

# 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

Volume V

July 21, 2013

No. 29

## *Measuring The Temple*

**Alan Cornett**

### 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

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### 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*

Solomon’s Temple in Jerusalem was perhaps the most beautiful building in the world, which was fitting, as it was the resting place of the Glory of the Lord. It stood as a monument for God’s people, but also as a beacon to the world. Sadly, Israel lost its way, and as a result lost its land, its king, its temple and the Presence of God in the temple.

Ezekiel records the Lord leaving the temple prior to its destruction at the hands of Nebuchadnezzar: “Then the glory of the Lord went out from the threshold of the house, and stood over the cherubim. And the cherubim lifted up their wings and mounted up from the earth before my eyes as they went out, with the wheels beside them. And they stood at the entrance of the east gate of the house of the Lord, and the glory of the God of Israel was over them.” (Ezekiel 10:18-19). Could there be anything more despairing than seeing the LORD’s presence leaving you? It was because Israel had already left God. They were paying the consequences. But as always, God leaves hope.

Ezekiel sees another vision involving the temple. He is transported to the temple and given a tour. There he watches a “man whose appearance was like bronze” (40:4) measuring the temple. Each and every part is explored, its measurements recorded.

Then an extraordinary thing happens: In the vision the Glory of the LORD returns to the temple. And Ezekiel is given a strict charge. “As for you, son of man, describe to the house of Israel the temple, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities; and they shall measure the plan. And if they are ashamed of all that they have done, make known to them the design of the temple, its arrangement, its exits and its entrances, that is, its whole design; and make known to them as well all its statutes and its whole design and all its laws, and write it down in their sight, so that they may observe all its statutes and carry them out (Ezekiel 43:10-11).

Now why would a description of the temple and its detailed measurements cause Israel to “be ashamed of their iniquities”? What does the placement of entrances and exits have to do with their relationship

to God? God is using the exact measurements of the temple as a metaphor for His Law, His pattern for them. Ezekiel recorded, “they shall measure the plan.” The temple is associated with statutes and laws. Just as God had revealed precisely how to obey Him and have a relationship with Him. God demonstrated this precision with three chapters (in our Bibles) of detailed measurements and descriptions of the temple.

The period of exile would end, and the temple would be rebuilt and rebuilt again. But despite Ezekiel’s vision, there is no record that God’s Glory ever returned to the Jerusalem temple. It was destroyed for good by the Romans in AD 70.

However, the New Testament records that a new temple was constructed, one that does indeed have the Presence of God. Peter writes of Christians as “living stones...built up as a spiritual house.” Paul tells us, “God’s temple is holy, and you are that temple” (1 Corinthians 3:17).

What temple was God to inhabit? It was ultimately the temple of His people purchased by the blood of Christ.

God gave us a plan so we would know His exceptions. Ezekiel was to record the exact measurements, show them to Israel and expect their repentance. When we see the ideal, we know how far we have fallen short of it. Paul writes, “if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet” (Romans 7:7).

As God’s holy temple we have the greatest of honors—to be the dwelling place of Presence of the LORD. But with that honor comes the great responsibility of arranging that temple according to God’s exact plan.

~via *Family Items*, Athens, Alabama.

## ***Gospel Meeting***

October 13-17, 2013

(Sunday through Thursday)

Gardner Hall, Speaking

Market Street church of Christ

## ***Understanding the Church:***

***Who We Are***

**Bill Robinson**

The New Testament concept of church is foreign to most people, even among those who profess to be religious or know something about religious thought. The New Testament knows nothing of what most people refer to as a church today in terms of its hierarchy or institutional existence. The church, in modern day parlance, is big business (with a board of administrators or whatever title they wear) and, more often than not, is viewed as an entity which exists apart from people (hence, institutional).

If we are Christ’s church, we need to understand what that means because without that understanding, we don’t know who we are. The church which Jesus promised to establish in Matthew 16:18 had only one creed (faith) upon which it was built. Namely as Peter confessed, that Jesus is the Son of God (Matthew 16:16). The meaning of that confession is expressed in the claim Jesus made after He was raised from the dead saying, “all authority in heaven and on earth [has been] given to [Him]” (Matthew 28:18). His resurrection confirmed the disciple’s affirmation of who He was and verified His claim of having all authority, meaning He is Lord (read Romans 1:1-4; Acts 2:32-36).

In the New Testament, we read that there was just one body of people who were called to the one hope of salvation (Ephesians 4:4). This one body of saved people made up the church over which Christ alone is the head (Ephesians 1:22-23) because there is only one Lord (Ephesians 4:5). Thus, the church which Jesus promised to establish and which we read about in the New Testament refers to a body of people in a saved relationship to God in Christ the Lord. “For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body...” (1 Corinthians 12:13).

To be sure, the word church in the later history of the New Testament, as written by inspired men under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, used the word church to refer to the actual and regular assembling (gathering) of Christians in various locations. Yet local gatherings (congregations) of Christians were the result of these who were in a saved relationship to God, who desired to worship and engaged in the work of their Lord as

God commanded. It is only in this sense (local church), that the New Testament speaks of any collective function and organization of Christians. Consequently, the church in the New Testament, in no sense, has either an earthly headquarters or is it a part of or made up of some synod, conversation, council, etc. If we are going to see the church through New Testament eyes, we need to see the church as people and not some mega-institution and/or hierarchal structure. That's who we are if we are going to let our light shine as Christians.

-via *South Jacksonville Bulletin*; Jacksonville, Florida.



