

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

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No. 1



Revive Us Again!

David A. Cox

"Will You not revive us again, That Your people may rejoice in You" — (Psalm 85:6)

The psalmist is crying out for the Lord to revive His people again. In reading the psalms, the thought of revival is commonly repeated. The word "revival" is from a Hebrew word that means "to bring back to life" or "restore to a previous consciousness." Life has a way of grinding people down spiritually. Especially in the last couple of years, we cannot but see the grinding effects of life on people's lives. The stresses and fear of sickness, the division and turmoil in our land will certainly grind us down and remove the spiritual fervor in our lives. For this reason, it is time for us to cry out for revival in our lives that we may be stronger and better able to affect the lives of those around us.

Why Revival?

We need revival to increase our zeal for the Lord. The work God

has given to us to do. We need a revival of joy in serving God and living the life we are blessed with on this earth. We need to see the great value of our worshiping and praising God together. Revival will lead us to an increasing love for one another. Revival will help to live our lives in fully sacrificing what we have to serve the Lord. Indeed, we need a revival to stem the tide of the godlessness that abounds in the world around us.

The Tragedy of Failing To Be Revived.

The tragedy of failing to be revived is great. If we fail to be revived, we lose the preciousness, refreshing and passion that comes from salvation. The joy and excitement of forgiveness are gone. The wonder and the relationship with God become stale, and the passion is gone. Being a disciple is simply a matter of checking the right boxes and merely an outward exercise. We lose the love and passion we should have as we serve God in doing what He has told us to do in the way He has told us.

In the years following the civil war and division and turmoil that prevailed in our land William Mackay penned the words of the hymn, "Revive Us Again." In this hymn, we are called upon to focus on the ultimate sacrifice that Jesus made by giving His life to redeem mankind of its sins. At times we feel overwhelmed or stressed by the things in life. Indeed, now is such a time, a time for a revival. May all turn to the Lord and be revived again.



Raising Expectations

Joshua Creel

For forty days, the Philistine champion took his stand and issued his challenge to the army of Israel: "Choose a man for yourselves and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will become your servants; but if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall become our servants and serve us... I defy the ranks of Israel this day; give me a man that we may fight together." (1 Samuel 17:8-10) The Philistine champion was such an imposing figure (vv. 4-7) that his name, Goliath, has echoed through the centuries representing many dreadful foes. A cor-

responding champion was not to be found in the army of Saul, not a one of them would stand to face this giant (vv. 11, 24). But we remember this story from when we were kids. The hero, young David, was about to come on the scene; He would save the day!

But at that time, no one thought of David as a hero. In fact, the expectations for David were exceedingly low! His father, Jesse, sent David to the battlefield not as a warrior but as a messenger boy who could take provisions to his brothers and report back on their welfare (vv. 12-19). Jesse had no thought of his youngest son facing, let alone defeating, the Philistine champion. David's brothers had an even lower opinion of their youngest sibling. Eliab, the eldest, accused David of neglecting his duties at home so that he could come and witness a bloody battle (v. 28). Saul, the king of Israel, had been waiting forty days for one of his mighty warriors to accept Goliath's challenge, but they all wilted in fear. But when David came forward ready to face the giant, Saul's first words were, "you are not able to go against this Philistine..." (v. 33). And what about Goliath? He had been waiting for a challenger, but when David appeared, he only scoffed: "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" (v.43). No one expected much of our hero.

And that leads to why this story we loved as children should still resonate with us. We live in a world of pathetically low expectations. It is assumed that our marriages won't last, that our children won't respect us, that temptation cannot be avoided (nor should it be). And too many of us have bought into these low expectations. We may not look to divorce our spouses, but we settle for something far from the "one flesh" union God purposed. We allow all manner of filth to infiltrate our homes while being satisfied that we aren't as bad as "the world." Most tragic of all are the expectations we have for our kids, oftentimes equating their faithfulness with good church attendance and abounding in good works? No. Talking with their friends about the gospel? Not a chance. We've set the bar terribly low.

Yet God sets the bar exceedingly high! His expectations for us are that we are "holy as He is holy" (1 Peter 1:16), that we "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). God had high expectations for the army of Israel as well, that if they would be faithful to Him, "one of your men puts to flight a thousand, for the Lord your God is He who fights for you, just as He promised you" (Joshua 23:10). And this is why David is known to us as the hero of the story because his

expectations were high, knowing that the Lord “who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine” (1 Samuel 17:37). And when expectations are raised, actions will correspond to meet them. David still had to go face the giant, and he would do so with a sling and five smooth stones. He still had to step onto the battlefield, alone and against an opponent far more powerful than he. But he acted in faith that “the battle is the Lord’s and He will give you into my hands” (v. 47). Let’s allow God’s expectations to shape our actions. Let’s practice submission in marriage (Ephesians 5:21-31), trusting that God will truly sanctify our marriages. Let’s flee from temptation trusting that what God has in store for us is far greater. Let’s encourage our children to be examples in “speech, conduct, love, faith and purity” (1 Timothy 4:12), believing that they can be true children of God.

Finally, when we allow God to set our expectations and begin to act on them, we become known for what we are rather than what we are not. Why do we remember David and not Eliab? Was his brother Eliab a terrible person? I doubt it, but he didn’t trust in his God enough to act. We remember David because he acted on his faith. He was praised for what he did! (1 Samuel 18:7). What defines us? The fact that we don’t smoke, drink, curse, gamble, etc.? Too many Christians are defined by the negative, by what they don’t do. Let’s be defined by what we do as a people who trust in their God so much that they strive to meet His expectations in all things!

~via *The Brooksville Bulletin*; Brooksville, Florida.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Doris Fisher	Ida Nell Griffin
Jennifer Threet	Tena Wells
Gina Werka	James Adams
Betty Pepper	Donna Wright
Shirley Miller	JoAnn Gilbert
Doris Lovell	Diane Kilpatrick

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Tommy Burns	Priscilla Tucker
Peggy Pepper	Vicki Stringer
Freddie Mae Elmore	Nikki Ogles

Anita Wheeler	Lona Jackson
Judy Vaughn	Jeanette Weir
Lloyd Adams	Phillip Harwell
Cornelia Pepper	Charles Burns
Cindy Walker	Kenneth Fisher
Barry DeFoor	Al Pollard
Matt Bassford	Jeannie Felker
Sadricia Wilson	

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Elease Barksdale, rm. 23B
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Connie Brock, rm. 62	Janice Moody, rm. 93

Limestone Health Facility:

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 38	Bobby Ogles, rm. 13
Alice Roberson, rm. 49	Ann Bush, rm. 75

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Nell Barksdale; at home
 Marci Bassett; Limestone Manor
 Deanie Britton; Limestone Lodge
 Gwen Bullock; at granddaughter’s in Huntsville
 Barbara Carter; Traditions
 Unaking Currier; Riverside Sr. Living, Decatur
 Irene Inman; at home
 Stan Stanford; at home
 Jimmy Stroud; Valley View, Madison
 William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison
 Alan Thornton; Limestone Lodge
 Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Teresa Mitchell; Maury Regional – Columbia, Tennessee

Updates:

Doris Fisher had a reaction to some medicine that she was given for an infection. She is making some improvement... *Ida Nell Griffin* has been sick, battling a strep infection this week... *Gina Werka* has been sick with bronchitis... *James Adams* continues to not be doing well and is unable to be at services... *Donna Wright* has been but on some oxygen and it seems to be helping her ... *Jennifer Threet* has not been able to be out at services. Keep Jennifer in your prayers... *Tommy Burns* continues being treated for his cancer and has one more treatment remaining... *Dale Adcock’s sister, Teresa Mitchell*, is not doing well with the virus and continues in the hospital in Columbia, Tennessee... *Jackie Cox’s niece, Sadricia Wilson*, has been diagnosed with pancreatic and liver cancer... *Sue Thomas’ daughter, Amy*, was released from the St. Thomas Hospital in Nashville. They will be watching her blood pressure ... Remember our expecting

mother, *Laura Adams*, in your prayers.

NEW BABY: We rejoice with *Landon & Lynsey Adams* over the birth of their daughter this past Monday in Huntsville. *Jessie Marie* weighed 6lbs. 10 ozs. She is now at home with her parents and all is going well with them. We also want to congratulate *Marty & Marvella Adams* for being grandparents again. We look forward to getting to know Jessie.

CARD WRITING: The card writing group will meet Monday morning, January 10th, to write and mail out cards. If you would like to participate in this, please join them on Monday morning, January 10th at 10:30.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES CLASS: The Tuesday morning Ladies' Bible class meets each Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. We begin a new study this Tuesday morning. The class will be studying the "*The Christian in a Secular Age.*"

OUT OF TOWN: *Cecily Baker* is in Springdale, Arkansas this weekend...*The Parks: Charles, Meredith, Aharon, Harper & Carson* have been in Missouri this week for the holidays...*The Thomas: Tony & Sue* were in Nashville last weekend...*Joe Hinkle* is in Port St. Lucie, Florida, visiting with family...*Leah Richardson* is in Lakeland, Florida, with her family during the holidays...*Christian Usery* is in Nashville working.

THE NEW YEAR: Today marks the first Lord's Day of 2022. There have been many blessings afforded us over the past year. Among these blessings is the blessing and privilege to share with one another the relationship of brothers and sisters in Christ. As children of God and members of the family of God, we have not only shared sorrows and trials but also experienced joys of one another. Indeed to be a part of the church at Market Street is truly a blessing for the Cox family.

Below you will find the poem that brother A. J. Rollings would recite each year at this time. I appreciate the thoughts and truths expressed within this poem. May we all do better with the time ahead of us.

*"I came to my teacher with quivering lips, My task undone;
"Teacher hast thou another sheet for me? I have spoiled this one,"
She took the old sheet, stained and blotted, And gave me a new one, clean, unspotted, And into my glad face smiled,
"Do better this time, my child."*

*I came to the Father with a quivering heart, The old year done;
"Father, hast thou another year for me?
I have spoiled this one."
He took the old year, stained and blotted, And gave me a new one, clean, unspotted, And into my glad heart smiled,
"Do better this time, my child."*

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, January 2nd:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Larry Holt
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer..... Albert Haraway
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Terry Andrews
Assisting Stephen Lynn
Serving Clayton Hamm Danny Holt
..... Heath Dollar Keenon Currier
Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Larry Holt
Song Leader Bob Broadus
Prayer..... Kenneth Smith
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Terry Andrews
Closing Prayer Harold Ash
Other Assignments for the week of January 2nd:
Ushers..... Russ Wulfekuhl/Tommy Coblenz
Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, January 5th:

Song Leader Clayton Hamm
Bible Reading Danny Johnson
..... (John 7:10-24)
Prayer..... Kenneth Adams
Invitation..... Marty Adams
Closing Prayer Danny Holt

Sunday, January 9th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Harvey Nixon
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer..... Tony Thomas
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Jerry Baker
Assisting Keith Hinkle
Serving Matthew Vaughn..... Luke Vaughn
..... Charles Vaguhn ... Nathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer Stephen Lynn

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Harvey Nixon
Song Leader Griffin Holt
Prayer..... Marcus Morris
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Jerry Baker
Closing Prayer Larry Mitchell
Other Assignments for the week of January 9th:
Ushers..... Danny Johnson/Christian Usery
Work Sound System..... Larry Holt