

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 Coblantz..... (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

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David A. Cox, Editor

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No. 8

“Be Sure Your Sin Will Find You Out”

David A. Cox

“But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the Lord; and be sure your sin will find you out” (Numbers 32:23).

In 2003, Las Vegas tourism started using the slogan, “What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas.” The sentiment of the commercial is what many think about the sins of their lives. They believe that what they do in their own privacy is their business, and no one should say or do anything about it. The statement conveys the exact opposite of the instruction in Numbers 32:23, “be sure your sin will find you out.”

In Numbers 32, the tribes of Reuben and Gad requested the land on the east side of the river Jordan. Moses granted them the request, but they were to help the other tribes in the conquest of the land, then return to their families in the land they had been given. Moses reminded them that if they did not do as they had agreed, they would be guilty of sin and “be sure your sin will find you out” (Number 32:23). In thinking about this, it would do us well to think of a couple of lessons we should get clear in our minds from what Moses said.

It does not say if or when. Many think that sins are only a problem if and when they are known. The fact is that all sins are problems in our relationship with God. Isaiah 59:2 tells us, “But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you...” We must understand that sins will cost us an eternity with God unless we deal with and correct them according to God’s will. We may hide our sins from men so that they may not know them, but God does. The Hebrew writer said, “there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account” (Hebrews 4:13).

Your sins will find you out. Every criminal commits a crime thinking that it is a perfect crime. But many criminals will slip, and the crime is detected and proven. However, some crimes may be committed that men may never know of, but there is not a sin that God does not know.

The wise man said, "For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil" (Ecclesiastes 12:14).

Examples of Sins Hidden But God Knew

The sin Achan committed in Joshua 7. When the children of Israel took the city of Jericho, they were told not to take anything. But Achan took of the spoils of the city and hid it among his things. No one knew about it, but God did! Following the great victory for the children of Israel at Jericho, they were defeated by Ai. God told Joshua that sin was among them because they had taken of the spoils of Jericho.

David's sin with Bathsheba is another example of sin being covered and hidden from men, but that God knew all about. David committed fornication with Bathsheba and hid the sin from those around him. He lied and had Uriah, Bathsheba's husband, killed, trying to cover and hide his sin (2 Samuel 11). David thought the sin was covered and hidden and that no one knew. It was true no man knew, but his sin was found out because God knew. Nathan, the prophet, confronted David and told him of his sin. David confessed, "I have sinned." The point is that we must realize that our sins will find us out, and we must seek God's forgiveness for our sins.

Let us not be deceived in thinking that if we travel far away from home that no one will know, or if we can conceal our sins in the sight of others that everything is all right. The fact is, our sins separate us from God and can cost us an eternal life of bliss. Remember the promise in Revelation 14:13, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord..." When we put on Christ in baptism, we are dead to our sins and are in Christ (Galatians 3:27; Romans 6:3-6). As we put on Christ, then we serve Him and seek to please Him. As we confess our sins, and God will forgive us (1 John 1:9).



Preparing To Die Well

Gary Kerr

I love to read. I do a lot of reading of all kinds, including things to help me in my work of preaching. However, I also try to set aside some time every day to do some "recreational" reading on a variety of subjects, usually history-related. Several years ago I enjoyed very much reading Robert V. Remini's three-volume biography of Andrew Jackson, our eighth president. The second volume of that set is entitled *The Course of American Freedom, 1822-1832*, and in it I found the following story.

In June, 1832, a massive cholera epidemic hit the United States, having been transported to this country from Europe. It has been estimated that between June 1st and November 1st, some three-thousand people died from this disease, and one of the hardest hit cities in the U.S. was Washington D.C. Nearing the end of his first term, President Andrew Jackson, already in poor health at age 65, was warned by his family back in Tennessee to get out of Washington and return to the Hermitage, his plantation home near Nashville, to ride out the epidemic. Jackson eventually did return to Tennessee, but not until July. Prior to his departure (June 21st), Jackson wrote a letter to his beloved daughter-in-law, Sarah, to calm her fears for his health. In that letter, he said, in part:

"My Dear Sarah, Knowing that we have to die we ought to live to be prepared to die well, and then, let death come when it may, we will meet it without alarm, and be ready to say, 'The Lord's will be done.'" (Remini, p. 387).

To be honest, this statement took me by surprise. Jackson spent most of his life a skeptic at best, believing most if not all organized religions were out to take money from the masses, and were harmful to society. He did claim to accept Christ, on the urging of his wife Rachel, just prior to her death in 1828, and he "professed" religion from then until his death in 1845. However, even his admiring biographer Remini refers to the above statement as "pious fatalism," the last hope of an old man who desperately missed his wife and wanted some hope that he might be with her again.

Whatever Jackson's spiritual condition might have been, I believe he expressed poignantly and accurately a Scriptural truth that we all must accept. The author

of the book of Hebrews says, “And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment” (9:27). Jackson was right! We all have to die, and we will all stand before God in judgment. How much calmer, how much more serene, how much more composed could we be approaching our own deaths than knowing that we had “lived well,” and that we were prepared to face that judgment of God and hear Him say, “Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world” (Matthew 25:34).

What about you? Are you striving to “live well” so that you can go to Heaven? If not, then you are, in the words of a wonderful old song, “unprepared to meet your God,” and should face the prospect of your own approaching death with alarm! Why not correct that situation while you have opportunity? When you do, you will know what Jackson was talking about, what Paul called that “peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension” (Philippians 4:7).

~via *Eastside church of Christ*; Bowling Green, Kentucky..



Repent: God Is Ready to Forgive

Stacy Crim

The visions Isaiah the prophet received were messages from God to Judah and Jerusalem. The first chapter reveals that God’s people in the south had rebelled against Him (verse 2). The people were weighed down with sin (verse 4). They were guilty of forsaking the Lord (verse 4) and their worship had been corrupted (verses 10-15).

What does God expect of His people when they are no longer following Him? Repentance! God expects one to change. Change their directions, change their thoughts, change their behavior. Notice how this change and return to God (repentance) is described in verses sixteen and seventeen.

- *Wash Yourself, make yourself clean* – sin is described as making one unclean so the instruction is to wash it off metaphorically.

- *Put Away the Evil* – What one is doing wrong must be removed from one’s life.
- *Cease to do Evil* – Stop doing what is wrong.
- *Learn to Do Well* – Doing what is right is learned. Become accustomed to doing what is right.
- *Seek Judgment* – Fairness and justice must always be sought after.
- *Relieve the Oppressed* – God expects His people to stand up for and correct that which is wrong
- *Defend the Fatherless* – God expects His people to aid or defend those who are helpless
- *Plead of the Widow* – God expects His people to be the voice for those unable to defend themselves.

Thankfully we serve a loving God who is ready to forgive when we repent. “...Though you sins are like scarlet, they Shall be white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool” (verse 18).

~via *In Season and Out*; Huntington, West Virginia.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Shirley Miller	Marvin Putman
Tony Thomas	Peggy Smith
Bonnie Sutton	Pat Nixon
Frank Melton	Betty Pepper
Bobbie Adcock	JoAnn Gilbert
Jimmy Johnson	Doris Lovell
Justice Gentry	Glynda Walker
Bobby Ogles	Ann Bush
Marsha Young	Austin Terry

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Harold Ash	Donna Wright
Loretta Warner	Vicki Stringer
Freddie Mae Elmore	Nikki Ogles
Anita Wheeler	Lona Jackson
Judy Vaughn	Lloyd Adams
Jeanette Weir	Janice Cagle
Cornelia Pepper	Ella Melvin
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:

Peggy Pepper, Valley View Rehabilitation

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15 Elease Barksdale, rm. 22A

Connie Brock, rm. 62 Brenda Wilson, rm. 77

Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36 Christine Hudson, rm. 77

Valeria Dalton, rm. 7

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:

Harold Ash is scheduled this week to begin series of radiation treatments for the next nine weeks. Please keep Harold in your prayers ... **Tony Thomas** continues to make progress in his recovery from his recent back surgery. ... **Marvin Putman** had two heart ablations done on Wednesday. He stayed overnight and came home on Thursday and will treat him with medication ... **Jerry Hammonds, Roger Hammonds brother**, is doing well following his triple by-pass surgery ... **Bonnie Sutton** is not doing well ... **Shirley Miller** is scheduled to see her doctor on Monday ... **Marci Bassett** will be able to continue living at the Limestone Manor.

TREASURES OF SNOW: In Job 38:22, Job mentions the "treasures of snow." It may be that this past week as we have seen snow that has been around us for most of the week, we have considered treasures of snow. The Lord continues to bless us, and may we be thankful to Him and bless His name.

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 14th:

Sunday: Bible Classes 95

Morning Worship 120

Evening Worship

Wednesday: Bible Classes

Remember Our Service Today at 5:00.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, February 21st:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Larry Tucker
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer..... Marty R. Adams
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Keith Hinkle
Assisting Marcus Morris
Serving Heath Dollar Roger Hammonds
..... Russ Wulfekuhl Danny Johnson
Closing Prayer Danny Holt

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Larry Tucker
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer..... Dan Reed
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Keith Hinkle
Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Other Assignments for the week of February 21st:

Ushers..... Larry Mitchell/Marvin Putman
Work Sound System..... Larry Holt

Wednesday, February 24th:

Song Leader Clayton Hamm
Bible Reading Marcus Morris
..... (1 Peter 5:1-14)
Prayer..... Keith Hinkle
Invitation Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer Danny Holt

Sunday, February 28th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Marty R. Adams
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer..... Marcus Morris
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Tommy Coblentz
Assisting Terry Andrews
Serving Sam Gregory Nathaniel Adams
..... Matthew Vaughn... Charles Vaughn
Closing Prayer Kenneth Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Marty R. Adams
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer..... Larry Mitchell
Preaching Song Service
Lord's Supper Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer Roger Hammonds

Other Assignments for the week of February 28th:

Ushers..... Danny Holt/Keenon Currier
Work Sound System..... Landon Adams