

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
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

Albert Bowers.....(256) 233-4847
Jerry McGlocklin.....(256) 232-7620
Kenneth Smith.....(256) 233-2050
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
E-mail: david.a.cox@att.net
Warren Glass.....(256) 233-6086

Visit Us On The Web

MarketStreet-church.org

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 I

September 6, 2009

No. 36

Come Join Us!

Gospel Meeting

September 13 – 17

Schedule of Services

Sunday – 9:45 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Monday – Thursday – 7:00 p.m.

Evangelist – Jeff McCrary

Gardendale, Alabama

MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA

Salvation Is A Process

Matthew H. Allen

Have you ever thought about the number of terms associated with salvation? When we speak of salvation, we are referring to a process by which mankind is delivered from eternal punishment in hell. "Redemption," "sanctification," and "justification" all describe different aspects of salvation. In scripture, salvation is described as a process. When a person is convicted by the gospel, realizes their condition outside of Christ, and moves to respond to God's terms of grace, scripture says they are saved. We might refer to this part of salvation as "deliverance." When we respond with faith, repentance, confession, and baptism, God delivers us from the grasp and ownership of Satan.

Not only have Christians been delivered or ransomed from their former trespasses and sins, but they continue to be saved while anticipating the final reward of heaven. We are preserved for salvation on the final day as long as we are committed to working out our salvation with fear and trembling for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure (Philippians 2:12-13). While we live in this life, we are being sanctified. Sanctification is the process of becoming holy, 1 Peter 1:15-16. It is time spent in living for God, being completely dedicated to Him, where we are transformed and renewed into God's kind of person (Romans 12:1-2). During this time, we do not remain sinless, but upon realization of sinful activity, we have the responsibility to confess and seek forgiveness from God (1 John 1:8-10).

Finally, the scriptures also speak of a future salvation. This is the future deliverance of believers at the end of time. Peter writes about a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time (1 Peter 1:5). This salvation can be viewed as a future deliverance from the wrath of God, which will be executed on the ungodly at the end of the age (1 Thessalonians 1:10). It is also interesting to study how the Holy Spirit uses the word redemption to describe what will happen at the return of Christ. In Romans 8:23, Paul writes: And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body. What does Paul mean by "the redemption of our body?" At

the return of Jesus Christ, our bodies will be freed from their physical limitations. We will put on a spiritual body and become as He is (1 John 3:12). The Christian can trust in God to be raised to his salvation...or life eternal! This hope is through Christ. Paul taught that it is Jesus who was given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory (Ephesians 1:14).

-via *New Living*; Brownsburg, Indiana

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Without Power

Dan Richardson

The winter of 2009 will be remembered in this area for a long time with its recent ice storm, leaving a path of devastation and many without electricity. Having personally experienced several "without power" (and mindful of many more who, to date, are still living in the dark), I now have a newfound appreciation of electricity.

Life without electricity serves to illustrate a potential problem which all Christians face. I speak of the failure to avail ourselves of divine power which is accessible to us in our spiritual quest. To establish the fact that such power from God is obtainable for His people, let us look at some verses from Scripture. Paul commanded Christians in Ephesus to "be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of his might" (Ephesians 6:10), implying that such strength/power is available and, equally important, that Christians make the choice to access this power. For the saints in Ephesus Paul also prayed, "that ye may be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inward man, through faith..." (Ephesians 3:16). Here we can see that the empowerment Paul speaks of isn't miraculous but descriptive of what faith can do in one's life. Statements by Paul describing his personal life reveal that his empowered life found its source in Christ: "I can do all things in Him (Christ,) that strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13). Also he said, "I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I that live, but Christ liveth in me, and that life which

I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith which is in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself up for me” (Galatians 2:20).

The blessings that Paul desired for his Ephesian brethren can and must be ours if we hope to live victorious over Satan’s wiles. Yet it is unfortunate that some who begin the journey by faith are not willing to show the commitment nor make the sacrifices necessary to continue faithfully. God’s word makes this plea to all His children: “Cast not away therefore you boldness, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that having done the will of God, ye may receive the promise...But we are not of them that have faith unto the saving of the soul (Hebrews 10:35-36, 39). Consider the following necessary avenues God makes available to us so that we may have power to overcome:

1. **An increased knowledge of Scripture.** Inasmuch as faith comes by hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17), an increased, growing knowledge of Scripture which can only come through diligent study is inseparable to the possession of a stronger faith. The examples of Jesus’ temptations (Matthew 4:1ff), show the valued effect knowledge of Scripture can wield in resisting the devil. If we would only avail ourselves to such power, that we may say, when tempted, “It is written”. Let us take our Bibles in hand, with the determination to be diligent responsible students of Scripture. Only then can we present ourselves before God as unashamed workers of the Lord (2 Timothy 2:15).

2. **Continual and persistent prayer.** Prayer is our heart’s desire expressed to God (Romans 10:1-2). It is an act of faith, and they with little or no faith will either fail to pray or else do so with doubt (James 1:6-8). The tragedy which results from a lack of prayer is a powerless, fruitless life. Scripture confirms, regarding those who neglect prayer, “ye have not because ye ask not” (James 4:2). So instead of prayer being a mere emotional pep talk, it is man communicating with the Almighty Creator, who hears and answers prayer. Therefore, a Christian knows “the supplication of a righteous man availeth much in its working...” (James 5:16-18). Jesus taught a parable to His disciples, “to the end that they ought always to pray, and not to faint” (Luke 18:ff). So, we can conclude that prayer is essential to our spiritual life. We either pray or we “faint” (lose heart) spiritually.

3. **Assembling with the saints.** Christians are commanded to gather together congregationally to worship God and edify one another (Hebrews 10:24-25). If our coming together is “in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24), it will be “for the better (see 1 Corinthians 11:17). Christians are indeed “provoked unto love and good works” (Hebrews 10:24), as a result of these gatherings. Their faith is made stronger; they are empowered to continue steadfastly. Such opportunities are to be present with those “of like precious faith” (2 Peter 1:1), will stir within us a positive response as it did for Paul, who, upon seeing his brethren from Rome, “thanked God and took courage” (Acts 28:15).

4. **Making friends of God’s children.** We are warned against the deception of believing the influence of evil companionships will have no corrupting effect on us (1 Corinthians 15:33). It will, and many have been led to spiritual ruin as a result of bad choices in friends. We must not be “unequally yoked with unbelievers” (2 Corinthians 6:14), but rather allow our associations with godly people make us stronger, more determined in our faithfulness. Let us reflect soberly on our lives before God, and consider if they are empowered by a strong faith in God.

-via *Search*; Vanduser Missouri.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

Gladys Johnson; Athens-Limestone Hospital, rm. 223

At Home:

Peyton Rogers

Lola Colwell

Polly Davis

Mary Davis

Henrietta Word

Molly Weeks

James Craig

Matt Poff

Jeff Waddell

Kennedy Pepper

Christie Brown

Charles Burns

Tim Dean

Tony Corsbie

Athens Convalescent Center:

Betty Bates, rm. 17

Limestone Health Facility:

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118 Jerry Gilbert, rm. 111
Albert Norton, rm. 100 J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E
Lorene Bradford, rm.117 Mary Smith, rm. 85
Rosella Pugh

Limestone Manor:

Ruth Owens, rm. 80

Shut-In:

Sarah Halbrook, Glade Retirement, Memphis, Tenn.
Jimmy Killen, at home
Reba Adams, at home
Majorie Lambert, at home
Albert & Mary Norton, at home

MILITARY SERVICE: Remember all those that are serving on foreign soil in the military for our country. Those who are among us or have connections to the Market Street church are:

- Brandi Lawrence; Afghanistan
- Joel Smith; Iraq
- Whitney Smith; Japan

WORK GROUPS: Tonight is the night for Work Group 1 to meet. If this is your group, remember to meet with your group tonight following our evening service.

NURSERIES AVAILABLE: There are two nurseries available for those who will need them. One is in the west wing and the other in the east wing.

OUR MEETING: It is just one week until it begins. Let's remember the meeting in prayer. Continue to invite others to join us. I will be going out a few evenings this week to invite people, if you would like to go out and pass out some meeting invitations, let me know.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE DRILL: This afternoon at 4:30 will be the time for our Children's Bible drill. I hope that all of our children will make plans to be present.

THE RECORD: Attendance – Week of August 30th

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 125
Morning Worship 150
Evening Worship..... 105

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 87

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Come and Join Us As We Study Together

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, September 6th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Frank Noblitt
Song Leader Jerry McGlocklin
Prayer Bonnie Sutton
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Marty Adams
Assisting Marion Mitchell
Serving Tim Craig Dan Lovell
..... Hunter Cox Nathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer Lifford Smith

Evening Worship

Announcements Frank Noblitt
Song Leader Jerry McGlocklin
Prayer Landon Adams
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Marty Adams
Closing Prayer Rusty Brand

Other Assignments for Sunday September 6th:

Usher Danny Johnson
Work Sound System Cory Nelson

Wednesday, September 9th:

Song Leader Joel Hamm
Bible Reading (Proverbs 20:21-30)
..... Russ Wulfekuhl
Prayer Tyler Cox
Invitation David Cox
Closing Prayer Larry Mitchell

Sunday, September 13th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Stuart Wilson
Song Leader Tyler Cox
Prayer Dwaine Allfrey
Preaching Jeff McCrary
Lord's Supper
Presiding Marty Adams
Assisting Marion Mitchell
Serving Tim Craig Dan Lovell
..... Hunter Cox Nathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer Wayne Vaughn

Evening Worship

Announcements Stuart Wilson
Song Leader Tyler Cox
Prayer Kenneth Smith
Preaching Jeff McCrary
Lord's Supper Marion Mitchell
Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for Sunday September 13th:

Usher Delmer Carter
Work Sound System Frank Noblitt