

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
Joel Hamm.....(256) 230-6223
Stuart Wilson.....(256) 233-6291

Evangelist

David A. Cox.....(256) 233-8910
Cell: (256) 614-3757
E-mail: david.a.cox@att.net

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 IV

January 22, 2012

No. 4

The Foundation of the Church

Sewell Hall

In Matthew 16:18, Jesus said, "On this rock I will build My church." Peter had just identified Him as "the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16), and this truth was the rock on which the church was to be built.

The Greek word for church was not unfamiliar to them. It simply meant an assembly of people without any necessary religious connotation. In Acts 19, the Greek word was used to refer both to an unlawful assembly (Acts 19:32) and to a lawful assembly (Acts 19:39). Those who heard the Lord's promise must have understood Him to be saying the He would assemble His followers by proclamation of this truth and their acceptance of it.

The Beginning

In Acts, chapter 2, this promise of Jesus was fulfilled. People "from every nation under heaven" were in Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost. Doubtless all of them knew of Jesus and many had actually heard Him and seen His miracles. Some may even have been inclined to accept Him as the Messiah, but when He was crucified they dismissed any thought of such a possibility. They must have been surprised when Peter began his message with the words, Jesus of Nazareth.

Having introduced the name of Jesus, Peter presented the evidence that God had raised Him from the dead, concluding with these words: "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:36). Thus, Peter laid the foundation. Evidently some believed what Peter preached for "when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, 'Men and brethren, what shall we do?'" (Acts 2:37). Now they were asking how to take their stand upon this truth that Peter preached.

Peter's inspired answer was: "Repent, and let every one of you be

baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:38). Notice Peter’s instruction that they be baptized “in the name of Jesus Christ.” The word Christ to them meant Messiah. Their baptism in the name of Jesus Christ (Messiah) would mean that they accepted Him as Messiah and were willing to act in obedience to Him.

“Then those who gladly received His word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them” (Acts 2:41). That was the beginning of the church, an assembly of people who were willing to take their stand upon that truth that Jesus is the Christ.

Today

Today, Christ’s church is the same as it was in the beginning. Membership is not accomplished by identification with an organized church, even one known as a church of Christ. It is not determined by ones belief in baptism for remission of sins or even by baptism itself. It is not assured by weekly observance of the Lord’s Supper or refusal to use an instrument in worship. It is certainly not conditioned on subscription to any paper or support of any college. Nor is it an American institution.

The church that Jesus built is an invisible assembly of people--people in all the world who have truly accepted Jesus as the Christ the son of God. This must, of course, be more than a mere mental acceptance; it must be translated into obedience. Those on Pentecost who “were added to them” were those who not only “gladly received His word” but also those who “were baptized” in His name. A faith that would lead them to be baptized would lead them to continue to obey whatever the Lord required.

Jesus Christ is the creed of His church. A creed is what one believes. Although the church was originally made up of those who were baptized, they did not believe in baptism but in Jesus. They did not believe in the apostles, but they believed in Jesus and the “continued steadfastly in the apostles’ teaching” (Acts 2:42) because the apostles were His spokesmen (John 16:12-15). They did not believe in weekly communion or prayer, yet they “continued steadfastly in the breaking of bread and in prayer” (Acts 2:42) because they believed in Jesus and recognized Him as the authority behind these practices. None of these things—baptism, the New Testament, weekly communion, prayer, or any other religious beliefs

or practices--have any value except as they express our faith in Jesus Christ. But one who believes in Jesus will do these things.

The practical effect of this is not only to cause the Lord’s people to do all that He authorizes, but also to forbid any religious belief or practice that is not authorized by Him. To believe or practice anything without His authority is to accept some authority other than His. It is to leave the rock on which His church is founded and to take ones stand on some other foundation--one that will surely prove to be a foundation of sand.

Jesus said, “Therefore whoever hears these saying of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock” (Matthew 7:24-25).

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



If You Abide In My Word

Kent E. Heaton, Sr.

With the Temple in Jerusalem as His backdrop, Jesus tore at the heart of the Jewish mind in challenging them concerning His witness and His teachings. John records how they brought a woman caught in adultery to Jesus seeking ways to accuse Him but to no avail. The only hope of salvation would be found in believing that Jesus was the Christ and without this acceptance, they would die in their sins. (John 8:21-29) The teaching of Jesus struck the hearts of some and the record says, “Many believed in Him. Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (vs. 31,32).

Jesus shows the nature of being a disciple of the Son of God. There will be a need to abide in Him and in His teachings. A price must be paid to be a disciple of Christ but the cost is outweighed by the blessings found in Him. The power of truth will change the life of every man who comes to the Lord because found in this

truth is what all men desire – freedom. Truth will bring freedom from the bonds of hopelessness and despair.

These blessings can only be found – IF – one abides in the word. The idea of abiding is that of dwelling, to tarry or to remain. Many believed in Jesus but we find in John 12:42-43, “Nevertheless even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.” The heart was not willing to remain faithful to the cause of Christ. A constant continuance is needed to find the blessings of Christ.

