

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 XI

February 24, 2019

No. 8

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

Evangelist

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

The Privilege of Worship

Dee Bowman

Our English word "worship" is derived from the Old English *weorth* (worth, value), and the suffix *ship*, which means condition or office. It was originally used to express the worthiness or dignity of some person or office. Today we use the word to describe certain actions, both mental and physical, which are used to extol or venerate God. Strictly speaking, worship is the adoring reverence of the creature for the Creator. Because of our regard for His gloriously high station and majesty, we worship Him.

Worship is a privilege as well as a duty. To ask, "Do I have to attend worship services?" is to me like asking, "Do I have to eat this homemade ice cream?" Worship services will never seem to be drudgery to a God-fearing Christian, but an exalted privilege and opportunity to pour out his filial devotions of mind and heart toward his Father God.

Worship is an individual affair. It takes place in a man's heart, his mind. A person may appear to be worshipping God when he is not. Conversely, it is also true that a person may not appear to be engaged in worship when he actually doing so. Jesus told the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4) that worship has not to do with the place, but with paying homage to the right object, God, with the right attitude, "in spirit," and "in truth." No acceptable worship can be extended to God without regard for these principles of truth.

Sadly, some religionists today are of the mistaken notion that anything offered in devotion to God is acceptable worship. Such is not the case. Sincerity, by itself does not constitute worship. And to affirm that such is the case is to be either wilfully mistaken or naive to a fault. In John 9:1-9, Our Lord condemned the "worship" of the Pharisees, saying, "full well ye reject the commandments of God that you may keep your own traditions." He has just warned that "in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrine the commandments of men." Paul, in Romans 10:2-3, accuses his Jewish brethren of "having a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge," and of "going about to establish their own righteousness." Any extending of worship and service to God certainly must be sincere, but service to Him in ways which are not approved are not worship, and

are not acceptable service.

It is a serious matter to feign worship to God. One must be very careful that he does not just “go through the motions.” Such is not worship at all—any more than worshipping in ways He has not approved. Because of the lack of heart-involved devotion in worship “many are weak and sickly among you” (1 Corinthians 11:30). True worship, extended with the proper disposition and respect will greatly edify and strengthen us as it intensifies our faith and our hope. But worship that is merely “played at” is not only impotent, but tends to wash away our true spiritual character.

When you pray, do you truly worship God? When you sing, do you pour out the adoring reverence you feel for God? And do you reverently consider the message and significance of the song? When you partake of the Lord’s Supper, is it merely a formalistic ritual that “we have always done” or do you truly discern the broken body and loving blood shed by Christ which is memorialized in the great supper of the Lord? If you cannot answer these questions properly it is a serious indictment of your devotion to the Lord, and should be attended to with due consideration and without delay.

What a blessed privilege worship is! Our worship should be guarded and attended to with love and with due grateful thoughtfulness for its worth and value to each of us. Let us be careful. Let us not let our devotion to God become some sort empty ritual to be observed, as if it were a recurring arduous task which we must observe. Rather, let us see it for what it is: a wonderful opportunity to exalt and praise our great God and Father, a glorious privilege to glorify his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, and a joy to give high feelings of thankful respect for the Holy Spirit for the word of salvation He has supplied for our use.

If we will pay careful attention to our worship—both public and private—the congregation here will be stronger and more influential than ever before. Acceptable worship always strengthens.

How about you, brother or sister? Is your worship a true reflection of you love and appreciation for God, or is it only an occasional remembrance of Him, and then mostly only when you need Him? Better be careful with your answer.

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Saul and Ananias

Randy Harshbarger

“Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision. “Ananias.”. And he said, “Here I am, Lord” (Acts 9:10). While we recognize Saul’s intense hatred for the followers of Jesus, his complete devotion to what he believed was right, and his evident sincerity and good conscience, still he lacked what the Lord was offering — salvation through the blood of Christ. Fasting and praying might indicate a change of direction, but still, Saul needed to come in contact with the Lord’s will for his life.

The book of Acts indicates that when someone needed to hear gospel, the gospel was presented to that person by a “preacher.” The gospel is communicated by a messenger. “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!” (Romans 10:15). Ananias is summoned. Ananias, at first, was reluctant to go to Saul. “Brother Saul,” a common greeting, was not a statement about Saul’s spiritual condition, yea or nay. Saul could not see; maybe Ananias wanted to convey warmth and good will to this blind persecutor. This meeting resulted in the scales falling from Saul’s eyes and his baptism (presumably by Ananias). Only then did Saul eat some food.

“Then Saul spent some days with the disciples at Damascus. Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God. Then all who heard were amazed and said, “Is this not he who destroyed those who called on this name in Jerusalem, and has come here for that purpose, so that he might bring them bound to the chief priests?” (Acts 9:19-21). While the Christians in Damascus were naturally skeptical about the change in Saul, it is clear that he was soon accepted into the fellowship of believers.

When Saul obeyed the gospel, he was added to the Lord’s church (Acts 2:47.) His relationship to Christ changed. No longer was Saul a persecutor; now as he preached Christ, he was often persecuted for this radical change. Saul immediately began doing what the Lord wanted him to do; he preached that Jesus was the Christ, the Messiah, the Christ of God. He argued about who Jesus was; he appealed to the OT in support of his preaching; he increased in strength and courage. Imagine the surprise of the authorities in the synagogues – those who had granted him approval to kill Christians – as Saul now worked with the fol-

lowers of Christ.

Following Jesus always comes with a price. “But their plot became known to Saul. And they watched the gates day and night, to kill him. Then the disciples took him by night and let him down through the wall in a large basket” (Acts 9:24-25). Saul openly traveled the road to Damascus, pursuing Jesus’ disciples. Now, he leaves Damascus under the cover of night in order to escape with his life. Paul wrote to Timothy: “All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution” (2 Timothy 3:12). Paul wrote to the Philippians: “For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain” (Philippians 1:21). Are you on the Damascus Road?

~via *The Stalling Drive Bulletin*; Nacogdoches, Texas..

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Love

Antoine N. Holloway

“So now faith, hope, & love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love” (1 Corinthians 13:13).

We are commanded (not advised, not suggested, but **commanded**) to love one another just as Christ loved us. Listen to your Bible! In John 13:34-35, the Bible reads, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” C.S. Lewis once said, “Christian love, either towards God or towards man, is an affair of the will”. We can be sure we are abiding in Christ if we are able to have a Christ-like love toward the people that irritate us the most.

The beautiful words of 1 Corinthians 13 remind us that love is God’s commandment; Faith is important; so is hope, but love is the greatest still. This is a huge mandate, but as Christians, we are obligated to follow it.

Christ showed His love for us on the cross (John 3:16), & we are called upon to return Christ’s love by sharing it (1 John 4:7-8). Therefore, today, this week, and throughout our lives, let us spread Christ’s love to families, friends, and even strangers, so that through us, others might come to know Him.

~via *The Exhortor*; Tucson, Arizona.



News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Barbara Ash	Loretta Warner
Mary Cecile Keenon	Opal Conn
JoAnn Gilbert	Doris Lovell
Bobbie Adcock	Ann Bush

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Lona Jackson	Paul Hasting
Janice Cagle	Judy Vaughn
Jeanette Weir	Patsy Thomas
Ella Melvin	Marvin Putman
Cornelia Pepper	Al Pollard
Charles Burns	Una King Currier
Cindy Glass	Susan Cox
Gene Carpenter	Cindy Walker
Phillip Harwell	Wayne Wooldridge
Kenneth Fisher	Becky Thompson
Matt Poff	David Collier

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Paul Hasting; Huntsville Hospital – rm. 574
Patsy Thomas; Crestwood Medical – rm. 434
Dean Holt; Huntsville Hospital – No visitors
Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 106	
Mattie Murray, rm. 2	Christine Hudson, 77
Evelyn Hogan, 36	Dorothy Draper, 73
Joyce Martin, 63	Valeria Dalton, 7

Limestone Health Facility:

Bettye Harrison, rm. 94

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
Irene Inman, at home
Virginia Meyer, Shepherd Living, Madison
Stan Stanford, at home
William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison
Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Dan Lovell had cataract surgery on Thursday and is doing well...**Mary Cecile Keenon** has been diagnosed with shingles...**Nikki Ogles** went to the doctor on Thursday at Kirklin Clinic in Birmingham and they ran a battery of tests.. She will be hopefully hearing from the soon...**Paul Hasting** has been hospitalized this week with pneumonia...**Harold Davis' sister-in-law, Carol Davis**, is scheduled for lung surgery this Wednesday in Huntsville.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Pepper Road church* is engaged in a gospel meeting and it will continue through Wednesday night. *Ken McDaniel* will be the speaker in this meeting.

OUR 8th ANNUAL SINGING: This past Friday night we had our 8th Annual singing. The singing was excellent. The song leaders were: *Jim Deason, Wiley Deason & Johnny Felker* this year and they all did an excellent job in directing the singing. We had 385 present. I appreciate all who worked in helping with the parking, greeting, ushering, and in the audio/visual areas. I hear comments every year about the work you do it was, as always, a great help in making the singing what it was.

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

OUT OF TOWN: *Joe Hinkle* has gone to Port St. Lucie, Florida to visit with family...*Mike Ogles* continues to be out of town with his work...*Jim Whitt* is now at home after being away in Seattle, Washington with his work.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of Feb. 17th

Sunday:	Bible Classes	133
	Morning Worship	172
	Evening Worship	102
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	98

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, February 24th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Holt
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Bonnie Sutton
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harvey Nixon
Assisting	Marcus Morris
Serving	Marvin Putman
	Harold Ash
	Keenon Currier.....
	Tim Griswold
Closing Prayer	Landon Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Holt
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Harvey Nixon
Closing Prayer	Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for the week of February 24th:

Ushers.....	Danny Johnson/Danny Holt
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt

Wednesday, February 27th:

Song Leader	Bob Broadus
Bible Reading	Matthew Usery
	Mark 13:24-37
Prayer.....	Jerry McGlocklin
Invitation	Larry Holt
Closing Prayer	Wayne Vaughn

Sunday, March 3rd:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Tommy Coblenz
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Larry Holt
Assisting	Mike Ogles
Serving	Matthew Vaughn.....
	Sam Gregory
	Marvin Putman
	Charles Vaughn
Closing Prayer	Dan Reed

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Terry Andrews
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Larry Holt
Closing Prayer	Roger Hammonds

Other Assignments for the week of March 3rd:

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