

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

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No. 41

Baptism in What Name?

Frank Himmel

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
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

Jesus told the apostles, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). When the apostles preached, they commanded people to be baptized in the name of Jesus (Acts 2:38; 8:16; 10:48; 19:5). Was there a difference? Is there a contradiction?

A Question

Did the apostles, who were inspired by the Holy Spirit in their preaching, do what Jesus told them to do? Surely we would all answer yes. If so, these expressions must just be two different ways of saying the same thing or perhaps two different ways of viewing baptism; otherwise, the apostles were disobedient!

An Explanation

In the first century, one's name was not simply a designation for him, as it is with us; it indicated the person himself. To act in someone's name, therefore, was to act in connection with him. What connection? Bear with me through some technicalities.

When Jesus said to baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, He used the preposition *eis*, which means "into." Therefore, we are baptized into a relationship with deity—all deity. Acts 8:16 says the Samaritans were baptized into [*eis*] the name of the Lord Jesus but does not specifically mention the Father and the Holy Spirit. Acts 19:5 says the same thing of the Ephesians. Are we to conclude that their baptism had no effect on their relationship with the Father and the Spirit? No, it is merely a condensed statement.

When Peter preached to the Jews on the day of Pentecost, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. . ." (Acts 2:38), he used a different preposition, *epi*. It typically means "upon," although our English translations still render it "in" in this verse. Baptism is not only into Jesus, it is on the basis of Jesus: on the basis of who He is and what He had done for us. This idea, too, is included in the phrase in the name of Jesus.

Peter used still another preposition when he taught Cornelius to be baptized “in the name of Jesus Christ” (Acts 10:48). This time he used *en*, which is by far the most common preposition in the New Testament, one that can suggest a variety of relationships. But surely Peter was not teaching these Gentiles to do something different than what the Jews on Pentecost or the Samaritans or the Ephesians did, or what Jesus commanded in Matthew 28:18-20.

These variations in expression are just that: variations. They may or may not be significant. They may emphasize one idea a little more than another, but despite their nuances, they are all just different ways of saying the same thing.

An Observation

Nothing in any of these references suggests a liturgical formula, specific words that must be recited to validate one’s baptism. These phrases simply reflect the basis and purpose of baptism. Apart from divine instruction, being immersed in water as a religious rite would be useless. But when it is done in obedience to Jesus, meeting a condition He sets forth for our discipleship and salvation, baptism reflects our faith in Him, in His atoning death, in His resurrection, and in His lordship.

“Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name” (Acts 22:16).

~via *Path Lights*; Bossier City, Louisiana.



No Works No Faith

Perry Hall

Can we have faith without works? That’s the apparent and common understanding of what James is saying in James 2. But could James be using sarcasm to show that if you actually say you have faith by works, you actually do not even have faith? Notice the language James uses and does not use:

• **James 2:14:** “What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims (lit., says) to have faith but does not have works? Can such faith save him?” (CSB)

James does not say, “if someone has faith but does not have works.” James is not affirming they have faith without works; he is saying a workless faith is a worthless faith because it is a dead faith and therefore a non-existent faith!

Notice another similar thought process in James:

• **James 1:23-24:** “Because if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like someone looking at his own face in a mirror. For he looks at himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of person he was.” (CSB)

I’m wondering, have you actually looked in a mirror and that quickly forgot? Possibly, but not regularly. Therefore common-sense hearing is doing; as is common-sense faith leads to common-sense works.

Notice another:

• **James 3:9-12:** “With the tongue we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in God’s likeness. Blessing and cursing come out of the same mouth. My brothers and sisters, these things should not be this way. Does a spring pour out sweet and bitter water from the same opening? Can a fig tree produce olives, my brothers and sisters, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a saltwater spring yield fresh water.” (CSB)

James is saying they are deceiving themselves if they think they are actually living faithfully. It is as impossible as picking oranges from a strawberry bush!

Let’s go back to James 2:

• **James 2:19:** “You believe that God is one. Good! Even the demons believe — and they shudder.”

Is James saying these demons have faith but no works? Not at all! Their “work” is shuddering! If they had no faith, they wouldn’t fear.

So can we have faith without works? No, because as the spirit gives life to the body, so does faith give life to works.

• **James 2:26:** “For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.” (CSB)

~via *Winston Salem church of Christ*, Winston Salem, N.C..

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Angela Vaughn	Dwaine Allfrey
JoAnn Gilbert	Loretta Warner
Alvis McLemore	Bobbie Adcock
Doris Lovell	Yvonne Strickland
Sue Taylor	Ann Bush
Lloyd Adams	Andrew Harbin

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Donna Wright	Freddie Mae Elmore
Nikki Ogles	Anita Wheeler
Lona Jackson	Janice Cagle
Judy Vaughn	Ella Melvin
Jeanette Weir	Cornelia Pepper
Wayne Wooldridge	Cindy Walker
Kenneth Fisher	Al Pollard
Charles Burns	David Collier
Phillip Harwell	Una King Currier
Matt Poff	Gene Carpenter
Brittany Bates Carter	Denny Smith
Carrie Warner	

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Arvid McGuire, rm. 90	Mattie Murray, rm. 2
Flossie Smith, rm. 120	Dorothy Draper, rm. 73
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Brenda Wilson, rm. 73
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Ann Bush, no visitors	

Limestone Health Facility:

Robert Beasley, rm. 110	Mot Beasley, rm. 110
Alice Roberson, rm. 49	

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Deanie Britton, Limestone Lodge
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:

Theresa Tucker had a heart catherization done on

Wednesday in Birmingham. The results were good and they will treat her with medicine... **Helen Blankenship** fell last Saturday has not been able to be at services... **Arvid McGuire** spent a few days in the Athens-Limestone Hospital and has moved to Athens Rehabilitation... **Larry Mitchell** is to return to the doctor and get the results of his MRI... **Angela Vaughn** suffered two fractures in her wrist and is wearing a brace and will return to the doctor in a couple of weeks... **JoAnn Gilbert** returned home from the hospital following her surgery last Saturday... **Dwaine Allfrey** is at home following his hospitalization following his four-wheeler accident ... **Kim Rogers niece, Carrie Warner**, began her treatments for cervical cancer this past week. The treatments are scheduled for the next 5 weeks.

LENNA RUTH BATES (1935 – 2019): It is with deep sadness that we note the passing of sister **Lenna Ruth Bates**. Sister Bates passed away early Wednesday morning. Her health had been declining the last few years, but she always wanted to be at services and rarely missed. She loved the Market Street church and was always among the first to arrive at services. Indeed, we will miss sister Bates, her smile and loving demeanor that she had. We want to express our deepest sympathy to her daughters Shelia, Sherry, and Sue and to all the family in her passing. Her funeral was at noon on Friday at the Spry Funeral Home. She was laid to rest in the New Salem Cemetery in Salem.

NURSING HOME SINGING: Remember the singing on Tuesday evening at 5:30 at the Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care.

MEN'S BIBLE CLASS: The *Men's Bible Class* will meet tomorrow evening at 7:00 in the East Auditorium. We will be studying "*Eternity and Today*."

PICTURES: We are needing to finish the process of making and updating pictures of everyone for the Market Street directory. If you have not had your picture made yet or have not updated it please do so this week or next. Pictures will be made in room 20 in the east wing.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES' CLASS: The *Ladies Bible Class* that meets on Tuesday morning began meeting again this past Tuesday morning in the West Auditorium. They will be studying "*Angels*".

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Capshaw church* is scheduled to begin a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Bubba Garner*... The *Ardmore church* is scheduled to begin a gospel meeting today and it will continue

through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Jason Shackelford*.....The **Danville Road church** in Decatur is scheduled to begin a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Rick Billingsly*... The **South Cullman church** in Cullman is scheduled to begin a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Thursday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Kyle Pope*...The **Fourth Street church** in Cullman is scheduled to begin a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Thursday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Brad Sullivan*...The **Elgin Hills church** in Elgin is scheduled to begin a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Larsen Plyler*... The **Isbell church** south of Russellville is scheduled to begin a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Tuesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Danny Fuller*.

POSEY MEETING: It was indeed a joy this week to be with the **Posey church**, near Rock Creek, Alabama, in Franklin county. This was my third meeting with the church there. The congregation there is about 45 in number. The majority of the church is age 40 and below. It is a very good church with a good spirit and a love for the Lord and His cause. *Andy Hutto* is the preacher for the church there. I want to thank *Harvey Nixon, Albert Haraway and Joel Hamm* for preaching and teaching in my absence.

AWAY AT SCHOOL: Remember our young people who are continuing their education in college:
Keenon Currier, Auburn University
Clayton Hamm, University of North Alabama
Griffin Holt, University of Alabama
Elizabeth Usery, Mississippi State University
Matthew Usery, University of North Alabama

OUT OF TOWN: *Brenda Haraway* is in Kentucky this weekend... *Ida Nell Griffin* is with her daughter, Julie, in South Carolina ... **The Holts:** *Danny & Debra* have been on vacation this week ... *Joe Hinkle* is in Florida visiting with family... **The Coxes:** *Hunter & Heather* have been in Florida for a few days. They will be returning today.

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

THE RECORD: *Average Attendance for the September:*

Sunday:	Bible Classes	138
	Morning Worship	180
	Evening Worship	132
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	102

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, October 13th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Joel Hamm
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Larry Tucker
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Keith Hinkle
Assisting	Larry Holt
Serving	Will Chumbley..... Tim Griswold
	Roger Hammonds .. Danny Johnson
Closing Prayer	Steve Usery

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Joel Hamm
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Keith Hinkle
Closing Prayer	Bob Broadus

Other Assignments for the week of October 13th:

Ushers.....	Marvin Putman/Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews

Wednesday, October 16th:

Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Bible Reading	Arvid McGuire
	Hebrews 2:1-9
Prayer.....	Joel Hamm
Invitation	Hunter Cox
Closing Prayer	Bill Eden

Sunday, October 20th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Russell Melvin
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Marty Adams
Assisting	Steve Usery
Serving	Russ Wulfekuhl ... Tommy Coblenz
	Charles Vaughn Marvin Putman
Closing Prayer	Dan Reed

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Harvey Nixon
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Steve Usery
Closing Prayer	Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for the week of October 20th:

Ushers.....	Marcus Morris/Keenon Currier
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt