

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

April 11, 2021

No. 15

True Happiness and Joy

David A. Cox

In the world we live in, most people are living life for themselves. They want to be happy and have fallen for the idea to do whatever you want, and you will be happy. The problem with this philosophy is that it will only take you into a spiral of life that leads to a life of staleness and inactivity. The joy at the moment does not last, and one becomes discouraged about ever being happy. Long ago, Jesus taught principles that would bring to one's life true happiness and joy. The life of true happiness and joy is not found in oneself, but putting in your life the characteristics that reflect God's image.

The Principles of Character in the Sermon on the Mount.

In Matthew 5, Jesus has begun His ministry. He has gained much popularity among the people, and multitudes are following Him. At this point, Jesus begins to teach them the principles of character for those in the kingdom.

1. *To Be Poor in Spirit and Mourn.* In Matthew 5:2-4, Jesus begins saying, "Blessed are..." The word translated "blessed" describes people that are in an enviable position. The people mentioned are people that are considered to be in a good place. The poor in spirit are not often seen as being in an envious spot. Those who are "poor in spirit" have come to realize their need for God; Jesus proclaims that such people are the real winners, the ones who are happy. What a contrast is pictured of the poor in spirit being the happy and joyful people, rather than the arrogant and smug people around them. The same blessing is pronounced upon those that mourn. This seems to be a contradictory statement, but the mourning over sin will lead one to find the joy and happiness that escapes them.
2. *To Be Meek and Hungry.* We people read "Blessed are the meek...". They often equate meekness with weakness, and that is not the case. Jesus is not commending the feeble and spineless people; instead, He praises those under restraint and control to God. Jesus and Moses are both described in scripture (Numbers 12:3; Mathew 11:29), but

they are examples of strength and fortitude in doing the will of God. Those who do please God will be granted a home in heaven with God. Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness and living right understand true happiness in the eternal perspective.

3. *To Be Merciful and Peaceful.* As we see in this world, there is little emphasis given to having mercy. As a matter of fact, we see many living with the attitude of “survival of the fittest” and little attention to mercy and compassion. Jesus is stating that to reflect the character of God, one must be compassionate or merciful. How much having mercy and compassion will lead people to find happiness and joy. Merciful people understand their failures in life and know that revenge, or “eye for an eye” mentality, will bring no joy or peace for anyone.
4. *To Be Pure.* Purity is behavior that is uncontaminated. Purity begins in the heart of an individual. If the heart is pure, the behavior will follow. Still, if the heart is contaminated by evil, then hypocrisy and ungodliness will follow. Jesus states here that people of pure and good hearts will find joy and happiness as the seed of the word of God will take root in their lives. The lives of the pure in heart will flourish in righteousness and holiness. The attitude by which they will live will be happy, understanding the real value of earthly things and the real value of the treasures in heaven.

Jesus not only taught these things to the multitudes who followed Him, but He lived them out in His life before them. He showed that true happiness is not in the appearance of things, but it is grounded in the fact of who you are. May we all learn true happiness and joy.



Itching For New Arrivals

Larry Jones

The fashion clothing store sign reads: “New arrivals weekly”. We would rightly say that’s just good advertising. There are many things about “new” that can be exciting. Depending on the product, “new” may imply updated, stronger, faster, better suited to purpose. Think of computers and phones.

But what about “new” in the realm of religion? Is something new “better”? No. Over and over again the Bible tells us how men seek novelty but to their own destruction.

“But Jeshurun grew fat and kicked; you grew fat, you grew thick, you are covered with fat; then he forsook God who made him, and scornfully esteemed the Rock of his salvation. They provoked Him to jealousy with foreign gods; with abominations they provoked Him to anger. They sacrificed to demons, not to God, to gods they did not know, to new gods, new arrivals that your fathers did not fear. Of the Rock who begot you, you are unmindful, and have forgotten the God who fathered you” (Deuteronomy 32:15-18).

In Moses’ song of Israel’s future apostasy, prophesying in language as if already having happened, he said they sacrificed to “new gods, new arrivals.” Having forsaken God, they were attracted to new gods. The weeping prophet wrote much later the solution to their falling away: “Stand in the way and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it” (Jeremiah 6:16). Reject the new arrivals and go back to God’s way.

The itch for “new arrivals” continues today. Christ set in His church apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers for the purpose of “equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God...” (Ephesians 4:11-13). But that wasn’t all. Christ’s purpose in His design is that we not be “children, tossed to and fro with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men...” (verse 14). Christ desires that we be grounded in the faith so that when the winds of doctrines blow with the fragrances of novelty, we will recognize them for what they are and not itch for them but reject them. Paul told the churches of Galatia that “if anyone preaches any other

gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed” (Galatians 1:9). Don’t peddle new arrivals and don’t accept them. Paul warned Timothy that he needed to preach the word in season and out of season, convincing, rebuking, exhorting, with all longsuffering and teaching, “for the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables” (2 Timothy 4:1-4). The fables could be old ones or new ones. Either way they would be “new arrivals” in contrast to the truth of the word of God.

Today as then, God’s old paths are being abandoned; new arrivals are being accepted. Instruments of music in worship are as old as the hills; they are old hat for denominations. But for straying brethren, they are a new arrival. One must wonder why they are just now coming around to their new arrival. The answer is in the context of Deuteronomy 32:15-18 above. Like Israel, called Jeshurun in that context, some brethren have kicked, grown fat and thick, and scornfully esteemed the Rock of their salvation. They’ve “kicked” – rebelled – against the will of God, and then they’ve become “thick” in their conscience, losing the sensitivity that was once there – there is no sting of conscience any longer. And as a result they have developed a scornful esteem for God, which is part and parcel with disrespect of His authority. They have set themselves up to seek for and then easily accept and bask in their “new arrivals.” Truly Deuteronomy 32:15-18 is a picture of the road of apostasy.

Let’s don’t go there. Let us ask for, seek, and knock at the door of the old paths. Truth has not changed. The doctrine of Christ is the same today as it was yesterday. The Bereans searched the Scriptures daily to see whether “these things were so” (Acts 17:11). They were looking into the old paths of Old Testament Scripture to verify the truth of Jesus Christ and Him crucified. Let us look to the old paths of the doctrine of Christ and reject new arrivals. “Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him” (Colossians 3:17).

~via *Think On These Things*; Moscow, Idaho.

Remember Our Study Period

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Beacon of Truth

Radio Program

Sunday Mornings

on WNN 770AM – 92.5 FM

8:30a.m. - 9:00a.m.

**MARKET STREET
CHURCH OF CHRIST**
514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Barbara Ash	Lona Jackson
Betty Lovell	Pat Nixon
Shirley Miller	Tony Thomas
Peggy Smith	Betty Pepper
JoAnn Gilbert	Jimmy Johnson
Doris Lovell	Justice Gentry

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Harold Ash	Leigh Ann McGlocklin
Peggy Pepper	Loretta Warner
Vicki Stringer	Freddie Mae Elmore
Nikki Ogles	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

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Ann McLemore, rm. 114	Elease Barksdale, rm. 23B
Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Brenda Wilson, rm. 77
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Connie Brock, rm. 62

Limestone Health Facility:

Bettye Harrison, rm. 59	Joy Warner, rm.
Frances Bowers, rm. 67	Mary Ruth Gardner, rm.
Ann Bush, rm. 75	Alice Roberson, rm. 49
Bobby Ogles, rm. 27	

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Bobbie Adcock, at home

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

Updates:

Vicki Stringer had surgery this week at Athens Hospital due to her port being blocked with blood clots. They were able to insert a new port next to the existing port. **Joy Warner** spent several days this past week in the Madison Hospital, but was released Thursday and was admitted to Limestone Health Facility for rehabilitation. **Ann McLemore** is in Restore for rehabilitation, but she is scheduled to go home on Monday. **Pat Nixon** has been sick and unable to be at services. **Joan Glass** is to return to the doctor next week for a CT scan. **Leigh Ann McGlocklin** has completed her radiation treatments. **Harold Ash** has continued his radiation treatments. The treatments will continue for 2 more weeks ... **Helen Blankenship's great-grandson, Grayson Craig** has been in the hospital this past week going through a number of tests for pain he is experiencing. He is at home from the hospital and awaiting word from the tests.

PICTURES: We are beginning to update pictures for our directory. The pictures will be made before and after service in the east wing.

CALL MESSAGES FROM MARKET STREET:

From time to time the church at Market Street uses an automated calling system to inform the members of the information that needs to be disseminated quickly. The phone number of the church for these calls is 256-297-2307. If you receive a call from this number, it will be the Market Street church message system. The message system is voice activated, so this will require you to say something and then the message should follow. There may be a slight delay in the start up of the message.

OUT OF TOWN: The Stiles: *Chuck and Benita* are in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

THE RECORD: Attendance for week of April 4th:

Sunday: Bible Classes 120
 Morning Worship 158
 Evening Worship 102
 Wednesday: Bible Classes 84

Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, April 11th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....Keith Hinkle
 Song Leader Larry Holt
 Prayer..... Kenneth Smith
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Harvey Nixon
 Assisting Mike Ogles
 ServingChristian Usery Matthew Usery
 Charles Vaughn Heath Dollar
 Closing Prayer Frank Melton

Evening Worship

Announcements.....Keith Hinkle
 Song Leader Tommy Burns
 Prayer..... Marty R. Adams
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper Harvey Nixon
 Closing Prayer Danny Holt

Other Assignments for the week of April 11th:

Ushers..... Larry Mitchell/Danny Johnson
 Work Sound System..... Terry Andrews

Wednesday, April 14th:

Song Leader Bob Broadus
 Bible Reading Clayton Hamm
 (1 John 1:1-10)
 Prayer..... Landon Adams
 Invitation Nathaniel Adams
 Closing Prayer Larry Tucker

Sunday, April 18th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Joel Hamm
 Song Leader Stephen Lynn
 Prayer..... Tommy Coblenz
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Marcus Morris
 Assisting Terry Andrews
 Serving Roger Hammonds .. Danny Johnson
 Russ Wulfekuhl Sam Gregory
 Closing Prayer Marty R. Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Joel Hamm
 Song Leader Larry Holt
 Prayer..... Larry Mitchell
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper Marcus Morris
 Closing Prayer Clayton Hamm

Other Assignments for the week of April 18th:

Ushers..... Keith Hinkle/Christian Usery
 Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams