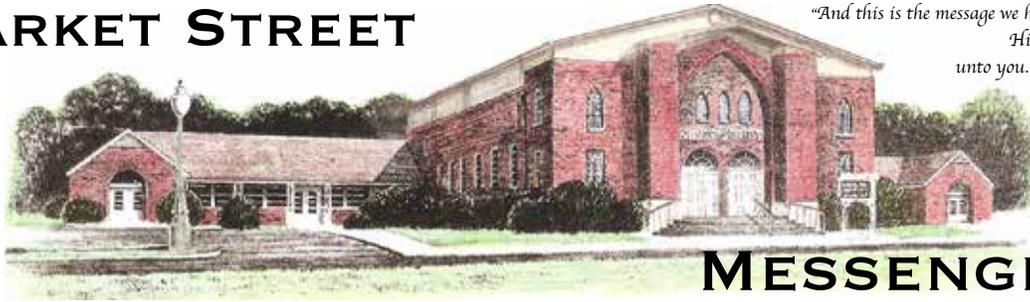


MARKET STREET



"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

June 16, 2019

No. 24

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 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

Evangelist

David A. Cox..... (256) 233-8910
Cell: (256) 614-3757

Visit Us On The Web
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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

A Challenge To Choose

Dan S. Shipley

"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15).

Those who claim to be Christians need confronting with this choice encouraged by Joshua in the long ago. Not, of course, that allegiance to these same false gods is the problem, but there are other kinds of "masters" that are equally effective in stealing the affections of God's people. In fact, these modern masters may be even more dangerous because men serve them while thinking themselves to be serving the true God. Does it seem strange that professed believers should be challenged to make a choice about serving God? It shouldn't. When have the ranks of God's followers **not** been infected with a Laodicean-like lethargy? (except, perhaps, in the earliest days of the church) — and, when more than **Now**? Those who say and do not, the lukewarm, the vacillating, the unfaithful and undependable who call themselves Christians need to be challenged to **make up their mind about serving the Lord!**

No doubt, however, many would be insulted with such a challenge. Some have not understood the difference between being religious and serving the Lord. That's why it is not unusual to hear of "Christians" who become incensed at the suggestion that they have become unfaithful or "quit the church" just because they have not been in attendance for several months or even years. Like Joshua's audience they need to make a decision — about serving the Lord. None will ever decide a more important issue — and it's a decision in which every man must stand alone.

Accordingly, Joshua says, "as for me". He was not concerned about which way the majority may go, nor was he interested in public opinion. His was not a "second-hand" faith standing on borrowed convictions. He had made up his own mind about serving God and expected the people to do likewise. The Joshua spirit is sorely needed among God's people today! For too long, too many have allowed others to do their thinking

and make their decisions, even in matters of faith. No elder, no preacher and no parent can decide a matter of faith for any man. In the lamentable division that has come between God's people, many have learned to parrot certain prejudicial and derogatory phrases with which to "answer" the other side, but have no real personal convictions based on Bible truth. Me is the only one I can decide for about anything. Therefore, me needs to be informed, me must weigh the evidence, and me must take a stand independent of all else and all others. Only then can we say with meaning, "As for me....". But the decision to serve the Lord is not only personal, it is urgent.

For that reason, Joshua says, "choose you this day." This day is not enhanced by yesterday's victories nor tomorrow's good intentions, but only by redeeming its precious hours for the Lord.

~via *Cornerstone*, Wichita, Kansas.

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Would This Be Said Of You?

Mark McCrary

"Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the Lord; therefore it is said, 'Like Nimrod the mighty hunter before the Lord.' And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. From that land he went to Assyria and built Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, Calah, and Resen between Nineveh and Calah (that is the principal city)." (Genesis 10:8-12)

Genesis 10, like chapter 6, is a bridge between events, presenting another list of genealogies. And, like chapter 6, there's not a lot there to grab hold of. But, both lists do seem to present one person of particular interest. In chapter 6 it is Enoch; in chapter 10, it is Nimrod.

We aren't told much about him, but we are told he was a "mighty hunter," and built many cities. We may infer from this he was a leader, an explorer and a motivator or people. Some have associated him with Babylonians leaders (most probably) and even Egyptian pharaohs (less likely). He did these things (at least the hunting) "before the Lord," which may imply God's approval, or as the Old Testament Survey Series: The

Pentateuch suggests, His disapproval—that he acted in rebellion before God. Indeed, his very name means "let us revolt." Many have connected him—and with good reason—with the events of the following chapter and the building of the Tower of Babel.

Without question he is mentioned because he accomplished great things that are not to be overlooked or slighted in any way. In a raw and empty world to establish six cities was no small feat. Nimrod must have been a force of nature at the time. However, the very fact that his spiritual nature is left so ambiguous is concerning. And, if his name is of importance, what greater act of revolting could be carried out when almost immediately after the flood a man stands up to God, shakes his fist, and in essence says, "I'm still doing things my way!" In the final analysis, it is unclear how we are to take this man; was he sinner or saint?

In contrast, though, while Nimrod was a "mighty hunter" and builder, we have other statements about great Bible characters that are more certain and comforting: Noah "found favor in the eyes of the Lord" (Genesis 6:8); Moses was the most humble man who ever lived (at that time) (Numbers 12:3); and David was a man "after God's own heart" (Acts 13:22). Certainly, these people did great things and were commendable before the Lord. But others did less "mighty" things but were still spoken of highly by God: Enoch "walked with God" (Genesis 5:24); Phoebe was a "servant of the church" (Romans 16:1); and Priscilla and Aquila were "fellow workers in Christ Jesus."

The point being how we expend our efforts in life is important. Doing mighty things is good, but only if you do so with the Lord's commendation. Otherwise, it is a waste. But, even if one lives a life doing small things, if they are done with the Lord's commendations, one has accomplished something truly mighty. Take a moment and think: What will history—man's and God's—say of you?

~via *Douglass Hills Church*, Louisville, Kentucky.



Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Follow Me

Jay Horsley

In John 10, Jesus taught of sheep and shepherds: “the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them...the sheep follow him because they know his voice” (John 10:3,4). His sheep hear His voice and they follow Him. He further explained, “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me” (John 10:27). He calls, He leads. The sheep know Him and follow Him. That’s pretty simple, but following Jesus is the very definition of being His disciple.

Following Jesus is the very definition of being His disciple. From the start of the gospel, when “He found Philip. Jesus said to him, ‘Follow Me’” (John 1:43). To Peter and Andrew, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men” (Matthew 4:19). To Matthew in the tax office, “and He said to him, ‘Follow Me.’ And he left everything behind, and got up and began to follow Him” (Luke 5:28).

Some wanted to follow only after they finished other business first (Luke 9:57-62). They wanted to set the conditions by which they’d follow. And some, like the rich young ruler, refused to follow at all. He was told, “One thing you still lack; sell all that you possess and distribute it to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me” (Luke 18:22), but he loved his possessions more.

But still Jesus said, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me” (Luke 9:23).

The message is still the same. We still have to follow Him.

~via *Mulvane Church Bulletin*; Mulvane, Kansas..

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Beverly Sutton	Elease Barksdale
Pat Nixon	Peggy Pepper
JoAnn Gilbert	Loretta Warner
Doris Lovell	Kennedy Pepper
Bobbie Adcock	Ann Bush
Nathan Craig	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Freddie Mae Elmore	Nikki Ogles
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Anita Wheeler	Lona Jackson
Janice Cagle	Judy Vaughn
Ella Melvin	Robert Beasley
Jeanette Weir	Cornelia Pepper
Pat Wulfekuhl	Kenneth Fisher
Al Pollard	Charles Burns
David Collier	Phillip Harwell
Una King Currier	Matt Poff
Susan Cox	Gene Carpenter
Cindy Walker	Wayne Wooldridge
Brittany Bates Carter	

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Myrtle Ruth Barnett; Athens-Limestone Hosp, ICU
Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Robert Beasley, rm. 82	Deanie Britton, rm. 123
Valeria Dalton, 7	Mattie Murray, rm. 2
Dorothy Draper, 73	Christine Hudson, 77
Evelyn Hogan, 36	Eva Lovell, 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
Bettye Harrison, Traditions
Irene Inman, at home
Virginia Meyer, Shepherd Living, Madison
Stan Stanford, at home
William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison
Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Ross Melvin had an arteriogram done on Tuesday ...
Donna Wright had a PET scan done on Monday...*Louise Melvin* had cataract surgery done this past Monday and is to have the other eye done tomorrow...*Jewel Dean Kennamer’s granddaughter, Brittany Bates Carter* continues to take treatments for her cancer in Huntsville.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Bradleys: Steve & Marilyn* are in Houston, Texas...*Joe Hinkle* is in Michigan visiting with family...*Christian Usery* is in Waterbury, Connecticut for a work assignment...*The Whitts: Jim & Jackie* are in Iowa with Jim’s work...*Evelyn Stitt* was in North Carolina last week for her daughter’s wedding...*The Carters: Delmer and Margaret* are in Michigan with Delmer’s brother who is not doing well...*Chuck Stiles* is in the United Arab Emirates with his work.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Hughes Road at Gooch Lane church* in Madison is beginning a meeting today.

It will continue through Friday evening. The speaker in this meeting will be *Edwin Crozier of Tampa, Florida...* The *Tri-Cities church* in Muscle Shoals is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening. *Lee Hyatt* will be the speaker... The *Isbell church* near Russellville is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday evening. *Don Miller* will be the speaker.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Alvis McLemore and all the family* in the passing of Alvis' brother-in-law, *Billy Griffin*. He passed away last week and his funeral was on Saturday, June 8th. May the Lord bless this family at this time.

WEDDING SHOWER: There will be a wedding shower for *Brettlyn Currier*, the bride elect of *Josh Miller*. The shower will be next Sunday afternoon, *June 23rd* at the *home of Sheila Holt* from 1:30 to 3:30.

MEN'S BIBLE CLASS: We are looking at starting a men's Bible class. We are wanting to see the interest in the class. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the west wing or in the front vestibule. If you are interested in the class, please sign the sheet.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: This past week we had our Vacation Bible School for 2019. We averaged 97 each morning. There were 51 children that came to the VBS during the week and the vast majority came 3 of the 4 days if not all 4 days. I appreciate the dedication and work that the teachers of the VBS exhibited. Without their time and sacrifice the VBS could not have been the success it was.

ADDRESSES: There are a couple of people that we have mentioned here and several have asked for their addresses. Granddaughter of *Marion and Betty Pepper*.

Kennedy Pepper
23231 Nick Davis Road
Athens, Alabama 35613

Sonia Archer's son from Barbados who was killed on the job this past week.

Sonia Archer
West Terrace
St. James, Barbados W.I.

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.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for the week of June 9th:*

Sunday: Bible Classes 139
Morning Worship 185
Evening Worship 129
Wednesday: Bible Classes 110

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, June 16th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Larry Holt
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer..... Marcus Morris
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Larry Mitchell
Assisting Mike Ogles
Serving David Terry Harold Davis
..... Danny Johnson..... Marvin Putman
Closing Prayer Roger Hammonds

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Larry Holt
Song Leader Albert Haraway
Prayer..... Bill Eden
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Larry Mitchell
Closing Prayer Arvid McGuire

Other Assignments for the week of June 16th:

Ushers..... Keenon Currier/ Steve Bradley
Work Sound System..... Marty Adams

Wednesday, June 19th:

Song Leader Tony Thomas
Bible Reading Danny Johnson
..... Philippians 2:1-11
Prayer..... Nathaniel Adams
Invitation Larry Tucker
Closing Prayer Mike Ogles

Sunday, June 23rd:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Larry Tucker
Song Leader Albert Haraway
Prayer..... Harold Ash
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Joel Hamm
Assisting Marcus Morris
Serving Matthew Vaughn.... Clayton Hamm
..... Tim Griswold..... Sam Gregory
Closing Prayer Wayne Vaughn

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Larry Tucker
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer..... Kenneth Adams
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer Bonnie Sutton

Other Assignments for the week of June 23rd:

Ushers..... Steve Bradley/Danny Holt
Work Sound System..... Larry Holt