## *But Do You Love Me?*

**C. Boyd Jennings**

*"So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?'"* John 21:15

The Lord's question in John 21:15 reminds me of a scene in the popular musical, "Fiddler on the Roof". Tevye asked his wife, "Do you love me?" To paraphrase, she said, "I have lived with you for thirty-seven years, cooking your food and washing your clothes. I gave birth to your children and helped you raise them." Tevye replied. You see, in the absence of love, all of her service would have had little meaning to him.

Jesus addressed the meaning of love and directed His question to Peter, but intended it for all His disciples. Do we love Him? Obedience to the word of Christ is the true test of our love for Him (John 14:15; 1John 5:3; 1Corinthians 16:22), but obedience must be in the framework of our love for Him. The church in Ephesus, in many respects, obeyed Christ, but did not do so out of love for Him (cf. Revelations 2:4).

What bonded this church together if not the love for Christ? An affection for one another perhaps? An affection that surpassed the love they ought to have

had for Christ Himself?

With joy Paul exclaimed, "The love of Christ controls us" (2 Corinthians 5:14), and He "loved me and gave Himself for me" Galatians 2:20). Why, then, give your principal affections to anyone else?

-via *Bible Viewpoints*; Houston Texas.

## *News & Notes*

### **THE SICK:**

Benton Ball	Dan Lovell
Betty Hastings	Gwen Bullock
Wynell Casteel	Abby Gilbert
Una King Currier	Will Carl Sullivan
Charles White	Matt Poff
Jerry Taylor	Robin Legg
Ava Brooke Cambell	Charles Burns
Barbara Piper	Phillip Harwell

### *In The Hospital:*

*Michael Vaughn*, ClearLake Med. Ctr.; – Houston, Tex.  
*Elizabeth Kate Miller*, St. Jude's Hospital; – Memphis

### *Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:*

Beulah Pope, rm. 100	Mattye 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	Mot Beasley, rm. 100
Rosella Pugh, rm. 74	J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E

### *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

**SYMPATHY:** We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Lisa Wulfekuhl* in the passing of her cousin, *Steven*

“Lefty” Owens, this past week. His funeral was Saturday in Barton.

**RUSSELLVILLE MEETING:** It was my privilege this past week to be with the **Russellville church** preaching in their gospel meeting. The meeting was very encouraging. It was good to see many brethren from that area at the meeting and other visitors from the community. The work at Russellville seems to be going very very well. It was also good to be with the preacher at Russellville, *Jonathan Caldwell* and his wife, *Tiffany*, and their children *James and Lillian*. I missed being here will all of you and am glad to be back.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS/VBS:** The **Jennings’ Chapel church** will begin its meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening. *Buc Chumbley* will be the speaker ... The **Wooley Springs church** near Ardmore is beginning a meeting today. It will continue through Friday evening. *Kasey Harbin* will be the speaker... The **Brookhill church** in Killen will conduct a vacation Bible school Thursday through Saturday.

**SINGING:** There will be a singing on Friday, July 26th, at the **Jackson Heights church** in Columbia, Tennessee. The singing will begin at 7:00 p.m. The song leaders will be *Tim Stevens and Gary Braswell*.

**LADIES BIBLE CLASS:** The Ladies’ Bible class meets on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 in the west wing auditorium. They are studying the book of “Proverbs”. All the ladies that can be 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 Two** will be meeting this evening after our evening service. If you are in group two, remember to meet with your group tonight.

**THE RECORD:** Attendance for Week of July 14th

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 158  
 Morning Worship ..... 186  
 Evening Worship..... 120

**Wednesday:**  
 Bible Classes..... 90

**Remember Our Study Periods**

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.  
 Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.  
*Come Join Us As We Study Together*

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, July 21st:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Keith Hinkle  
 Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
 Prayer ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
 Preaching ..... David Cox  
 Lord’s Supper  
 Presiding ..... Bonnie Sutton  
 Assisting ..... Tommy Coblentz  
 Serving ..... David Terry ..... Jonathan Keenon  
 ..... Marvin Putman ..... Keenon Carrier  
 Closing Prayer ..... Ronnie Locke

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Keith Hinkle  
 Song Leader ..... Todd Williams  
 Prayer ..... Marty Adams  
 Preaching ..... David Cox  
 Lord’s Supper ..... Bonnie Sutton  
 Closing Prayer ..... Dwaine Allfrey

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 21st:

Usher ..... Delmer Carter  
 Work Sound System ..... Terry Andrews

**Wednesday, July 24th:**

Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
 Bible Reading ..... Mark 3:13-21  
 ..... Danny Johnson  
 Prayer ..... Marcus Morris  
 Invitation ..... Jordan Lovell  
 Closing Prayer ..... Mot Dollar

**Sunday, July 28th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Marcus Morris  
 Song Leader ..... Todd Williams  
 Prayer ..... Steve Bradley  
 Preaching ..... David Cox  
 Lord’s Supper  
 Presiding ..... Keith Hinkle  
 Assisting ..... Marion Mitchell  
 Serving ..... Bart Brown ..... Brandon Griswold  
 ..... Landon Adams ..... Will Chumbley  
 Closing Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Keith Hinkle  
 Song Leader ..... Todd Williams  
 Prayer ..... Marty Adams  
 Preaching ..... David Cox  
 Lord’s Supper ..... Bonnie Sutton  
 Closing Prayer ..... Dwaine Allfrey

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 28th:

Usher ..... Paul Hasting  
 Work Sound System ..... Nathaniel Adams