

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

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

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

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

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No. 14

Maintaining Our Hope

David A. Cox

There is a story of a man who came up to a little league ballgame one day. He asked a boy what the score was. The boy replied, "It is 18 to nothing; we're behind." The man then said, "I know you're discouraged." Then the little boy said, "Why should I be discouraged? We haven't even come to bat yet." We see that the little boy was maintaining his hope, the desire plus his expectation of success.

Webster defines "hope" as "the desire accompanied by expectation of, or belief in fulfillment; to desire with expectation of obtainment; to expect with confidence." Hope is essential to our success in any endeavor of life. Without hope, the desire to continue to press toward the goal loses its appeal. Without hope, prisoners of war die, athletic teams slump and keep losing. Without hope, a student gets discouraged and drops out of school. Without hope, married couples decide to divorce. Without hope, Christians lose sight of an eternal home in heaven.

The Hebrew writer wrote, "And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises" (Hebrews 6:11-12). The writer is exhorting the Christians to have diligence and perseverance in maintaining their "assurance of hope." Why is that? It is not because it is just a good option or something that would be good to do. It is because we must do this if we are going to survive spiritually and "inherit the promises." Hope is as vital to our life and faith, as water is to fish, or oxygen to man. Man will not stay on the course toward the eternal goal without hope.

The importance and necessity of hope are because life is filled with doom, despair, discouragement, and defeat. If we fail to maintain our hope, in distressing moments, our minds will fail to focus on the better things ahead. Instead, our minds will dwell on matters of life that have brought us down.

As crucial as hope is, and as much as we may believe that there is hope

ahead, we must understand that it can be very elusive. The Hebrew writer tells how to maintain our hope as he says, “do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises” (Hebrews 6:12). Diligence, faith, and patience are needed to maintain our faith. Let us determine that we will not allow fatigue, frustration, failure, fear, distress, discouragement, etc. to cause us to lose sight of our hope.

Hope is a wonderful gift of God. It is a great source of strength and courage in the trials we face in life. It has been said that there is no more sustaining and transforming influence on human life, than the impact of hope. Let us see that hope:

1. Points to the light, when in a tunnel of misery.
2. Lifts our spirits, when we are discouraged.
3. Keeps us going, when we are tempted to quit.
4. Helps us to persevere, when struggling with disease and illness.
5. Gives us patience and trust, when we must wait.
6. Reminds us that God is still in control.
7. Gets us through the grief when we must say “good bye” to someone we deeply love.

The Hebrew writer tells us that “hope is the anchor of the soul” (Hebrews 6:19). Indeed, hope is the anchor by which the Christian can withstand, overcome, and endure all the trials and tribulations that one will face in life.

Our hope is not only for this life, but because of the resurrection of Christ from the dead, our hope is in that which is beyond (1 Corinthians 15:12-20). Peter speaks of this hope as he writes, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3). As we close I am reminded of the words of a song by Bill and Gloria Gaither which say:

*“Because He lives, I can face tomorrow;
Because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know, He holds the future;
And life is worth the living
Just because He lives.”*

Remember Our Facebook Study

Wednesday Evening at 7:00 p.m.
Market Street Private Group Page
April 8th — 1 Corinthians 15

Newness of Life

Ryan Goodwin

“Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised up from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life” (Romans 6:4).

“In baptism there is a burial, an immersion in water. No other act would so fitly represent the complete ending of a life of sin. If there was no other source of knowledge as to how baptism was performed, this text should settle the matter beyond doubt. There is no burial in sprinkling and pouring a little water on a person’s head, but there is burial in immersion in water” (Whiteside, p. 130). Notice several other points from the text:

Jesus is with us in the act of baptism. We are united with Him in the burial. We are “alive together” with Him (Ephesians 2:5). Our spiritual death through baptism is a new birth! “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again’” (John 3:5-7).

All people must pass through the watery grave if they wish to experience new life. You cannot escape the transition if your desire is salvation. No matter how much we may try to bypass it, dismiss it, or philosophize our way out of it, baptism is the only way a person can leave a life of sin totally behind and experience newness of life. Paul states with undeniable clarity, “For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him” (2 Timothy 2:11).

Are we then saved by our works? It is strange how a jump is made by many professed Christians that if we assert the necessity of baptism, then it somehow nullifies the grace of God. We are not saved by our own works (Ephesians 2:9), but by grace. So is baptism a work we do, or a work God does to us? Notice the way Titus 3:3-5 places the emphasis on God as the one doing the washing! Furthermore, the very context of Ephesians 2 elaborates on the same point being made in Romans 6. “But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love... even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ... and raised us up with Him...” (Ephesians 2:4-6). The word itself might

not appear in the text, but this is as much a passage about baptism as anything else in the New Testament! This is Romans 6 language!

It is faith that leads us to the cross. When confronted with the Gospel, our faith drives us to act (Romans 4:18-22). "For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ (Galatians 3:26-27).

