

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 XIV

April 10, 2022

No. 15

The Providence of God

David A. Cox

"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28)

In this verse, Paul is attesting to the certain fact of the providence of God. Providence is the work God does as the Creator's care and maintenance of the balance of the natural world. Through providence, God is working to provide a result He desires. Though God is acting or working, does not require any action that would violate any of the laws of nature. As individuals, we regularly work to bring a desired result to pass. If we can work things to obtain a desired result without miracles, why can't God do the same? He can!

What is Providence?

The word "providence" is of Latin origin (providentia), which simply means "to foresee." Providence involves God seeing a need or desired result and arranging things to produce the outcome. Paul speaks of providence as he wrote, "all things work together for good." Providence is God working through His provision in the natural and spiritual realms. In working in these realms, God does not violate man's free will, nor is there any violation of natural or spiritual laws.

Examples of Providence in Scripture.

The scriptures record many examples of miracles performed by God. However, there are also many examples of God working providentially, through natural laws, to bring desired results to pass.

- There are many examples of women who were unable to bear children in the Old Testament, and God blessed them and opened their wombs. After this, they were able to conceive and bear children: Sarah (Genesis 21:1), Rebekah (Genesis 25:21), Rachel (Genesis 30:22, and Hannah (1 Samuel 1:5, 20). These women did not conceive through miraculous means. Still, through natural laws and healing, all of these women could conceive, carry, and give birth to children in a natural way.
- In 2 Kings 20:1-7, 18, King Hezekiah was told that he was sick and

would die due to his illness. He prays to God to be healed. The Lord heals him, but Hezekiah is told to receive medical treatment to be healed. God worked to bring healing to Hezekiah through the laws of nature.

- In Acts 27, Paul is on a ship headed for Rome. He had desired to see the brethren for some time (Romans 1:9-10). He has prayed that he would be able to see them and asked the brethren in Rome to join him in praying that he would see them (Romans 15:32-30-32). God providentially brings Paul to Rome, as Paul's life was spared when a Jewish mob was bent on killing him, and he was sent to Caesarea by night (Acts 23:31-ff). For two years, Paul was imprisoned in Caesarea. Paul uses his right as a Roman citizen to appeal his case to Caesar (Acts 25:11). On the journey to Rome, the ship is caught in a terrible storm and suffers a shipwreck, but lives are spared (Acts 27:24). Finally, Paul arrives in Rome. Is this mere chance or the providence of God? Paul writes to the church at Philippi about the things that have occurred and says, "I want you to know, brethren, that the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel" (Philippians 1:12). There is no doubt that Paul suffered many things, but God was working to bring to pass the opportunity for Paul to preach the gospel in Rome.

We know that God acted and worked in each circumstance in the examples above, but we do not know-how. Just because we do not understand how God works does not negate that He is working.

The providence of God is when He is working through nature to work out the result He desires. How thankful we should be that God works today through nature, men, and other natural means to bring to pass what He desires and the good things for those who love Him.



Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Morning at 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday Evening at 7:00 p.m.

Come Join Us As We Study Together

Love One Another

Lawrence Kelley

"Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us" – (1 John 4:11-12)

From before the creation of the world, God is love. Love existed before any people were here to be loved. But doesn't love require an object? For love to exist there must be someone to give and another to receive. Christians understand that the Father and Son have been bound together by the Spirit in love from before all worlds.

God's love for us is the basis upon which we are exhorted to love each other. So, what is God's love like? It is lavish, it is extravagant, it is passionate, it is wide open. He withholds nothing that serves our best interest. I mean, look at the world around you! Clearly, God gives with wild abandon. "But," we say, "He can afford to give, it's easy for Him." Is that true? How many Son's did He have? Was sacrificing Him easy?

We need to follow God's example of loving others and become more generous givers. Furthermore, we need to do so with greater passion. I recently ran across this observation, "When the bland lead the bland, they will both fall into apathy." The greatest problem with God's people today is a lack of zeal. Peter exhorts us in this way, "Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart" (1 Peter 1:22).

Here are a few ways you can show your love for your brother this week:

- Call a friend you know to be having a difficult time and invite them to lunch.
- Introduce yourself to a new member at church and find out if they have any needs as newcomers that you can meet.
- Visit an elderly member who is confined to their home or nursing facility.
- Write a check to someone that you know is having a financial struggle.
- Let your children's Bible class teachers know that you appreciate the influence they are having in their lives.
~via *Lost River church of Christ*, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Dale Adcock	Jewel Dean Kennemer
Tony Thomas	Sherry Davis
Brad Brown	Shirley Miller
Betty Jo Lovell	Betty Pepper
Doris Lovell	JoAnn Gilbert
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
Doris Reid	Lloyd Adams
Phillip Harwell	Cornelia Pepper
Charles Burns	Cindy Walker
Kenneth Fisher	Al Pollard
Matt Bassford	Sadricia Wilson
Leigh Ellen Elliott	Wynell Romine
Humbero Rodriquez	Elmina McLemore

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77	Connie Brock, rm. 62
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	

Limestone Health Facility:

Marci Bassett, rm. 42	Alice Roberson, rm. 49
Bobby Ogles, rm. 113	Ann Bush, rm. 75

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Bobbie Adcock; Limestone Lodge
Nell Barksdale; at home
Deanie Britton; Limestone Lodge
Gwen Bullock; at granddaughter's in Huntsville
Barbara Carter; Traditions
Unaking Currier; Summerford Health, Falkville
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:

Updates:

