

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

April 7, 2019

No. 14

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

Evangelist

David A. Cox..... (256) 233-8910
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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 Power of Memorials

T. Doy Moyer

We understand how powerful memorials can be. We create memorials for those who have died in war, for the victims of the 9/11 attacks, and for other events that are intended to be remembered and understood for future generations. Every tombstone is a memorial to a life that was meaningful to a friend, a family, or a nation. We cherish these. We protect them. We expect people to respect them and act appropriately when they are being observed. This is one of the high marks of honor.

God made memorials to be an integral part of the life of Israel. The Passover served as a memorial to the power of God in bringing the children of Israel out of Egypt (Exodus 12). The writings were intended to serve as a memorial to these great events (Exodus 17:14). The stones on the Ephod of Aaron were memorial stones (Exodus 28:12). The names of the sons of Israel were placed in the "breastpiece of judgment" over the heart of Aaron as he entered the holy place "for a memorial before the Lord continually" (Exodus 28:29). Even the shoulder pieces of the ephod were engraved "according to the names of the sons of Israel" as memorial stones (Exodus 39:6-7).

Much of what the priesthood did were intended to serve as memorials (e.g., the offerings and sacrifices: Leviticus 2:2, 9, 16; 5:12; 6:15; 24:7; Numbers 5:15, 18, 26). Memorial stones were set up as they crossed the Jordan into the Promised Land so that future generations would remember (Josh 4). Memorials were a part of their lives, and problems that arose were due in part to their forgetting what they were meant to represent. Memorials were not just something to think about, but were often accompanied with actions. Engaging in an action helped to engrain the concepts deep into their thoughts and hearts.

Memorials are no less a part of the New Testament as well. The Lord's Supper is such a memorial. "Do this in remembrance of Me," said Jesus. By taking the Lord's Supper, we recall His death, the blood shed on our behalf for the forgiveness of sins. We also look forward to His coming (1 Corinthians 11:25-26), which implies His resurrection to sit on the throne of His kingdom. The Lord's Supper is also accompanied by action. It is a physical reminder, an action that is meant to make us think even

deeper about the sacrifice of our Lord. The action of eating unleavened bread and drinking fruit of the vine is commemorating that sacrifice.

Memory can be tricky, and perhaps this is one reason why a memorial should be protected for what it was meant to be. By changing the nature of the memorial, we change what we think about that event. Over time, the event itself could lose meaning if we focus merely on the physical actions or monuments. The actions and monuments are nothing, however, unless the event itself is properly understood and recalled. Of course, we should understand that any particular memorial is not itself an idol to be worshipped. It is a symbol that helps us remember the significance of the event that underlies it.

Critics sometimes argue that the stories of Jesus were merely legends that grew up over a period of time. However, the memorials help demonstrate this to be foundationally faulty. Paul wrote 1 Corinthians within about twenty years of the death of Jesus, and he knew exactly what Jesus said about that memorial—a memorial that had been practiced non-stop to the time of Paul's writing. It was meant to continue on until Jesus comes. That amount of time (20 years) is not very long when an important event is being commemorated.

Those who have given their lives for a nation are memorialized for their great sacrifice. This is a way of keeping their lives before us and not forgetting why they did what they did. In America, the tragedy of 9/11/2001 remains a fresh memory for many; those who are old enough remember that day vividly. The nation changed on that day, and we continue to pray and remember those who lost their lives. Vivid memories stay with us when something important happens. We remember well our wedding days, the days our children were born, and other significant events in our lives. We are expected to remember and observe those days (e.g., anniversaries, birthdays, etc.).

The disciples would never forget the day they saw Jesus alive again after He died. They would commemorate these events through their teaching, and every week through the memorial set up by Jesus Himself. That memorial was to be protected (as Paul shows in 1 Cor 11), and the events of those days would not be forgotten. They were not made up later. They were remembered for what they were, and we remember it still.

May we keep our memories sharp through proper observances of our memorials. Most importantly, may we remember our Lord Jesus for His loving sacrifice and resurrection.

~via *Vestavia Bulletin*; Vestavia, Alabama.

He Took The Initiative

Ryan Goodwin

What has God done for us? That is the question that many ask when confronted with the Gospel. Some choose to never obey because they do not believe God has done anything – others see God as an inactive being who, though He is the apparent impetus behind creation, remains aloof with His creation. But the very first words of Genesis 1:1 speak of an entirely different God. “In the beginning God...” These words tell us of a God who acts, who takes initiative, who creates, speaks, and intimately involves Himself in the affairs of the world beneath Him. The Bible is, in fact, the religion of an initiating god. “Before man existed, God acted. Before man stirs himself to seek God, God has sought man. In the Bible, we do not see man groping after God; we see God reaching after man. Many people visualize a god who sits comfortably on a distant throne, remote, aloof, uninterested, and indifferent to the needs of mortals, until, it may be, they can badger Him into taking action on their behalf. Such a view is wholly false” (Basic Christianity, Stott, p. 11). Long before man thinks to seek God, before it even occurs to him, the Father is actively seeking him. God takes the initiative, leaves His throne, and stoops to our level so that He might lift us up (Romans 5:6-8). “Even when we were dead in our transgressions, [God] made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places” (Ephesians 2:5-6).

What has God done for you lately?

God Has Created You – We seem to forget how very much we need God, even in the most basic way. Without His creative force, we would not exist. We owe our lives to Him. Every time we breathe, every glass of water we drink, every night of sleep, every sunset, every meal – our lives are in His hands. We owe it to Him to seek after Him. For as much as He does for us, is it really that much to worship, love, and obey the Heavenly Father? We could not have created ourselves, and we cannot create anything new now (Ecclesiastes 1:10).

God Has Spoken To You – God will never leave us in the dark without answers. He longs to reveal to us what we need – and it is only our stubborn, unrelenting, dull hearts that prevent us from hearing every word of life (Hebrews 5:11-14). Friends, we need His words.

No words will guide us as His do. In them we have everything we need (2 Timothy 3:16-17). We have insights into the mystery of Christ (Ephesians 3:3-5).

God Has Acted On Your Behalf – “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost” (Luke 19:10). “It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost” (1 Timothy 1:15).

Jesus Christ is our propitiation, which means that He is our intercessor before the throne of God (1 John 2:1-2). If that is not enough, then what more would you ask of your Savior?

He died on a cross on our behalf.

He left His place of power and glory to be a human and endure all things we do (Philippians 2:6-7, Hebrews 4:15-16).

~via *Spiritual Thinking*; Collierville, Tennessee.



“Believe In Jesus”

Antoine N. Holloway

In the story regarding the death of Lazarus in John 11:1-27, we get a more vivid understanding of what it means to believe in Jesus.

Jesus Was Invited Into A Problem

The sisters (Mary and Martha) made sure Jesus was aware of the situation (John 11:3). As Christians, we must be aware this is always the right course of action (the action of inviting Jesus into our problem) (Matthew 11:28, Psalms 50:15, and Psalms 91:15).

Jesus Was Inclined To Solve The Problem

Jesus declared His intentions to fix the problem (John 11:11). Just like Jesus intended to settle the difficulty Mary and Martha were having with Lazarus, He is inclined to meet our needs as well (Matthew 6:25-33). However, we must understand Jesus acted in His own time and way then, and He does the same today (John 11:6 and John 11:14-15).

In life, things do not always happen the way we want.

- Martha wanted Lazarus to get well (John 11:21).
- The rich young ruler never expected the demand Christ gave him (Luke 18:22-23).
- Naaman objected to dipping in the Jordan River in order to be cleansed from his leprosy (2 Kings 5:10-11).
- John the baptizer was not what people expected (Luke 7:24-26).

We must keep in mind that God’s ways are not our ways. We must remember God has His own time schedule (Acts 17:26).

We Are Not Always Inclined To Believe

Pessimism is the beginning of our fall from faith. Faith ceases when complaining begins. Faith, by nature, is optimistic. What seems like faith is sometimes unbelief. Many implied that the situation was now hopeless (John 11:37). In John 11:20-27, Martha expressed doctrinal belief in Christ.

As Christians, we must understand the following:

1. Doctrinal belief and trusting God are not the same. One can be orthodox in belief, but weak in faith.
2. Understanding a proper doctrinal practice does not help much in times of need.
3. Jesus, the person, is our help in time of need.

No matter what we are going through on this time-side of life, we can always depend on Jesus. If we have a problem, believe in Jesus by inviting Him to fix our problem like only He can. Have faith in knowing Jesus wants to see us well and not sick. He wants to see us whole and not broken. He wants to see us up and not down. Jesus wants to see us saved and not lost. So, He stands ready to help us always. In life, the problem is never God, but rather it is always us. Therefore, let us learn to trust in Christ all the time and not just some of the time.

~via *The Exhorter*; Tucson, Arizona.



News & Notes

THE SICK:

Arvid McGuire	Donna Wright
Jimmy Johnson	Sharon Nave
Beverly Sutton	Loretta Warner
JoAnn Gilbert	Doris Lovell
Bobbie Adcock	Wes Stiles
Ann Bush	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Freddie Mae Elmore	Nikki Ogles
Lona Jackson	Janice Cagle
Judy Vaughn	Ella Melvin
Jeanette Weir	Marvin Putman
Cornelia Pepper	Al Pollard
Charles Burns	David Collier
Una King Currier	Matt Poff
Susan Cox	Gene Carpenter
Cindy Walker	Phillip Harwell
Wayne Wooldridge	Kenneth Fisher
Becky Thompson	Pat Wulfekuhl

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Leonard Clines, 99	Valeria Dalton, 7
Mattie Murray, rm. 2	Christine Hudson, 77
Evelyn Hogan, 36	Dorothy Draper, 73
Joyce Martin, 63	

Limestone Health Facility:

Bettye Harrison, rm. 117

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

BABY SHOWER: The ladies are giving a come and go baby shower this afternoon for **Laura Adams**. The shower will be at the **Deer Trail Clubhouse** from 2:00 to 4:00. Laura and Nathaniel are expecting a little boy, and she is registered at *Toodlebugs* in Athens, *Target*, and *Amazon.com*

Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, April 7th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Marty Adams
Preaching.....	Brendon Kirby
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Tommt Coblentz
Assisting	Mike Ogles
Serving	Roger Hammonds ..Keenon Currier
.....	Will Chumbley..... Charles Vaughn
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Bob Broadus
Prayer.....	Dwaine Allfrey
Preaching.....	Young men from Market Street
Lord's Supper	Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer	Marion Mitchell

Other Assignments for the week of April 7th:

Ushers.....	Marvin Putman/Danny Johnson
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews

Wednesday, April 10th:

Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Bible Reading	Steve Usery
.....	Mark 14:53-65
Prayer.....	Harold Ash
Invitation	David Cox
Closing Prayer	Albert Haraway

Sunday, April 14th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Larry Mitchell
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Joel Hamm
Assisting	Larry Tucker
Serving	Matthew Vaughn..... Sam Gregory
.....	David Terry
Closing Prayer	Heath Dollar
.....	Danny Holt

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Landon Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer	Dwaine Allfrey

Other Assignments for the week of April 14th:

Ushers.....	Danny johnson/Danny Holt
Work Sound System.....	Nathaniel Adams