

MARKET STREET



"And this 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

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

Albert Bowers.....(256) 233-4847
Jerry McGlocklin.....(256) 232-7620
Kenneth Smith.....(256) 232-3050
Bonnie Sutton.....(256) 232-2081

Deacons

Marty Adams(256) 233-5147
Rusty Brand(256) 233-7343
Tim Craig(256) 233-4597
Joel Hamm.....(256) 230-6223
Bobby McGuire(256) 232-7887
Frank Noblitt(256) 777-0725
Stuart Wilson(256) 233-6291

Evangelists

David A. Cox(256) 233-8910
.....(Office) (256) 232-1525
E-mail: david.a.cox@att.net
Warren Glass.....(256) 232-6086

Visit Us On The Web

MarketStreetchurch.com

MARKET STREET MESSENGER

is published in interest of New Testament Christianity and to enhance the work of the Market Street church.

David A. Cox, Editor

Volume I

January 4, 2009

No. 1

The Market Street Messenger

David A. Cox

I want to welcome you as a reader of the *Market Street Messenger*. The church at Market Street has published a bulletin for a number of years, but with this issue the bulletin is changing in its appearance and size. This bulletin, as has been the case of the bulletin in the past, will be published weekly by the Market Street church. It is published in the interest of New Testament Christianity and to strengthen the members at Market Street and encourage each one of us to be "stedfast, always abounding in the work of the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

The name *Market Street Messenger* was chosen since it is a part of the work of the Market Street church. The name "Messenger" was chosen because it the means by which the message of Christ will be taught. "Message" is defined by W.E. Vine as "to bring a message, proclaim, denotes a message, proclamation, news". The stated purpose will be to declare the message of Jesus Christ. Just as John in his first epistle was declaring to his readers "the message" which the apostles had heard from Christ (1 John 1:5), the emphasis of this paper will be to declare and remind us as Christians of the message of Christ and His law. The articles appearing in the paper will exhort members to faithfulness, as well as articles for teaching those that are not members of the church. The increase in the size of the bulletin will allow additional space for more articles for teaching. We plan to e-mail this bulletin to those that would like to receive it. If you know someone that would like to receive the bulletin in .pdf format through e-mail, please give us their name and e-mail address.

In addition to the articles that will appear in the bulletin, there will be a "News & Notes" section. This section will list the sick at home, the people in the hospitals, those in the nursing facilities, and those that are shut-in, as well as other news items and things of interest to us. We need you to continue to help us stay informed of things that need to be put in the bulletin. The bulletin will include the list of the men that are scheduled to serve. It will have those scheduled for the Sunday the

bulletin comes out, the following Wednesday night and the next Sunday morning and evening. If you have any suggestions of things that would help make this paper more beneficial, I would be glad to hear about them.

I hope and trust that you will look forward to reading the bulletin each week. I trust the paper will bring glory to God as the message is declared through its pages.



Burden Bearing

Curtis Pope

In the New Testament, the Holy Spirit uses many different illustrations to indicate to us the privileges, responsibilities, and relationships inherent in being a Christian. One of the most thought provoking to me is the illustration of a man walking down the road under the weight of a heavy burden. Although we live in a highly mechanized age in which most of our physical burdens have been eased, we have all experienced the fatigue of carrying heavy groceries, packages, children, etc. and have longed for a place to lay our burdens down.

In a spiritual sense, Christ saw every one of us weighed down with the load of sin that our own iniquities had brought upon us. Therefore, in compassion, He came to the world and died to remove the heavy load of sin from all who would come to him in faith and obedience. Peter expresses this very idea in 1 Peter 2:24: "He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed." What a wonderful blessing it is to have someone offer to take our burden of sin.

There are some responsibilities that we have, however, if Christ is to bear our burdens. In Matthew 11:28-29 Christ invites us to "Come unto Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls." In putting our burdens on Christ, He demands that we take His yoke upon us. This means that we must yoke ourselves with Christ through obedience of

the gospel and continue through life in reverent submission to Him. Because our sins have been carried, the Lord rightfully expects that we now joyfully bear the yoke of total commitment and dedication to Him and His cause.

Another responsibility involved in being a Christian is that "each one shall bear his own load," (Galatians 6:5). This means that in addition to bearing the yoke of commitment we have the obligation to carry our own weight among the brethren in serving the Lord. Christ expects, and our brethren have the right to expect, that we do our best to grow and mature in the Lord by studying God's word and putting it into practice by activity in the kingdom.

One reason for this growth is so that we can "bear one another's burdens," (Galatians. 6:2). This is seen when we take time to encourage and instruct weaker brothers and sisters. It means being sensitive to their emotional and spiritual needs and thus serving God by helping others on the road to heaven.

-via *Perspectives*; Birmingham, Alabama.



Baptizing Jesus

Mark W. White

John the baptizer probably immersed thousands of people during his ministry of preaching "the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins" (Mark 1:4). All of Judea and those of Jerusalem went out to be baptized by him in the river Jordan, Mark's account stated (1:5). Thus, John the baptist was the first messenger from God to break the silence of some four hundred years since Malachi. His appearance and remarkable message attracted the attention of the Jewish people, and his preaching was heard by rather large audiences in spite of the remote wilderness areas where most of his preaching was done. He made such an impression on some that they "reasoned in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ or not" (John 3:28).

I doubt that John knew the names and backgrounds

of the greater number of those he baptized. He knew only that they were sinners in need of repentance before being able to receive the Kingdom. But there was one out of the multitude whom John would never forget baptizing. That one was Jesus of Nazareth to most, but to John the baptist He was “the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). John said that he did not know Jesus (John 1:33), but they were relatives (Luke 1:36), and he must have been acquainted with Him. Barclay says that what John declared was not that he did not know who Jesus was, but that he did not know what Jesus was. But he was soon to find out.

Is there any amazement at John the baptist’s hesitation to baptize Jesus? Would we all not have reacted similarly? Both John and Jesus recognized this request for baptism was an exceptional case. Jesus certainly could not confess His sins, as others submitting to John’s baptism did, for He had no sin. He obviously did not need the remission of sins that accompanied the baptism of John (Mark 1:4). Yet, there were good reasons why Jesus was baptized.

To Fulfill All Righteousness

Jesus felt it was necessary to obey His Father’s will (Matthew 3:15). Even Jesus “learned obedience” (Hebrews 5:8, 9). He was baptized in spite of His unique circumstances. Superficially, it appears that if Jesus needed baptism in the same manner as did all others, then He would not be qualified to be our Savior. However, when we look a bit deeper, we understand that if Jesus had not submitted to the command then He would not be the example of obedience to God in all things that He teaches His disciples to be! Later, Jesus Himself gave a command that believers should be baptized (Mark 16:16). He did not ask believers to do something He was unwilling to do. What good master would require more of his servants than he himself was willing to obey? Jesus “fulfills all righteousness” by being baptized because it was God’s will.

To Begin His “Spirit-filled” Ministry

The baptism of Jesus marked the beginning of His public ministry. To John the baptist, the appearance of the Spirit upon Jesus was a sign that Christ would baptize with something more than water. Jesus was being baptized in the Jordan by John; but He was also being overwhelmed by the Spirit (John 1:33). Jesus was conscious of His anointing by the Holy Spirit for the beginning of His public work, for after His baptism

He preached His first sermon at Nazareth using Isaiah 61:1 as a text, where the prophet said, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me; because the Lord hath anointed Me to preach good tidings unto the meek.”

To Be Acknowledged As God’s Son

Immediately after His immersion, God said: “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased” (Matthew 3:17). To be acknowledged as one of God’s children is the ultimate need of all who seek heaven. As a Son, it must have thrilled Jesus’ heart to know He had pleased His Father. For us, Scripture does not teach that we should expect the same thunderous approval from heaven of our sonship to God, but we can know that He is our Father and we are His children. (Romans 8:14-17; Galatians 3:26-29; 1 John 2:3; 3:2).

If Jesus felt it was necessary to obey the Father’s will, surely none of us are exempt. If we would walk in the Spirit, and have Him as a witness that we are sons of God, and joint-heirs with Christ, we will do what Jesus did and commanded. To claim to be a son of God apart from being baptized for the remission of sins is foolish. And, I would have serious doubts about my own salvation if I claimed to follow Jesus, but only to the banks of the river Jordan.

-via *College View Columns*; Florence, Alabama.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

Mike Sherbert, son of Wendell & Yvonne ; UAB, ICU
Jeff Waddell, Brenda Jones’ brother; St. Thomas, Nashville
Jack Jones, Brenda Jones’ husband; surgery on Wednesday
 at Huntsville Hospital

At Home:

Wendell Sherbert	Jerry Gilbert
Bobby McGuire	Lifford Abernathy
Robert Tinnon	Carl Hargrave
Angela Green	Kennedy Pepper
Matt Poff	Doris Reed
Virginia Lovell	

Limestone Health Facility:

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 108	Jerry Tucker rm. 99
Rosella Pugh, rm. 33	Mary Smith, rm 85

J.D. Clanton, 11E

Athens Convalescent Center:

Betty Bates, rm. 17

Mae Alesi, rm. 35 Vincent Alesi, rm. 87

Limestone Lodge:

Lifford Abernathy, rm. 28 E

Limestone Manor:

Ruth Owens , rm. 80

Shut-In:

Sarah Halbrook, Glade Retirement, Memphis, Tenn.

Jimmy Killen, at home

Clara Lewis, at home

Reba Adams, at home

Mauvis Phillips, at home

Majorie Lambert, at home

Fred Varnell, at home

Ellis Dunnivant, at home

MILITARY SERVICE: Remember all those that away serving in the military for our country. Those among us that are serving away from home:

Cody Brown; Iraq

Josh Hooten; Japan

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Faye Ferguson** and *all the family* in the passing of Faye's two aunts, *Mellnee Roland and Flona Baugher*. They both passed away toward the end of last week... Also we want to express our sympathy to **Warren Glass, Lydia, Caleb, Robbie and Josh Hooten** and *all the family* in the passing of the Hootens' grandfather and Warren's Uncle, *D.B. Noles* on Wednesday afternoon. His funeral was Saturday afternoon.

SPECIAL STUDIES: The **Oakland church** will begin a series of special studies on Wednesday, January 7th and it will continue for ten weeks. The studies will begin at 10:00 a.m. The theme will be "*Solomon's Secrets*". *Jeff May* will be the teacher.

NEW QUARTER IN BIBLE CLASSES: Today we are beginning a new quarter in our Bible classes here at Market Street. I hope that everyone will make their plans to be present at our Bible study periods. I appreciate all the hard work and dedication of those who are teaching.

DIRECTORY UPDATES: The directory updates are ready to be picked this morning. **Rusty Brand** will have them available for you to pick-up as you leave this morning. Be sure to pick them up and make the updates to your directory.

**Remember The Children's Bible Drill
This Afternoon at 4:30.**

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, January 4th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Rusty Brand	
Song Leader	Jack Cannon	
Prayer	Frank Noblitt	
Preaching	Warren Glass	
Lord's Supper		
Presiding	Marty Adams	
Assisting	Larry Mitchell	
Serving	Tyler Cox	Steve Bradley
.....	Dan Lovell	Cory Nelson
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Smith	

Evening Worship

Announcements	Rusty Brand
Song Leader	Jack Cannon
Prayer	Dwaine Allfrey
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Marty Adams
Closing Prayer	Lifford Smith

Wednesday, January 7th:

Song Leader	Marion Mitchell
Bible Reading	(Proverbs 4:1-13)
.....	Joel Hamm
Prayer	Kenneth Smith
Invitation	TBA
Closing Prayer	Jimmy Uesry

Other Assignments for Sunday January 4th:

Usher	Ronnie Locke
Work Sound System	Tim Craig

Sunday, January 11th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Wayne Vaughn	
Song Leader	Jerry McGlocklin	
Prayer	Marty Adams	
Preaching	David Cox	
Lord's Supper		
Presiding	Marion Mitchell	
Assisting	Stuart Wilson	
Serving	Nathaniel Adams... Danny Johnson	
.....	Russ Wulfekuhl	Hunter Cox
Closing Prayer	Landon Adams	

Evening Worship

Announcements	Wayne Vaughn
Song Leader	Jerry McGlocklin
Prayer	Dwaine Allfrey
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Marion Mitchell
Closing Prayer	Rusty Brand

Other Assignments for Sunday January 11th:

Usher	Marty Adams
Work Sound System	Cory Nelson