

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
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Athens, Alabama 35612
Phone (256) 232-1525

Volume IV

March 4, 2012

No. 10

They Practical Prophets

Dee Bowman

When I was a small boy, I heard a Bible class teacher whom I respected very much answer a man who asked the question, "Why don't we study the Old Testament for a while?" "I don't even understand the New Testament," the teacher said. "How can I afford to spend time studying the Old?"

Of course, the answer was a faulty one — if you will pardon me, even a foolish one. But, like most people at that time, I assumed the answer to be an appropriate one and, for a time at least, directed my study time accordingly. As a result, I sacrificed some valuable information which is available to the student of the Old Testament in general and the prophets in particular.

Even a cursory perusal of the new Testament should tell us that consideration of the Old Testament is invaluable in any effort to understand the New. Paul tell us, "for whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope" (Romans 15:4). And again, in 1 Corinthians 10:11, the Holy Spirit caused him to say, "Now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition, upon who the ends of the world are come." It behooves us to pay careful attention to the "things written before" since they help us understand the things written after.

The Minor Prophets (Minor refers to length, not importance) are relevant today. As Jack P. Lewis says, "Men still trust in material strength and delight in wealth and luxury while they forget God. There is nothing particularly new about lying, killing, stealing, and committing adultery. Oppression and injustice are rampant. Men still tend to heed the speaker who presents the pleasant message and assures them that their deeds are satisfactory. Men prefer to make amends by sacrifice rather than to do right" (The Minor Prophets.p.8). Times don't change much. and men are about the same in any age. Technology changes bur Folks don't.

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
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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

The Minor Prophets are immensely practical. They show us who we are, recommend urgent repairs, make calls for renewed commitment. They impress us with our need for God's help. They show at once the, "goodness and the severity of God" (Romans 11:22), while they promote His greatest benevolence and affirm His need to vindicate Himself as well. Brother Hailey states, "A study of the prophets will enrich the life of anyone who applies to himself to learn their teaching" (Homer Hailey, A commentary on The Minor Prophets, p.5).

So prepare for a journey back into time. But one thing will surprise you and that is the similarity of the problems of these prophets' times with that of our own times. Prepare to be impressed with how very relevant are the various messages of these men of God to our own needs today. They are truly amazing...those practical prophets.

-via *The Northwood Messenger*; Northport, Alabama



The Armour of God

Chuck Bartlett

"Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, having done all, to stand" (Ephesians 6:13). Our Father has not left us defenseless when it comes to our battles "against the wiles of the devil" (v. 11). Earlier, Paul mentioned that the brethren should be "strong in the Lord and in the power of His great might" (v. 10). Let's take note of our armor that God has given us through Christ.

1. *Having girded your waist with truth* (v. 14). It is truth that can set us free (John 8:32). This gives us power over the enemy of lies, and the devil is that father of such (John 8:44). Without truth we have no defense against anything that is false. Truth is what is required for a soldier of Christ to be victorious.

2. *Having put on the breastplate of righteousness*

(v. 14). It is this quality that the enemy abhors. Righteous actions (word or deed) cause those in opposition to be tormented further (Romans 12:20). Saints will be tempted to engage in carnal warfare (2 Corinthians 10:4), which would mean to take off our breastplate. Make sure it stays on and resist the devil and he will flee (James 4:7).

3. *Having feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace* (v.15). Any spiritual conflict would bring certain defeat without having a firm stand. Christians have the peace, which brings assurance, through the gospel (Philippians 4:7). Having doubts is to give a foothold to the enemy. Satan's earliest tool used to hurt man was by casting doubt: "You shall not surely die" (Genesis 3:3). The gospel of peace will cast out uncertainty (2 Timothy 1:12).

4. *Taking the shield of faith* (v. 16). The whole purpose of being a good soldier is to please our God, and without faith it is impossible to please Him (Hebrews 11:6). The edge that children of God have is their ability to walk by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7). This enables them to quench the fiery darts of the wicked one (Ephesians 6:16).

5. *Take the helmet of salvation* (v. 17). What greater comfort is there than knowing you shall be saved? What soldier would fear a battle when he is assured victory? The salvation of the Lord is there for those who will wear it. This is trusting in God who can deliver us (Matthew 6:13, 2 Peter 2:9). It is useless to fight without seeing the salvation of the Lord.

6. *Take the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God* (v. 17). Knowing that the only thing we are up against is everything that is not God's word, it is only fitting that the use of God's word would be our needed weapon. Too many soldiers are trying to defend truth without God's word. We must use the word for it has the power (Romans 1:16).

As is often pointed out, notice that the armor does not prepare one who turns his back to the enemy--he would be unprotected. This is why throughout the scriptures we are told to press straight ahead (Philippians 3:14). The narrow road doesn't have room to turn back for a rest. If you do that you are not on the road.

Finally, our text in Ephesians 6, mentions, "praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and

supplication for all the saints” (v. 18).

Are you wearing the whole armor of God?

~via *The Gospel Observer*; Ashland, Kentucky

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Spirit Still Revealing

Mike Thomas

There are those who claim the Lord speaks directly to them. It is common to hear someone say, “The Lord said to me last night...” According to the Bible, whenever a person makes a statement like that they are either dishonest or deceived because God is not giving revelation beyond His word. There are at least two reasons for this:

There is no need for further revelation. Peter was able to say in the first century that God’s “divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness” (2 Peter 1:3). Everything essential to living in God’s will had been revealed in Peter’s lifetime. “Then why was he still writing inspired scripture” ask the skeptic. Peter says it was to remind brethren of God’s will (v. 12) and to “be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my decease” (v. 15). The apostles revealed God’s word both by what they spoke and by what they wrote (2 Thessalonians 2:15). A person can take their writings and learn all of God’s will (Ephesians 3:3-5). This is why God gave scripture (2 Timothy 3:16,17).

There is no way to receive revelation. Not only is it unessential for a person to reveal anything beyond the Bible, it is impossible for him to do so since the Spirit does not guide people in revelation. The only way the apostles could reveal God’s will was through the Spirit’s guidance, which is why Jesus sent the Spirit to them (John 16:13). This was made possible when He came upon them on the Day of Pentecost (Acts

2:1-4). Peter said that what happened to him and the other eleven apostles was a fulfillment of prophecy (vv. 14, 17-18). No such promise was made to other men, and the only other time the Spirit came upon people in that manner was when the first Gentile converts were made (Acts 10:44-45; 11:15). In order for Christians to receive the gifts of revelation they had to be given the Spirit through the laying of the apostles hands (Acts 8:17; 19:5-6). Since Paul was the last person made an apostle of Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:8), and all apostles have died, there is no way for the Spirit to be given to men. Paul said it would be this way when God’s word was completely given (1 Corinthians 13:8-10).

The New Testament was God’s final revelation (Jude 3). Everything since then is a lie (Galatians 1:8-9).

~via *Standing Firm*, Beaver Dam, Kentucky

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Maurice Dollar	Delmer Carter
Wayne & Judy Vaughn	The Wilson Family
Albert Bowers	Betty Pepper
Gladys Johnson	Wynell Casteel
Ronnie Locke	Mot Beasley
Hazel Toone	Mary Ruth Gardner
Yvonne Sherbert	Ruth Lawson
Faye Cary	Matt Poff
Joe & Sarah Collier	Peggy Wolf
Frances Thornton	Betty Faye Holt
Hailee Walton	Una King Currier
Kenneth Pressnell	Angeta Andersen
Brent Lowman	Paige Phillips
Barbara Ogles	Gladys Sandlin
Phillip Harwell	

In The Hospital:

David Gardner; HeathSouth, rm. 305
Frances Bowers; Athens-Limestone Hosp., rm. 219
Connie Dollar; Birmingham Hospital; CCU
Charles Burns; Huntsville Hospital, rm.1747
Eli Williams; St. Jude’s Hospital, – Memphis, Tenn.
Ava Brooke Cambell; Children’s Hospital B’ham.

Limestone Health Facility:

Janet Berryhill, rm. 65 Annie Mae Bragg, rm. 57
Albert Norton, rm. 36 David Rice, rm. 111
J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E Rosella Pugh, rm. 74

Limestone Lodge:

Martha Rice, rm. 25

Windsor House- Huntsville:

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 300

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

TIME CHANGES: Remember next Saturday night, March 10th, will be the time that our clock will spring forwrd for daylight savings time. Remember to set your clock forward next Saturday when you go to bed.

WORK GROUPS: Work Group one will be meeting tonight after our evening service. If you are in group one, remember to meet with your group.

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

THE RECORD: *For the Week of Febuary 26th*

Sunday:

Bible Classes..... 131
Morning Worship 173
Evening Worship..... 118

Gospel Meeting

April 29 – May 3, 2012

(Sunday through Thursday)

Sewell Hall, Speaking

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street
Athens, Alabama

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, March 4th:

Morning Worship

AnnouncementsJoel Hamm
Song LeaderStefan Fudge
PrayerTodd Williams
PreachingDavid Cox
Lord’s Supper
Presiding Stuart Wilson
Assisting Terry Andrews
Serving David Terry Delmer Carter
..... Brandon Griswold Hunter Cox
Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Evening Worship

AnnouncementsJoel Hamm
Song LeaderJerry McGlocklin
Prayer Dwaine Allfrey
PreachingDavid Cox
Lord’s Supper Stuart Wilson
Closing Prayer Tyler Cox

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 4th:

Usher Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System Marty Adams

Wednesday, March 7th:

Song LeaderTodd Willaims
Bible Reading.....(Isaiah 39:1-8)
..... Will Chumbley
Prayer Landon Adams
InvitationDavid Cox
Closing PrayerNathaniel Adams

Sunday, March 11th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Tyler Cox
Prayer Jordan Lovell
PreachingDavid Cox
Lord’s Supper
Presiding Marty Adams
AssistingJoel Hamm
Serving Marvin Putman Dwaine Allfrey
..... Harold Davis Tommy Coblenz
Closing Prayer Marcus Morris

Evening Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song LeaderStefan Fudge
Prayer Stuart Wilson
PreachingDavid Cox
Lord’s SupperJoel Hamm
Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 11th:

Usher Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System Danny Johnson