

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) 777-6737
Bonnie Sutton..... (256) 232-2081

Deacons

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 233-5147
Tommy Coblentz (256) 232-3212
Joel Hamm..... (256) 230-6223
Larry Mitchell (256) 230-0185
Todd Williams..... (205) 541-8304
Russ Wulfekuhl (256) 683-9396

Evangelists

David A. Cox (256) 233-8910
Cell: (256) 614-3757
Jordan Lovell..... (256) 777-8998

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 V

February 10, 2013

No. 6

The Throne In Heaven

Bubba Garner

"After these things I looked, and behold, a throne was standing in heaven, and One sitting on the throne. And He who was sitting was like a jasper stone and a sardius in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, like an emerald in appearance. And from the throne proceed flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder And they will fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and will worship Him who lives forever and ever, and will cast their crowns before the throne, saying, 'Worthy art Thou, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for Thou didst create all things, and because of Thy will they existed, and were created'" (Revelation 4:1-11).

I don't know about you, but I can't read John's vision and description of the throne in heaven without the hair on the back of my neck standing up. I saw some really spectacular scenes this summer while in Jamaica and Canada, but I have not yet been able to describe with my mouth or pen what I beheld with my eyes. Imagine John's frustration in his task to depict the immortal glory of God in terms that mortal man could comprehend; there is an old gospel song that says something to that effect: "John couldn't tell it, John couldn't spell it, and John couldn't write it all down."

Consider a couple of observations from this vision.

God is on His throne. That's really digging deep into the text, isn't it? But He is. And no heavenly or earthly force will ever be able to challenge His authority or remove Him from power. Not the president, not the emperor, not the devil. "The Lord has established His throne in the heavens; and His sovereignty rules over all" (Psalm 103:19). In all the apprehensions and uncertainties of life, remember Who is in control. When the righteous suffer and the wicked prosper, remember the Great Equalizer. In anything and everything that you're doing, remember that God is on His throne. Nothing happens that is not according to His

will, and while life may be out of our hands, it is not out of His.

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain. When no one in heaven was found worthy to open the book that God held in His right hand, John looked beside the throne and saw a Lamb that had been slain, and the Lamb came and took the book. Immediately, heaven burst into a new song, saying, “Worthy art Thou for Thou wast slain, and didst purchase for God with Thy blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation” (Revelation 5:9). Jesus Christ is worthy. He is worthy of our worship in song on this Lord’s Day. He is worthy of our remembrance of His death for our sins. He is worthy of our commemoration of His resurrection that prefigures our victory. He is worthy of our imitation and our following in His steps that lead to the God who sits on His throne.

You may overcome through Christ alone. The book of Revelation was primarily written to encourage those First Century saints who were suffering persecution from the Roman Empire. They were scattered, homeless, and oppressed, but they were Christians. And Christians don’t give up. “Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life” (Revelation 2:10). Two thousand years has not faded that covenant. To those who endure affliction, He has pledged relief. To those who labor, He has promised rest. But only to those who overcome with the Lamb. “To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever” (Revelation 5:13). Amen.

—via *Southside Sunday* Pasadena, Texas.

Second Annual Singing

Friday, February 22, 2013 — 7:00p.m.

Songleaders:

Jim Deason, Steve Klein & Mark White

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

Jeremiah, Prophet of God

John R. Gibson

It was a time of crisis when God spoke to a young man from a priestly family in the village of Anathoth and ordained him to be a prophet. Despite Jeremiah’s initial protest that he was too young, the Lord insisted he was the right man for the job and for approximately forty years Jeremiah faithfully served God and his countryman as a bold and courageous prophet. (See Jeremiah 1:1-10 for the story of Jeremiah’s call and commission).

It was not easy to be a prophet during the forty years leading up to the Babylonian Captivity. Internal corruption abounded and foreign powers threatened for the first eighteen or so years that Jeremiah prophesied. Then King Josiah died in 609 B.B. and it got even worse. With wickedness prevailing among princes, priests, prophets and people, it is not surprising that Jeremiah was often persecuted, but because God’s word was as a burning fire within him (Jeremiah 20:9) the prophet remained faithful through it all.

The prophet’s life of faithful service is a good, inspirational lesson in and of itself, but in addition to being inspired by his life, we want to consider a few verses from his recorded prophecies that continue to have relevance today.

“For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the foundation of living waters, And hewn themselves cisterns - broken cisterns that can hold no water” (Jeremiah 2:13).

It is difficult to imagine anyone with access to a good spring ever choosing to quit drinking from it so that he could drink standing water from a pit, and for that matter, a pit that didn’t hold water. In the physical realm this would be completely absurd, yet Jeremiah compared Judah to someone that foolish when he accused them of rejecting the Lord with all His goodness so that they might serve gods who were nothing more than human creations and could do nothing, whether good or evil (Jeremiah 10:5).

Because God gives us a free will we can make the choice to reject the One who gives eternal life, but what will we choose in exchange? If we reject God we may choose things that will initially bring us enjoyment, but in comparison to the eternal glory God offers we will

have chosen a cistern that cannot hold water. When we come to the end of life's journey and stand before the judgment seat of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:10), will our choices result in eternity craving a satisfaction that will never be ours (Revelation 22:1; Luke 16:22-24)?

"For though you wash yourself with lye, and use much soap, yet your iniquity is marked before Me, 'says the Lord" (Jeremiah 2:22).

Since the first sin of Adam and Eve people have tried and failed to hide from God. Here the Lord uses His prophet to remind the people that no one ever fools Him. We may think we have "covered our tracks," but the Lord sees every step we take and even knows the thoughts of our heart. We can get all scrubbed and clean, put on our best Sunday attire and join in the worship, but if we are not living as we should out iniquity will be plainly marked before the Lord. In 2 Samuel 11 David engaged in an elaborate and seemingly successful lye soap cleaning of his affair with Bathsheba, but in the very next chapter the Lord sent Nathan to reveal David's quilt. We may fool men, perhaps even fool ourselves, but make no mistake about it, God will not be fooled. Instead of a whitewashing we need genuine repentance.

"Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed; Nor did they know how to blush. Therefore they shall fall among those who fall; At the time I punish them, They shall be cast down,' says the Lord" (Jeremiah 6:15).

That everyone's sins cannot be denied (Romans 3:23; 1 John 1:8, 10), but what happens when we sin? Does our conscience trouble us? Are we ashamed of the fact that we have failed the One who gave us life and sent His Son to die for us? When the conscience is functioning as it ought we will need no rebuke, no correction from others, for our sense of guilt will be so strong that upon reflection we will turn away from our sin, confess our transgressions and seek God's forgiveness (1 John 1:5 - 2:2). But even when the conscience does not initially move us to repentance and it takes the rebuke of another to prick the conscience, if we will then imitate David and with a broken heart confess our sins, God will forgive (2 Samuel 12:13; Psalm 51:1-4, 14, 17; 32:5).

Unfortunately, many have ignored and stifled the protests of the conscience to the point that it no longer cries out in condemnation of their iniquities. They have come to the point where they are not embarrassed by

anything, but instead their "glory is in their shame" (Philippians 3:19). If we allow ourselves to reach the point that our sense of shame is lost, Jeremiah says that we will fall and Paul says our end will be destruction (Jeremiah 6:15; Philippians 3:18-19). Let us heed the cries of the conscience and maintain a tender-hearted concern for right and wrong that remembers how to blush in shame when mistakes are made.

-via *Pepper Road Bulletin*; Athens, Alabama.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Alvis McLemore	Mot Beasley
Gwen Bullock	Gilbert Hardy
Mary Ruth Gardner	Wynell Casteel
Stephanie Brown	Bruce Mordecai
Una King Currier	Ronald Harrison
David Hartsell	Abby Gilbert
Betty Faye Holt	Phillip Harwell
Matt Poff	Ava Brooke Campbell
Charles Burns	Shelia Dunnivant Douglas

In The Hospital:

Frances Bowers; Athens-Limestone; rm. 205

Dyral Allfrey; Athens-Limestone; rm. 316

Athens Convalescent Care:

Beulah Pope, rm. 100 Mattye Murray, rm. 60

Harvey Pope, rm. 100

Limestone Health Facility:

Janet Berryhill, rm. 75-B Albert Bowers, rm. 115-B

Albert Norton, rm. 36 J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E

Rosella Pugh, rm. 74

Limestone Lodge:

Yvonne Sherbert, rm. 29-E

Brookshire Healthcare - Huntsville:

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 112-C

Shut-In:

Reba Adams, at home

Lola Colwell, at home

Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

OUT OF TOWN: *Ida Nell Griffin* is back home after being in Ohio visiting with family... *The Coblenz: Tommy and Marcella* are on vacation this weekend with their children.

LADIES BIBLE CLASS: The Ladies' Bible class meets

on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 in the west wing auditorium. They are continuing the study, "*The Barnabas Factor*". All the ladies that can are invited to be a part of this class.

PLACED MEMBERSHIP: *Lora Cook* has expressed her desire to place membership at Market Street. We have enjoyed Lora and her husband, *Jonathan* and her children: *Alex, Elijah and Anna* visiting with us at our services. We want to extend a warm welcome to Lora, Jonathan, Alex, Elijah and Anna. Let us all encourage them as they will encourage us.

ANNUAL SINGING: Remember our 2nd Annual Singing will be on Friday, February 22nd. *Jim Deason, Steve Klein and Mark W. White* will be back again this year to lead the singing. There are cards on the table for you to take and give to those you invite. Also, for those on Facebook there is an event to share with others and you may invite your friends through that medium. We will need a number of men to help greet, usher and move chairs. If you would like to be involved in this way, please let me know.

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

GOSPEL MEETINGS: There is a gospel meeting beginning today at the *Westview church*. The will continue through Wednesday evening with *David Thomley* preaching... The *Parkway church* in Lawrence county is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday evening. The speaker in this meeting will be *Ben Walker*... The *4th Street church* in Cullman will begin a meeting on Friday, February 15th and it will continue through next Sunday. *Bobby Graham* will be the speaker in the meeting.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE DRILL: The Children's Bible Drill is each Sunday afternoon at 4:40 and lasts about 15 minutes. It meets in the auditorium and will end about 5 minutes before the beginning of our evening service. I hope that all of our children will be able to be present this evening for the Bible drill.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for Week of February 3rd Sunday:*

Bible Classes..... 141
Morning Worship 188
Evening Worship..... 124

Wednesday:

Bible Classes..... 105

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, February 10th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer Marcus Morris
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Dwaine Allfrey
Assisting Marty Adams
Serving Keith Hinkle Larry Mitchell
..... Tommy Burns Terry Andrews
Closing Prayer Joel Hamm

Evening Worship

Announcements Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader Tyler Cox
Prayer Bonnie Sutton
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Dwaine Allfrey
Closing Prayer Mot Dollar

Other Assignments for Sunday, February 10th:

Usher Keenon Currier
Work Sound System Landon Adams

Wednesday, February 13th:

Song Leader Todd Williams
Bible Reading..... Isaiah 60:10-18
..... Nathaniel Adams
Prayer Wayne Vaughn
Invitation Dan Reed
Closing Prayer Jack Cannon

Sunday, February 17th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
Song Leader Todd Williams
Prayer Tommy Coblentz
Preaching Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper
Presiding Joel Hamm
Assisting Kenneth Smith
Serving Dan Lovell Jonathan Keenon
..... David Terry Delmer Carter
Closing Prayer Jerry McGlocklin

Evening Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Marion Mitchell
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, February 17th:

Usher Terry Andrews
Work Sound System Landon Adams