"For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection; knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, that our body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died is freed from sin" (Romans 6:5-7).

Jesus was buried after his crucifixion, leaving behind a physical life for a short time. On the third day, the Savior arose from the grave in newness of life, to be saved from the grave and preserved for His ascension. We, too, share the death, burial, and resurrection through baptism. We are united with Christ in this act. No other action or attitude can replace this in the process of salvation.

~via *East Shelby News*; Collierville, Tennessee.



Three Questions

Shawn Bain

When you read the Bible or hear it read, do you ever find your eyes or ears see and hear one thing?

Think about this passage. "...And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead." (Colossians 1:18). Did or has your mind thought something else? "James' mom and dad get here tomorrow. Floor's okay, but I've got to clean the whole bathroom. I wanted to fix... I need to..."

Instead of having that struggle, write down three questions and be ready to answer each one when you read or hear the Bible read.

What does it say?

What does it mean?

What should I do?

As you do this, you will find when your eyes read or your ears hear, "...And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead." Your mind will think -- The apostle Paul writes Jesus IS given authority in the church as the head as given authority in the creation from the beginning. Jesus also has power to raise from the dead. Jesus had, does, and will forever have authority in creation, the church, and the resurrection. No one has or will be given such a place as Jesus.

Now I must decide who will be the authority in my life; they are our greatest friends.

~via *Lakeview Lamp*, Hendersonville, Tennessee.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Dale Adcock	Delmer Carter
JoAnn Gilbert	Arvid McGuire
Bobbie Adcock	Doris Lovell
Loretta Warner	Alvis McLemore
Yvonne Strickland	Ann Bush
Lloyd Adams	Joyce Tucker
Jessica Bost	

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
Carrie Warner	Kevin Belue

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Carson Parks; Huntsville Hospital- W&C; NICU
Marion Pepper; Athens-Limestone Hosp. – rm. 247
Mot Beasley; Athens-Limestone Hosp. – rm. 209

Norman Hamm; Millenium - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 33 Mattie Murray, rm. 2
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7 Connie Brock, rm. 62
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77 Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36

Limestone Health Facility:

Virginia Meyer, rm. 64 Bettye Harrison, rm. 59
Alice Roberson, rm. 49

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Eleese Barksdale, Limestone Lodge
Deanie Britton, Limestone Lodge
Frances Bowers, Limestone Manor
Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison
Irene Inman, at home
Stan Stanford, at home
William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison
Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Marion Pepper moved from the Madison Hospital to Athens-Limestone Hospital – room 247... **Harold & Barb Ash** have been sick at home with fever and cough and are quarantined. They are still waiting on tests results... **Larry Tucker's mom, Joyce Tucker**, is at home and they are staying with her now. They are making adjustments as needed. ... **Betty Lovell** is at home continuing her therapy and dialysis treatments... **Mot Beasley** is in the Athens-Limestone Hospital.

OUT OF TOWN: **The Stiles:** **Chuck & Benita** are back in Vicksburg, Mississippi with Chuck's work... **Christian Usery** is in Long Beach, California with work. He will finish their on April 22nd and go to his next assignment on April 27th.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Opal Conn, Benita Stiles and all the family** in the passing of Opal's daughter, **Tami Conn**, this past week. There was no public visitation or funeral for her... We, also, want to express our deepest sympathy to **Steve Stringer** in the passing of his cousin, **Sara Ultz Watson**, this past Monday.

NEW BABY: We rejoice this week over the birth of **Carson Parks**. Carson was born to **Charles and Meredith Parks** this past Wednesday. He weighed 6lbs. 7 ozs. and was 18 inches long. Meredith is now at home and Carson will remain at the hospital for a couple of more days. We look forward to Carson being at home with **Charles, Meredith** and his big brother, **Aharon** and his big sister, **Harper**.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, April 5th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....
Song Leader
Prayer.....
Preaching.....
Lord's Supper
Presiding.....
Assisting.....
Serving
.....
Closing Prayer.....

Evening Worship

Announcements.....
Song Leader
Prayer.....
Preaching.....
Lord's Supper
Closing Prayer.....

Other Assignments for the week of April 5th:
Ushers..... Steve Usery/Christian Usery
Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, April 8th:

Song Leader
Bible Reading..... Hebrews 10:26-31
.....
Prayer.....
Invitation.....
Closing Prayer.....

Sunday, April 12th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Larry Holt
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer..... Tony Thomas
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Marty Adams
Assisting..... Dwaine Allfrey
Serving Nathaniel Adams..... Harold Davis
..... Danny Holt Marvin Putman
Closing Prayer..... Terry Andrews

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Larry Holt
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer..... Larry Mitchell
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Dwaine Allfrey
Closing Prayer..... Joel Hamm

Other Assignments for the week of April 12th:
Ushers..... Keenon Currier/Heath Dollar
Work Sound System..... Landon Adams