

# 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

Jerry McGlocklin.....(256) 232-7620  
Kenneth Smith.....(256) 233-2050  
Bonnie Sutton.....(256) 232-2081

### Deacons

Marty R. Adams.....(256) 233-5147  
Rusty Brand.....(256) 233-7343  
Joel Hamm.....(256) 230-6223  
Stuart Wilson.....(256) 233-6291

### Evangelists

David A. Cox.....(256) 233-8910  
E-mail: david.a.cox@att.net  
Warren Glass.....(256) 497-3138

**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. 14

## *Are You A Carnal Christian?*

**Dennis Carrow**

Members of the church of Christ often times have a stigma attachment to their religious affiliation. When we encounter someone who asks where we go to church, and we respond the "church of Christ" followed by the location our place of assembly, the inquirer often grimaces a bit or makes a negative comment. It is usually to the tune, "oh, you are the ones who think you are the only ones going to heaven." Or, "oh, you are the ones that don't believe in music." Or, as someone recently responded to me, "oh, you're one of those."

Having been a member of the Lord's church for several years I have grown accustomed to these kinds of responses, but I refuse to remain passive when someone's perception has been so skewed by denominational theology they do not realize the singular nature of the church established by our Lord Jesus. The truth of God's word regarding the unified nature of the church of Christ can be easily defined. The challenge to us as Christians is to reach those whose mind has been prejudiced against this truth.

After the young man responded to my informing him that I was a member of the church of Christ with, "oh, you're one of those." He then asked if I was "traditional or contemporary." I simply sat down beside him and shared with him the following... "Collectively we are a group of Christians who love God, and who love each other. We are a relatively small group. The 'world view' is that we are conservative. The truth is we are careful to walk in the light of God's revealed will. That is the source of our faith. We trust in the gospel as God's power to save, and we refuse to charge the church for entertainment or recreation. And, we stand opposed to denominationalism. The door is open to anyone who desires to look into what we believe, teach and practice. If it is true embrace it, if false - we will change!"

### ***What Are You?***

When you engage in a religious discussion and the question surfaces,

“what are you?” How do you respond? Do you identify yourself with some religious denomination? Is the answer “Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Pentecostal, Mormon, Seventh Day Adventist, Catholic, or maybe the modern day “non-denominational.” The “non-denomination” group is better understood as an “inter” denominationalism, (i.e. one may maintain their denominational identity, only they are members with a group under a different name). It should be noted that many denominations have chosen to cloak their affiliation by operating under a different sign out front, but they maintain their denominational allegiance. What should concern every honest seeker is denominationalism, at its very conception is contrary to the will of God.

### ***The Plan and Prayer of Jesus***

When Peter had confessed that Jesus was indeed the Christ, Jesus responded, “I also say to you that you are Peter, and on the rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it” (Matthew 16:18). Singular possessive is the tense of the noun. Jesus never had intentions of building many churches. When the first gospel message was preached men and women responded by being baptized for the remission of their sins. The result was “the Lord added them to the church” (Acts 2:38-47).

Throughout the early stages of the church we find a consistent response to the gospel of Christ (Ref. Acts 8:12, 13; 36-38; 22:16; 10:48; 16:33). When the apostle Peter addressed those who obeyed the gospel, he stated, “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, having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever” (1 Peter 1:22-23). Our new birth is realized when we are born of the water and of the Spirit. When we receive the message of the Spirit through the gospel, and are baptized in water for the forgiveness of our sins we are added to the church of Christ. This is the plan and purpose of our Lord.

### ***A People of The Book***

The foundation of our faith is from the word of God (Romans 10:17). The word that was revealed to us has been written within the pages of the Bible. This is the final word by which all will be judged. And, this word is sufficient to furnish us to every good work

(Ref. Ephesians 3:3-5; 2 Timothy 3:16,17). For this reason we are known as a people of the book. When one states, “oh, you’re one of those.” You might reply, do you mean one who accepts the revelation from God as the source of our faith, and the basis for truth. Yes, I am one of those - aren’t you?

### ***Are You A “Carnal” Christian?***

“Carnal” is not a word we use often in our everyday vernacular, but when considering denominationalism - this is a term the Holy Spirit utilizes to describe it. We are divinely warned that some will depart from the faith, and doctrines will be devised that seek to please men, but will be rejected by God (1 Timothy 4:1; 2 Timothy 4:1-4). One of the “popular” doctrines is the acceptance of denominational theology. However, Jesus prayed for unity in John 17:20-21, and the apostle Paul condemned denominationalism in 1 Corinthians 1:10-12. Paul goes on to say that such thinking is “carnal” (1 Corinthians 3:4). Some have suggested that denominational theology is more inclusive, and will lead more people to Christ. However, the weapons of our warfare are not “carnal” (2 Corinthians 10:4,5). Winning others to Christ is not through adapting a doctrine or theology that suits their desires, but one that brings every thought into the captivity of Christ.

-via *What Is True?*, Little Rock, Arkansas.



## ***Gospel Meeting***

May 15-19, 2011

(Sunday through Thursday)

### **Schedule of Services**

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

Monday through Thursday- 7:00 p.m.

Jeff May, Speaking

**Market Street church of Christ**

514 West Market Street

Athens, Alabama

# Refreshing Rains

Steve Klein

Crops need moisture. They need it shortly after planting so that seeds can germinate and grow, and they need it as they grow in order to produce a useable harvest.

Crops need moisture. People need crops. But only God can provide the rain. We must rely on Him to provide it. Long ago, Zechariah advised his people to *“Ask the LORD for rain in the time of the latter rain. The LORD will make flashing clouds; He will give them showers of rain, grass in the field for everyone”* (Zechariah 10:1).

In Deuteronomy 11:13-14, God promised the Israelites that He would send both the early and the latter rain on their crops if they would obey His commandments. He said, *“And it shall be that if you earnestly obey My commandments which I command you today, to love the LORD your God and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul, then I will give you the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, your new wine, and your oil.”*

Many years later, after much disobedience on the part of the Israelites, the Lord was still willing to provide this blessing for His people if they would repent and turn to Him with all their *“heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning”* (Joel 2:12). If they would repent they were told that they could *“Be glad then, you children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God; for He has given you the former rain faithfully, and He will cause the rain to come down for you - The former rain, and the latter rain in the first month”* (Joel 2:23).

So then, God’s willingness to provide the early and the latter rain demonstrates His patience and longsuffering with mankind. But it also teaches mankind a lesson about trusting in the Lord to provide for us, and patiently waiting for Him to do so. James 5:7-8 says, *“Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.”*

The blessings that we enjoy in Christ today are the early rain. The greater blessings of the latter rain and the fruitful harvest are yet to come. Be patient. Trust the Lord. Serve Him faithfully day by day. Grow. Be productive. The clouds that will bring that latter rain are building on the horizon. The coming of the day of the Lord is at hand.

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

## News & Notes

### THE SICK:

#### *In The Hospital:*

#### *At Home:*

Margaret Carter	Lona Killen
Kathleen Wales	Hazel Toone
David Gardner	Mary Ruth Gardner
Yvonne Sherbert	Martha Rice
Bertha Johnson	Jesse Carter
Jeff Waddell	Marty Tyler
Don Bowling	Phillip Harwell
Jim Currier	Una King Currier
Randy Graviett	Robbie Shoulders

#### *Athens Convalescent Center:*

Betty Bates, rm. 17

#### *Limestone Health Facility:*

Katherine Stoffregen, rm 57	Rachel Grubbs, rm. 97
Janet Berryhill, rm. 65	J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E
Gladys Sandlin, rm. 101	Rosella Pugh, rm. 74
Mary Smith, rm. 85	

#### *Limestone Manor:*

Albert Norton, rm. 96

#### *Shut-In:*

Reba Adams, at home  
Lola Colwell, at home  
Polly Davis, River City Care, Decatur, rm. 74

**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:

- Joel Smith; Iraq
- Andrew Deen; Japan
- Whitney Deen; Japan
- Matthew Cox; Iraq

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** The *Jones Road church* is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening. The speaker in this meeting will be *Bill Hall*. . . The *Helton Drive church* in Florence is beginning a gospel meeting today and will continue through Friday evening. The speaker in the meeting will be *David Hartsell*. . . The *Hanceville church* in Hnaceville is beginning a gospel meeting today and will continue through Friday evening. The speaker in the meeting will be *Dee Bowman*.

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

**NEW QUARTER IN BIBLE CLASSES:** Our new quarter in Bible classes is beginning this morning. I appreciate the work that all of our teachers have done this past quarter. It is evident of the dedication and love for the Lord that the teachers here at Market Street have. If you are not a part of our classes, this is a great time to start. You will be glad you did.

**WORK GROUPS:** Tonight will be the night for work group one to meet. If you are in group one, remember to meet with your group this evening.

**NURSING HOME SINGING:** Remember the singing at the Athens Convalescent on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

**THE RECORD:** *For the Week of March 27th*

- Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 132
- Morning Worship ..... 166
- Evening Worship..... 112
- Wednesday:** Bible Classes..... 87

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***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, April 3rd:**

*Morning Worship*

- Announcements ..... Rusty Brand
- Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox
- Prayer ..... Dwaine Allfrey
- Preaching ..... David Cox
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding ..... Joel Hamm
- Assisting ..... Wayne Vaughn
- Serving ..... Marion Pepper ..... Paul Hasting
- ..... Bonnie Sutton ..... Landon Adams
- Closing Prayer ..... Benton Ball

*Evening Worship*

- Announcements ..... Rusty Brand
- Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox
- Prayer ..... Marion Mitchell
- Preaching ..... David Cox
- Lord's Supper ..... Joel Hamm
- Closing Prayer ..... Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for Sunday, April 3rd:

- Usher ..... Kenneth Smith
- Work Sound System ..... Marty Adams

**Wednesday, April 6th:**

- Song Leader ..... Jerry McGlocklin
- Bible Reading ..... (Isaiah 19:1-10)
- ..... Russ Wulfekuhl
- Prayer ..... Hunter Cox
- Invitation ..... David Cox
- Closing Prayer ..... Stuart Wilson

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**Sunday, April 10th:**

*Morning Worship*

- Announcements ..... Marty Adams
- Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns
- Prayer ..... Kenneth Smith
- Preaching ..... David Cox
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding ..... Joel Hamm
- Assisting ..... Wayne Vaughn
- Serving ..... Marion Pepper ..... Paul Hasting
- ..... Bonnie Sutton ..... Landon Adams
- Closing Prayer ..... Nathaniel Adams

*Evening Worship*

- Announcements ..... Marty Adams
- Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns
- Prayer ..... Hunter Cox
- Preaching ..... Warren Glass
- Lord's Supper ..... Wayne Vaughn
- Closing Prayer ..... Jonathan Keenon

Other Assignments for Sunday, April 10th:

- Usher ..... David Terry
- Work Sound System ..... Danny Johnson