Dale Adcock had neck surgery on Wednesday in Huntsville and is at home recovering. She is to go back to the doctor on Monday...**Sherry Davis** continues her recovery

from her shoulder surgery last week. She is doing outpatient therapy three times a week...**Priscilla Tucker** received a good report on the treatments that she has been taking...**Jewel Dean Kennemer** hurt her foot last week and was unable to be at services last week, but is doing better now...**Carol Dean** had heart tests done on Monday...**Betty Lovell** is continuing to have problems with her arthritis...**Ann McLemore's daughter-in-law Elmina McLemore**, has been diagnosed with brain tumors...**Ruby Dean Ezell's daughter, Diane Kilpatrick**, has been recuperating from her recent surgery at Ruby Dean's house...**Humberto Rodriguez**, a preacher we support in Chiapas, Mexico, has a benign brain tumor. He does not mention it bothering him, but we need to keep him in our prayers.

OUTOFTOWN: The Holts: Danny & Debra have been in the mountains this week...**The Hammonds: Roger & Wendy** were out of town last weekend...**The Gregorlys: Sam, Taylor, Cara Blake & Weston** have been away from home...**Leah Richardson** is in Lakeland, Florida this weekend for her sister's wedding.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Bonita & Heath Dollar** and *all the family* in the passing of Bonita's sister-in-law, **Betty Jo Dollar** in Birmingham. Her funeral was last Wednesday in Birmingham.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The **Pettusville church** in Pettusville is beginning a meeting today, and it will continue through Wednesday evening. The speaker in this meeting will be **Berry Kercheville**... The **Danville Road church** in Decatur is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday evening. The speakers in this meeting will be: *Sunday morning – John Junkin; Sunday Evening – Christopher Nave; Monday – Chris Webb; Tuesday – Vance Dutton; Wednesday – Brody Gill*... The **South Cullman church** in Cullman is beginning a meeting today, and it will continue through Wednesday evening. The speaker in this meeting will be **Greg Gwin**... The **Eastside church** in Russellville is beginning a meeting today, and it will continue through Friday evening. The speaker in this meeting will be **Don Miller**.

CARD WRITING: The card writing group will meet next Monday morning, April 18th, at 10:30 to write and mail out cards. If you would like to participate in this, please join them next Monday morning at 10:30.

OUR MEETING: Our gospel meeting is scheduled for **April 24-27**. There are cards at the entrances to pass along to people you want to invite. Please remember the meeting and pray that good will be done.

KEENON CURRIER SEND-OFF: This evening,

there will be a gathering at 6:30 at the *The Clubhouse at Deer Trail*. This is a send-off for **Keenon Currier** as he will soon be leaving for basic training in the Air Force. Everyone is invited; cake and drinks will be provided; bring your favorite finger food to share.

SONG SERVICE: Due to our meeting being on the fourth Sunday night of the month, we will plan to have our monthly scheduled Song Service on Sunday night April 17th. Plan to be present for the singing.

PICTURES: We are in the process of making and updating pictures of everyone for the Market Street directory. Please plan to get your picture made in the next few weeks.

UKRAINE: We continue to see the terrible atrocities being inflicted upon the Ukrainians, and they are heart-wrenching to see. Remember to pray for the people in Ukraine, especially our brethren there.

SERGEI CORCIMARU AT MT. ZION: This afternoon at 2:30, brother Sergei Corcimar, a preacher and scientist from Moldova, will be speaking at the *Mt. Zion church*. He and his family are currently in Russellville, having fled the war in Ukraine.

VBS MATERIAL: The three kits or samples of the VBS material are in the West auditorium for the teachers to look at the material. After looking at the material, please give me your thoughts today. The date of our VBS will be *June 13-17*.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES CLASS: The Tuesday morning Ladies' Bible class meets each Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. The class is studying the "*The Christian in a Secular Age*."

THE RECORD: Attendance for week of April 3rd:

Sunday:	Bible Classes.....	109
	Morning Worship.....	142
	Evening Worship.....	113
Wednesday:	Bible Classes.....	88

Gospel Meeting

April 24-27, 2022

Harold Carswell, Jr., Speaking

**MARKET STREET
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, April 10th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader.....	Stephen Lynn
Prayer.....	Marty Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Joel Hamm
Assisting.....	Larry Mitchell
Serving.....	Keenon Currier..... Marvin Putman
	Sam Gregory..... Charles Vaughn
Closing Prayer.....	Tommy Burns

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader.....	Tony Thomas
Prayer.....	Terry Andrews
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper.....	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer.....	Keith Hinkle
Other Assignments for the week of April 10 th :	
Ushers.....	Hunter Cox/Christian Usery
Work Sound System.....	Russ Wulfekuhl

Wednesday, April 13th:

Song Leader.....	Albert Haraway
Bible Reading.....	Bob Broadus
	(John 11:17-27)
Prayer.....	Kenneth Adams
Invitation.....	Nathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer.....	Tommy Burns

Sunday, April 17th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Holt
Song Leader.....	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Bob Broadus
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harvey Nixon
Assisting.....	Keith Hinkle
Serving.....	Danny Johnson..... Landon Adams
	Matthew Vaughn..... Luke Vaughn
Closing Prayer.....	Kenneth Smith

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Holt
Song Leader.....	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Kenneth Adams
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord's Supper.....	Harvey Nixon
Closing Prayer.....	Christian Usery
Other Assignments for the week of April 17 th :	
Ushers.....	Heath Dollar/Tommy Coblentz
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews