Priscilla Tucker    | Ella Melvin      |
| Cindy Glass         | Una King Currier |
| Matt Poff           | Susan Cox        |
| Elizabeth Howard    | Al Pollard       |
| Linda Ordonez       | Wayne Wooldridge |
| Cindy Walker        | Phillip Harwell  |
| Gene Carpenter      | Charles Burns    |
| Betty Christopher   | Wayne Gooch      |
| Ava Brooke Campbell |                  |

## *In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:*

*Barbara Haller*; Hospital in Indianapolis, Indiana  
*Norman Hamm*; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

## *Athens Health & Rehabilitation:*

|                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Dorothy Draper, rm. 73 | Matty Murray, rm. 2      |
| Joyce Martin, rm. 63   | Valeria Dalton, rm. 7    |
| Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36   | Christine Hudson, rm. 77 |

## *Limestone Health Facility:*

|                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Lucille Craig, rm. 116 | Stan Stanford, rm. 105 |
|------------------------|------------------------|

## *Shut-In or Away From Home:*

Robert & Mot Beasley, at City Center, Decatur  
 Frances Bowers, Limestone Manor  
 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  
 William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison  
 Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

## *Updates:*

*Bob Broadus* has been diagnosed with stage four kidney disease. He will be going to the doctor on Monday...  
*Jackie Whitt's mother, Dean Holt*, is scheduled for surgery on Wednesday in Huntsville...  
*Barbara Haller, Sandy Gentry's mother*, was involved in an accident nearly drowning on Friday...  
*Arvid McGuire* is at home now after spending a few days in the Athens-Limestone Hospital...  
*Steve Usery* has been unable to be at services

this week following his oral surgery last week ... **Marcella Coblentz** continues to be unable to be at services due to her case of the shingles ... **James Johnson** has been unable to be at services... **Peggy Pepper** continues to recover at home following her recent surgery... **Elvie Coffman** has been released from the hospital in Columbia, Tennessee and is in the NHC nursing home in Columbia, Tennessee.

**SYMPATHY:** We want to extend our deepest sympathy to **Mary Cecile Keenon and all the family** in the passing of Mary Cecile's brother-law brother, **Walter Shields** this past Friday in Oklahoma.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** The **Somerville Road church** in Decatur is beginning a meeting today, and it will continue through Wednesday. **Josh Creel** will be the speaker in this meeting... The **Russellville church** is beginning a meeting today, and it will continue through Friday. **Eddie Caskey** will be the speaker in this meeting... The **Parkway church** in Lawrence county (near Caddo) is starting a meeting today, and it will continue through Friday. **Lance Taylor** will be the speaker in this meeting.

**OUT OF TOWN:** **The Bradleys: Steve & Marliyn** are in Texas ... **The Nixons: Harvey & Pat** are back home after being in Arkansas last week for a family reunion... **Jim Whitt** will be working this week in Missouri... **The Hamms: Joel, Sharma, Clayton & Ragan** have been on vacation this week... **The Peppers: Marion & Betty** have been on vacation this week at the beach... **The Holts: Danny & Debra** will be away on vacation this week at Orange Beach... **Ida Nell Griffin** is visiting with her son in Cleveland, Ohio... **Doris Fisher & Brenda Haraway** were back home Wednesday evening following a trip to Illinois... **Brettlyn Currier** was back home Wednesday evening following a trip to St. Louis, Missouri... **Tyler Cox** is in Chicago, Illinois this weekend on vacation... **The Userys: Allison & Matthew** got back from Atlanta just before Bible Study Wednesday night... **The Rogers: Mark, Kim & Peyton** have been camping this week... **The Wulfekuhls: Russ, Lisa & Ali** have continued to be on vacation in the northeast.

**PLACED MEMBERSHIP:** We rejoice that **Wanell Vellocido** has expressed her desire to be a part of the work at Market Street. Let us all give Wanell a warm welcome.

**THE RECORD:** Attendance for the week of July 1st

|            |                       |     |
|------------|-----------------------|-----|
| Sunday:    | Bible Classes .....   | 127 |
|            | Morning Worship ..... | 169 |
|            | Evening Worship ..... | 119 |
| Wednesday: | Bible Classes .....   | 109 |

## Men Privileged To Serve:

**Sunday, July 8th:**

### Morning Worship

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Announcements.....   | Keith Hinkle                             |
| Song Leader .....    | Ashton Gatlin                            |
| Prayer.....          | Joel Hamm                                |
| Preaching.....       | Buc Chumbley                             |
| Lord's Supper        |  |
| Presiding.....       | Larry Holt                               |
| Assisting .....      | Mike Ogles                               |
| Serving .....        | Matthew Usery..... A. J. Price           |
|                      | ..... Charles Vaughn ... Nathaniel Adams |
| Closing Prayer ..... | Dwaine Allfrey                           |

### Evening Worship

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Announcements.....   | Keith Hinkle   |
| Song Leader .....    | Albert Haraway |
| Prayer.....          | Harold Ash     |
| Preaching.....       | David Cox      |
| Lord's Supper .....  | Larry Holt     |
| Closing Prayer ..... | Larry Mitchell |

Other Assignments for the week of July 8th:

|                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Ushers.....            | Danny Holt/Steve Usery |
| Work Sound System..... | Landon Adams           |

**Wednesday, July 11th:**

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Song Leader .....    | Tyler Cox      |
| Bible Reading .....  | Mark 5:1-20    |
| .....                | Keenon Currier |
| Prayer.....          | Kenneth Smith  |
| Invitation .....     | David Cox      |
| Closing Prayer ..... | Russ Wulfekuhl |

**Sunday, July 15th:**

### Morning Worship

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Announcements.....   | Tommy Coblentz                           |
| Song Leader .....    | Tyler Cox                                |
| Prayer.....          | Marcus Morris                            |
| Preaching.....       | David Cox                                |
| Lord's Supper        |  |
| Presiding.....       | Joel Hamm                                |
| Assisting .....      | Larry Mitchell                           |
| Serving .....        | Keenon Currier..... Christian Usery      |
|                      | ..... Russ Wulfekuhl ..... Kenneth Adams |
| Closing Prayer ..... | Marty Adams                              |

### Evening Worship

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Announcements.....   | Tommy Coblentz |
| Song Leader .....    | Tommy Burns    |
| Prayer.....          | Harvey Nixon   |
| Preaching.....       | Buc Chumbley   |
| Lord's Supper .....  | Joel Hamm      |
| Closing Prayer ..... | Larry Tucker   |

Other Assignments for the week of July 15th:

|                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ushers.....            | Heath Dollar/Marvin Putman |
| Work Sound System..... | Terry Andrews              |