If one abides in the word of God salvation is found. “Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.” (James 1:21) The word teaches the character of discipleship. A price is paid to be a disciple of Christ. (Luke 14:25:26-33) “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:34,35) Jesus also shows the requirement to be His disciple in John 15:1-8.

A disciple of Christ understands truth and finds the blessings of knowing truth. Abiding in the word of Christ produces godliness (Titus 1:1) that sets man free from sin. (1 Timothy 3:16; 4:7,8) Truth is the word of God (John 17:17) and sets us free from the doctrines of men (Matthew 15:7-9). Found in the church of Christ is truth (Ephesians 4:4; 1:22,23; 2 Timothy 2:15) giving freedom from the denominational dogmas of men. The blessing of truth is found in the Holy Spirit (John 16:13; 15:26) received at baptism (Acts 2:38,39) giving us freedom from the spirit of this world. (1 Corinthians 2:11,12; Romans 8:14-17). Abiding in the word of truth gives man the knowledge of true worship. (John 4:23,24)

These blessings can only be found in Jesus Christ. Abiding in the word of truth brings about these changes in life and secures the hope and promise of salvation. How does one enjoy these blessings in Christ? “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven” (Matthew 7:21). “He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned” (Mark 16:16).

~via *The Gilcrest County Journal*; Trenton, Florida.

Radio Program

Every Sunday Morning

on WVNN

770AM – 92.5 FM

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Market Street church of Christ
514 West Market Street
Athens, Alabama

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Stefan Fudge	Hazel Toone
Helen Blankenship	Barbara Fudge
Nancy Abernathy	Wynell Casteel
David Gardner	Mary Ruth Gardner
Yvonne Sherbert	Alvis McLemore
Charles Burns	Martha Rice
Matt Poff	Ava Brooke Campbell
Joe & Sarah Collier	Faye Cary
Kenneth Pressnell	Angeta Andersen
Brent Lowman	Betty Faye Holt
Larry Owens	Gladys Sandlin
Phillip Harwell	Una King Currier
Rhett Bailey	Barbara Ogles
Hailee Walton	Paige Phillips

In The Hospital:

Rachel Grubbs; Huntsville Hosp. – rm 402-B
Eli Williams; St. Jude’s Hospital, – Memphis, Tenn.

Limestone Health Facility:

Janet Berryhill, rm. 65	Annie Mae Bragg, rm. 57
Albert Norton, rm. 107	Mary Smith, rm. 85
J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E	Rosella Pugh, rm. 74

Shut-In:

Reba Adams, at home
Lola Colwell, at home
Polly Davis, River City Care, Decatur, rm. 74
Ruby Davis, Valley View Health, Madison, rm. 51-A

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:
 Andrew Deen; Japan
 Whitney Deen; Japan

WORK GROUPS: Work Group One will be meeting tonight after our evening service. Remember the groups have been realigned, so please check to see if this is your group. 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.

SYMATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Jane Meredith* and *all the family* in the passing of Jane's sister, *Betty Bates*. Sister Bates passed away Tuesday morning at Athen-Limestone hospital. Her funeral was Thursday morning at Spry Funeral Home Chapel. She was laid to rest at the rest in Myers cemetery...Also, we extend our deepest sympathy to *Carol Dean* and *all the family* in the passing of Carol's grandmother, *Lorene Hill*, this past Wednesday evening. Her visitation was last night and her funeral will be this afternoon at 2:00 at McConnell Funeral Home Chapel. She will be laid to rest at the Legg Cemetery. Again, we want to express our sympathy to all these families.

THE RECORD: *For the Week of January 15th*

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 131
 Morning Worship 178
 Evening Worship..... 117

Wednesday:
 Bible Classes..... 108



Congregational Singing

Friday, February 24, 2012 — 7:00p.m.

Songleaders:

Jim Deason, Steve Klein & Mark White

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street
 Athens, Alabama

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, January 22nd:

Morning Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
 Song Leader Tyler Cox
 Prayer Bonnie Sutton
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Marcus Morris
 Assisting Stuart Wilson
 Serving Will Chumbley . Brandon Griswold
 Russ Wulfekuhl Stefan Fudge
 Closing Prayer Jordan Lovell

Evening Worship

Announcements Dwaine Alfrey
 Song Leader Joel Hamm
 Prayer Larry Michell
 Preaching Song Service
 Lord's Supper Marcus Morris
 Closing Prayer Terry Andrews

Other Assignments for Sunday, January 22nd:

Usher Paul Hasting
 Work Sound System Landon Adams

Wednesday, January 25th:

Song Leader Stefan Fudge
 Bible Reading..... (Isaiah 37:1-13)
 Bonnie Sutton
 Prayer Jordan Lovell
 Invitation David Cox
 Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Sunday, January 29th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
 Song Leader Stefan Fudge
 Prayer Landon Adams
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Marty Adams
 Assisting Jerry McGlocklin
 Serving Nathaniel Adams Delmer Carter
 Ronnie Locke Todd Williams
 Closing Prayer Hunter Cox

Evening Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
 Song Leader Tyler Cox
 Prayer Joel Hamm
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper Jerry McGlocklin
 Closing Prayer Tommy Coblentz

Other Assignments for Sunday, January 29th:

Usher Keenon Currier
 Work Sound System Danny Johnson