

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

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Christianity and to enhance the work of the
Market Street church.*

David A. Cox, Editor

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No. 26

A New "Religious Fervor"

Bryan Gibson

Let's go back in time to September 10th, 2001, just one day before the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. With perhaps a few exceptions, political leaders were not asking for the nation's prayers. The name of God was rarely mentioned in public. Signs expressing our dependence on God were hard to find. People were not flocking to religious services. Eternity was not the uppermost thought in most people's minds.

No doubt about it, a lot has changed since that fateful day. The President has spoken often of the need for prayer. Governors and mayors throughout this land have echoed this call. And people have responded to these calls, judging by the many prayer services that have been held. We've all noticed the signs in front of people's houses, in some way expressing our dependence on God in this critical hour. Church buildings have been filled the last two Sundays. People are thinking more seriously about eternity than ever before. What was important to people before doesn't seem so important now, and vice versa.

We certainly don't want to criticize this "religious fervor," but it does raise a couple of questions. First, where was this "religious fervor" before? Does it take a tragedy for us to get interested in God? Didn't we need God before the terrorists struck? Secondly, how long will this fervor last? When this matter is settled, however long that takes, and our lives are back to "normal," will God continue to be a topic of daily conversation? Will people still be looking to Him for help? Will people still be thinking soberly about eternity? Will material things still take a backseat to spiritual things?

We would do well to remember the admonition given in Psalms 62:8: "Trust in Him at all times, you people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us." Did you catch the key phrase - "at all times"? We need to trust God in times of war and in times of peace, in times of prosperity and in times of poverty, in times of joy and in times of sadness.

But what does it mean to trust God? Read carefully these words:

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart; and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and depart from evil” (Proverbs 3:5-7). Yes, trusting in God means praying to Him, but it also means turning our life over to Him and letting His word direct every area of our lives. In other words, we need to completely submit to His will. We need to quit doing what we want to do, and start doing what He wants us to do. It is only then that we can pray with confidence. “And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and to do those things pleasing in His sight” (1 John 3:22). This also enables us to live without fear. Who knows where and when the terrorists may strike again? But if we commit to doing His will, “we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, I will not fear. What can man do to me?” (Hebrews 13:6).

Here’s hoping that this new “religious fervor” will last indefinitely, that all this religious “talk” will be turned into action, that people will quit trying to do it their way and start doing it the Lord’s way, that more and more people will “turn to the Lord” and then “continue with the Lord” (Acts 11:21-23).

—via *Think On These Things*, Texarkana, Arkansas.

Editor’s Note: The preceding article was written at a tragic time in our nation’s history. The article speaks of the “religious fervor” that swept the nation. As is the case so often, the turn toward God and spiritual matters seems to have almost been totally forgotten in our nation today. The rulings such as the one in the Supreme Court just this past week definitely shows a nation that needs to remember God. Let us all individually remember to seek God and keep our focus on the spiritual side of life at all times.



Worship Versus ShowTime

Frank Jamerson

The nation of Israel desired a king because the nations around them had kings (1 Samuel 8:5). Human nature has not changed, and it would be foolish not

to learn from history that God’s people are influenced by their environment.

We see the influences of denominationalism among our more liberal brethren, and then we can expect to see some conservative brethren being influenced by the same activities.

In the April-June, 1997 issue of “Gospel Gleaner,” Wayne Jackson wrote an article entitled, “The Growing Trend Toward Jazzed-Up Worship.” His conclusion was that “this surge toward false emotionalism is due in part to the shallowness of our people in Scripture knowledge. Many have become so spiritually/intellectually lazy that they are looking for a quick-fix to alleviate their boredom. It is almost like some are searching for a sort of ‘Spirit’ drug on which to get a fast ‘high.’”

The thing interesting about this is that some who have taught brethren that the church can do what the individual can do, and that there is no pattern for the work of the church, are now reaping the consequences of that lack of respect for Biblical authority.

In the October 1998 issue of “The Spiritual Sword,” David Sain reviewed a book entitled “*Show Time! Worship in the Age of Show Business*.” He, too is lamenting the disrespect for the Bible pattern on worship, and agreed with the author of that book, who said there is a “shift in the focus of our worship - away from God and toward one’s own interests. The worshipper has been placed at the center of worship!” He said that some defend entertainment on the basis that it “attracts the un-churched to Christianity.” But, he pointed out that “such a strategy is contrary to that which Jesus gave to his disciples, to whom he never suggested that they try to win the world by making Christianity attractive. Instead, Jesus basically said “tell it, ‘not’ sell it.” We need to tell the message of salvation, not sell people on a superior entertainment program.

Evidently, some of the more liberal congregations are getting into drama, contemporary music, lifting hands and special music worship. In response to argument that “drama helps people remember the lesson,” David Sain said, “the end result of drama is supplanting of preaching (cf. Matthew 28:19), rather than the supporting of preaching, which by contrast is what appropriate illustrations and visual aids do.” He sees clearly that there is a difference between an aid to accomplish what God authorized and the addition of another kind of action. To the argument the drama

“awakens people spiritually,” he said this “implies that the gospel is lacking power (Romans 1:16).” then, he said, “Drama in the worship assembly is a practice for which there is no authority in the New Testament. God wants his word presented in simplicity through preaching (1 Corinthians 1:18-21; 2:1-5). In the judgment of this reviewer, drama only feeds the desire for entertainment, and trivializes it to a ‘performer’ and ‘spectator’ level.”

Concerning the use of special music - solos, quartets and choirs in the public worship, he said, “A careful study of Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16. et.al., will lead to the inescapable conclusion that vocal music is the only kind of music divinely authorized for Christian worship, and in the worship assembly of the church the singing that is authorized is congregational in nature.” Then, he correctly concluded that “special music produces an inescapable entertainment atmosphere.”

The battle over “traditional” and “contemporary” worship has been raging in the denominational world, and now it is beginning among our brethren. Those who have compromised Bible authority to justify the unscriptural things they want to practice (such as church kitchens and ball teams), are at a disadvantage in opposing these trends. We can certainly improve the spirit of our worship, but unscriptural gimmicks must not supplant spiritual worship as authorized by Christ.

~via *Midway Messenger*, Florence, Alabama



My Father Gives The Best

Lawrence Kelley

The concern and compassion of a parent for his child is called natural affection. It seems to be an inborn trait enhanced by society's approval of strong parental love. God affirms this form of love by condemning those who are astorgos - without natural affection (Romans 1:31). The universal rule is that parents love their children and therefore seek their highest good and best interest. The problem is that parents often lack the wisdom to know what is best and at times even fail to perform what they know best.

Not so with God. In my favorite verse we (human parents) are called evil in contrast with the surpassing goodness of God. He knows what is best and will always provide it for us. We are His children.

What a comforting realization that in the midst of life's trials and tribulations I can know I have a Father whose affection for me is infinite and whose wisdom is perfect. This means I am not an orphan in the world, nor am I responsible for upholding the universe. In fact the only thing that really needs my concern is my Father's kingdom and His righteousness. If I seek these things first, He will take care of the rest.

~via *Bible Viewpoints*, Houston, Texas.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Benton & Gayle Ball	Marvin Wales
Judy Vaughn	Gwen Bullock
Betty Hastings	Mot Beasley
Wynell Casteel	Abby Gilbert
Will Carl Sullivan	Charles White
Jerry Taylor	Robin Legg
Ava Brooke Cambell	Charles Burns
Barbara Piper	Phillip Harwell
Matt Poff	Una King Currier

In The Hospital:

Elizabeth Kate Miller, St. Jude's Hospital; – Memphis

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Beulah Pope, rm. 100	Matty Murray, rm. 60
Harvey Pope, rm. 43	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102

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. 11

Limestone Manor:

Jack Cannon, rm. 91

Brookshire Healthcare - Huntsville:

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 112-C

Shut-In:

Reba Adams, at home
Lola Colwell, at home
Mary Ruth Gardner, at home
David Rice, Mobile, Alabama
Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

OUT OF TOWN: *The Williams:* Todd, Julie, Matthew and Phillip are in Gatlinburg, Tennessee this week on Vacation... *The Coblentz:* Tommy and Marcella are in in Colorado this week on Vacation... *The Mitchells:* Larry and Peggy are out of town this week on vacation... *Nancy Hardison* is in North Carolina visiting her sister.

PLACED MEMBERSHIP: As was announced last week we want to extend a warm welcome to **Sarah Collier**. Sister Collier let it be known that she would like to be a part of the Market Street church... Also **Joyce Harbin** has let it be known that she would like to be a part of the Market Street church too. We are thrilled that both Sarah and Joyce have decided to be a part of our work here at Market Street. May the Lord bless our work together.

LADIES BIBLE CLASS: The Ladies' Bible class meets on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 in the west wing auditorium. They are studying the books of "Proverbs". All the ladies that can are invited to be a part of this class.

MILITARY SERVICE: Remember **Mitzi Carruth's** son-in-law, **Joel Smith**, who is in Afghanistan serving the U. S. military. Keep him in your prayers.

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

THE RECORD: Attendance for Week of June 23rd

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 145
Morning Worship 181
Evening Worship..... 118

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 100

Bible Study



Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, June 30th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer Marcus Morris
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Ronnie Locke
Assisting Jonathan Keenon
Serving Stefan Fudge..... Tommy Burns
..... Norman Brown Keith Hinkle
Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Steve Bradley
Preaching Marty Adams
Lord's Supper Ronnie Locke
Closing Prayer Kenneth Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, June 30th:

Usher Keenon Currier
Work Sound System Terry Andrews

Wednesday, July 3rd:

Song Leader Marty Adams
Bible Reading..... Mark 2:18-22
..... Steve Bradley
Prayer Kenneth Adams
Invitation Jordan Lovell
Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Sunday, July 7th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Jerry McGlocklin
Song Leader Stefan Fudge
Prayer Terry Andrews
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Joel Hamm
Assisting Dwaine Allfrey
Serving Danny Johnson Dan Lovell
..... Nathaniel Adams Delmer Carter
Closing Prayer Keith Hinkle

Evening Worship

Announcements Jerry McGlocklin
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Kenneth Smith
Preaching Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer Dan Reed

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 7th:

Usher Ronnie Locke
Work Sound System Marty Adams