

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 Coblenz..... (256) 232-3312
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

Volume XIII

March 7, 2021

No. 10

Things Which Make For Peace

David A. Cox

"Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another" (Romans 14:19).

Among any group of people, there will be times that there will not be agreement on some issue. It is true in the family, in the workplace, in school, and in the church. Why is this the case? Because people are different. Even among the twelve, they had these moments (Mark 9:33-34; Matthew 20:24). Paul writing to the Romans is reminding them that they should work for peace. Why? So the church can be edified, strengthened, and built up. Peace is absolutely necessary if we are to be successful in strengthening others and reaching others for Christ. Let us consider the things which will make for peace.

Resolve Conflict. Conflict must be resolved if we are to have peace. The idea that we can just sweep conflict under the rug and go on to achieve peace is very shortsighted. Solomon writes, "The beginning of strife is like releasing water; Therefore stop contention before a quarrel starts" (Proverbs 17:14). The instruction of Solomon is to "stop contention." It is much easier to stop contention than to unravel a quarrel. The idea is that we should be seeking reconciliation, to be made friends again. We need to see the tragedy of allowing differences of opinion to destroy the work of God. Paul is saying that Christians should not let these things hinder the growth and development of the church. In resolving conflict, we will remove the trivial things from standing in our way.

Restrain Your Tongue. The tongue can cause the greatest harm and can disrupt peace among people. We would do well to remember the instruction of James, "So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath" (James 1:19). James tells us to be "slow to speak," which is precisely restraining our tongue. The one pursuing peace will use his tongue to build up, instruct, and not to belittle, tear down, or win the argument. It is just not worth the disruption of peace and the edification of the church.

Actively Pursue Peace. As the people of God, we need to be peace-

makers with everyone (Romans 12:18). We must be proactive in creating an atmosphere of peace. This is done as we invest time with God. Take time to read the scriptures and meditate on them. Pray to God for yourself and for others. Take time to focus on the mission that God has given us to do. When peace seems to be almost unfathomable, continue to pursue peace in doing these things.

Take the time to follow these things that make for peace. It will draw you closer to God and closer together. Peace will allow you to grow and be an influence on those you are around for good. Remember, Jesus taught, “Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called sons of God” (Matthew 6:9).



“For God Alone My Soul Waits”

Jason Hardin

In Psalm 62:1-2, David wrote:

For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.

Could I encourage you to think deeply about Psalm 62:1 this week? This would be a great verse to memorize today. Write it on some Post-It notes and stick them in strategic places where you’re sure to see them. Recite this verse off-and-on throughout the week. Use it as fuel for your prayers.

For God alone my soul waits in silence...

“For God alone.” Remember this week that “in him (you) live and move and have (your) being” (Acts 17:28). He created you. He is sustaining you. He upholds your universe by the word of his power (Hebrews 1:3). Heaven is his throne and the earth is his footstool (Isaiah 66:1). As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are his ways higher than your ways and his thoughts than your thoughts (Isaiah 55:9). And yet, he desires a close, personal relationship with you. He continues to invite you to taste and see that he is good (Psalm 34:8). He is

worthy of your worship today and your faithful service this week. “For God alone.” He’s in a class all by himself.

“My soul.” You are more than a body. There is a very real part of you created in God’s own image. If he wills, this week will be full of responsibilities and opportunities—work, school, chores, projects, progress—but right now is a good moment to resolve that in the midst of the busyness, you won’t neglect your soul. The day will come when the dust returns to the earth as it was, and your spirit will return to the God who gave it (Ecclesiastes 12:7). The fool wastes his or her life by focusing on the vanities of the temporary. How terrible it would be to hear from God when my time on earth is done, “You fool! This very night your soul is required of you. And now, all of those toys and trinkets you devoted so much time to, whose will they be?” So is the one who builds his life on the sand, laying up treasure for himself, all while neglecting his one and only soul.

“Waits in silence.” You live in a noisy world. You’re starting a new week that will likely be filled with dings, chimes, rings, and all sorts of racket. Let’s allow our worship today to set a tone for the week. Take a little bit of time—quiet time—each day to commune with your Father in heaven “who sees in secret” (Matthew 6:6). Pray to him. Meet him in his word. Sing his praises. Express your gratitude. Meditate on his testimonies. Ask for wisdom. Seek his face. Such quiet time could require unplugging, turning off, maybe even some purging. But isn’t your soul worth it? Isn’t your Father worthy?

“For God alone my soul waits in silence.” Don’t waste your week. Lean on Psalm 62:1 and you will not be greatly shaken.

~via *Charlestown Road Bulletin*; New Albany, Indiana.



Great Privileges Bring Serious Responsibility

Matthew H. Allen

Pause for a moment and consider all the ways God has blessed you spiritually.

It's amazing, isn't it?

Now, spend a few moments in prayer thanking and praising Him.

I love 1 Peter. Writing to encourage Christians during stressful times, Peter first addresses the spiritual purposes and motives behind the actions God intends:

In 1:3, the focus is on hope. Think back. Hope was at the foundation of your response to Christ. Becoming a Christian involves the desire to get to a better place... in this life and the next. Hope is the reason you live in Christ. Peter calls it a living hope. This hope will go on living because it is not subject to death. It is rooted in Jesus' resurrection, 1 Corinthians 15.20, 22.

In 1.4, readers are reminded of their inheritance. You are a spiritual heir. By God's power, you live in hope of a promised land, your own country. You hope for a place that will be incorruptible, imperishable and undefiled. A place where time is no more.

As long as you continue your relationship with Christ, God's power guards you, 1:5. Christians live in anticipation of the ultimate salvation, life with God.

These blessings are beautiful. When you consider men like Elijah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Daniel, you probably think of towers of strength. Yet, those men would have gladly traded places with you just to have the opportunity to experience the privileges enjoyed by Christians. As great as they were, they never had what you have in Christ, 1:10-12.

As a son or daughter of God you enjoy the finest spiritual privileges God has yet revealed. But, this brings great responsibility.

Are you taking your spiritual life seriously?

Gird up your mind, 1:13. New Testament Christians need to develop a mind to work. Lazy minds produce thoughtless acts that work against salvation. Salvation involves both mind and body. Jesus deserves much more

than a passing thought. Strive to make sensible and wise decisions as you lead your life. Will the decisions you make today lead you closer to God?

Live righteously with holy conduct, 1:14-16. As a Christian, you have accepted the responsibility to be holy in all behavior. As God is totally set apart from sin, you must consciously seek to set yourself apart from sin. Will the decisions you make today lead you toward holiness?

Realize the seriousness of your commitment, 1:17. If you call God your Father, live for Him in awe and respect. Never forget the price He paid to redeem you - making your relationship with Him possible. God used something more precious than money to purchase your freedom. He used the blood of His sinless Son. The point of 1.18-19 is that if you accept His redemption, you must live in awareness of what it cost Him. Will the decisions you make today be a reflection of the effect Christ's death has had on you?

Being a Christian is a precious privilege and a serious responsibility.

How serious are you about your relationship with Christ?

Is it the most important aspect of your life?

~via *Cornerstone church of Christ*, Centerville, Ohio.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Shirley Miller
Peggy Smith
Betty Pepper
Frank Melton
JoAnn Gilbert
Doris Lovell
Justice Gentry
Bobby Ogles
Marsha Young

Tony Thomas
Pat Nixon
Bonnie Sutton
Bobbie Adcock
Jimmy Johnson
Dan Lovell
Glynda Walker
Ann Bush
Karen Ferguson

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Harold Ash
Peggy Pepper
Vicki Stringer
Nikki Ogles

Donna Wright
Loretta Warner
Freddie Mae Elmore
Anita Wheeler

Lona Jackson Judy Vaughn
 Lloyd Adams Jeanette Weir
 Janice Cagle Cornelia Pepper
 Wayne Wooldridge Carrie Warner
 Cindy Walker Kenneth Fisher
 Al Pollard Charles Burns
 David Collier Phillip Harwell
 Wade Williams Una King Currier

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15 Elase Barksdale, rm. 22A
 Connie Brock, rm. 62 Brenda Wilson, rm. 77
 Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36 Christine Hudson, rm. 77
 Valeria Dalton, rm. 7 Patsy Appleton, rm. 113

Limestone Health Facility:

Bettye Harrison, rm. 59 Frances Bowers, rm. 67
 Alice Roberson, rm. 49 Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 98

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Marci Bassett, Limestone Manor
 Deanie Britton, Limestone Lodge
 Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
 Barbara Carter, Traditions
 Irene Inman, at home
 Stan Stanford, at home
 William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison
 Alan Thornton, Limestone Lodge
 Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Peggy Smith is scheduled to have hip surgery in Decatur on Tuesday ...***Frank Melton*** is scheduled to have eye surgery in Birmingham on Tuesday ...***Judy Vaughn*** is scheduled to have a heart ablation done on Thursday at Crestwood Hospital ...***Leigh Ann McGlocklin*** began her radiation treatments this past Thursday. She will have a total of 21 treatments. ...***Harold Ash*** has continued his series of radiation treatments this week. The treatments will continue for 7 more weeks ...***Tony Thomas*** is making progress in his recovery and is beginning his rehabilitation. ...***Bonnie Sutton*** is not doing well.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Stiles:* *Chuck and Benita* are in Vicksburg, Mississippi. ...***Christian Usery*** continues working in Birmingham.

THE RECORD: Attendance for week of February 28th:

Sunday: Bible Classes 103
 Morning Worship 130
 Evening Worship 92
 Wednesday: Bible Classes 79

Remember Our Service Today at 5:00.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, March 7th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Joel Hamm
 Song Leader Larry Holt
 Prayer..... Bob Broadus
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Harvey Nixon
 Assisting Marcus Morris
 Serving Marvin Putman Matthew Usery
 Landon Adams Keenon Currier
 Closing Prayer Mike Ogles

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Joel Hamm
 Song Leader Stephen Lynn
 Prayer..... Larry Mitchell
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper Harvey Nixon
 Closing Prayer Kenneth Smith

Other Assignments for the week of March 7th:

Ushers..... Tommy Coblenz/Danny Johnson
 Work Sound System..... Terry Andrews

Wednesday, March 10th:

Song Leader Clayton Hamm
 Bible Reading Russ Wulfekuhl
 (2 Peter 1:12-21)
 Prayer..... Kenneth Adams
 Invitation Hunter Cox
 Closing Prayer Tommy Coblenz

Sunday, March 14th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
 Song Leader Tommy Burns
 Prayer..... Joel Hamm
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Larry Tucker
 Assisting Keith Hinkle
 Serving Clayton Hamm Matthew Usery
 Heath Dollar Kenneth Adams
 Closing Prayer Roger Hammonds

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
 Song Leader Bob Broadus
 Prayer..... Dan Reed
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper Larry Tucker
 Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for the week of March 14th:

Ushers..... Danny Johnson/Marcus Morris
 Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams