

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

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No. 31

Heedless Hearing

Gary Henry

“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).

Whatever We Know of God’s Word, We Must Carry Out That Knowledge In Our Actual Deeds. This may sound like little more than a cliché, but the fact is that virtually every one of us needs this reminder every single day. Because copies of the Scriptures are easily available and the media of communication have become so efficient, most of us know far more about the contents of the Scriptures than many of our most studious ancestors. But what is the result? If we “hear” what God has said but do nothing about it, our superior knowledge will be of little profit in the long run. “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven,” Jesus said, “but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.” We must not be heedless hearers.

If our response to God’s truth is not as prompt as it should be, it will hardly help to say that we’ve merely been “neglectful.” The problem of neglect happens to be one of the worst problems in the world. While it may seem relatively harmless in comparison to some vices, neglect is responsible for some of the most awful suffering in the human race. The damage that is done by simply failing to act may grow so slowly that we don’t see it increasing, but in the end the cumulative effect is devastating. Solomon said, “Because of laziness the building decays, and through idleness of hands leaks” (Ecclesiastes 10:18). And however sad it may be to observe a house that has fallen into ruin, it is even sadder to see a human life that has caved in because of neglect.

Is it any wonder that we don’t find our spiritual lives richly rewarding than we do? When we fail to act on our knowledge, there is little that we can experience except the flat, dull taste of “what might have been.” Dorothy Kerin was exactly right when she said, “Obedience is the key that unlocks the door to every profound spiritual experience.” Nominal Christianity has proliferated in the modern era. Many are those who wear

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 Coblenz (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
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is published in the interest of New Testament Christianity and to enhance the work of the Market Street church.

David A. Cox, Editor

Christ's name. But to all who have "accepted" Christ, Paul's words are a sobering reminder concerning real discipleship: "As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him" (Colossians 2:6).

"What we think of, what we know, or what we believe is, in the end, of little consequence. The only thing of consequence is what we do" (John Ruskin).

-via *Teaching Truth*, Madison, Alabama.



Jesus Wept

Kent Heaton

Crying comes from a deep emotional bonding of heart, soul and mind in grief over the loss or hurt of someone precious. Shedding tears of sorrow is an overwhelming sadness that surrounds the heart of one bowed down in anguish. The death of a parent brings life-long heartaches of precious memories. When a mate dies the grief is nearly too much to bear. A child's death is the most tragic of all and inconsolable. Our lives are acquainted with grief; how can we comprehend the Son of God weeping?

Jesus had been called to the home of Mary and Martha whose brother, Lazarus was sick unto death (John 11:1-6). The Lord tarried a few days before beginning the journey and upon arrival was told that Lazarus had died and had been in the tomb four days (John 11:17). "When Jesus therefore saw [Mary] weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in spirit and was troubled, and said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to Him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept" (John 11:33-35). How can we imagine the Son of God weeping? In the gospel of divinity declaring "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God" (John 1:1-2); and

yet He was crying.

This was not the first time Jesus cried. As with all humanity He had shared in the grief of death. In the thirty years before He had seen death in friends, neighbors and families. But here Jesus stands as the Son of God and tears are flowing down His cheek. Our Lord was showing His compassion for the human frailties that so often invade our lives.

Jesus wept because of His love in human terms for Mary, Martha and Lazarus. He felt the same sting of pain we feel when our loved ones die. The voice is quiet, the hands lie folded in rest, the heart that beat the warmth of love is now hollow and the face is pale in the veil of death. All of the joys of life are taken from our spirit when death takes our loved one. Jesus felt this pain in the death of Lazarus.

Jesus wept because of the tragedy of death. It was not meant to be. Death came as a result of sin when God prohibited man from living in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:22-24). Every monument raised to honor a loved one in death is a testimony of the penalty for sin. The sadness of death is the sting of death. Our Lord knew why He had come and He understood clearly His path was pointed to His own death on the cross. "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:4-5).

Jesus wept because He truly cared for others. Our hearts are not as tender to the death of others because we share none or little relationship to their lives. Jesus wept because he was not only a friend of the family of Lazarus; He was a friend to everyone on earth. His death on the cross would be a single act of love for every person from Adam to the last baby born on earth. He cares for each one – He cares for you and He cares for me. It is hard to imagine that God has a name for every star (Psalms 147:4) and yet His Son weeps for every person and the struggles they face daily (Hebrews 4:15).

Thank God Jesus wept.

-via *Westview Bulletin*; Hamilton, Ohio.

Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.

The Completeness of Christ

Randy Harshbarger

All man's spiritual needs are supplied in Christ; to Him we must be loyal. When Christ was on earth He had unfaithful followers (Acts 1:16-17, 25). Some forsook Paul in his time of need (1 Timothy 1:19-20; 2 Timothy 2:16-18).

Why would they act in this manner? Ultimately, they were challenged by something contrary to the will of Christ.

The book of Colossians helps us deal with the same basic problems of faith we have today. In this little but powerful book, Paul deals with the challenge of human philosophy; some loved their own wisdom (Colossians 2:8). Philosophy is the "love of wisdom." The danger of human philosophy is that it seeks to answer the three basic issues of life apart from God's revelation. One: man's origin. "Where did I come from?" Did I evolve from lower forms of life? Is my existence entirely natural? Two: man's purpose. "What am I doing here?" Am I here to simply live as I choose (as the old TV commercial says: Grab all gusto you can!). Three: man's destiny. "Where am I going?" The plaintive cry of the unbeliever leaves the heart cold. "O, God if there is a God, save me from hell, if there is a hell.

The Bible teaches that the earth, yea, the universe is the result of creative act of God through Christ (Colossians 1:16). Man is to serve God (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14). The destiny of all men can be summed up simply: either heaven or hell awaits all men (Matthew 25:46).

Religious teachers in the first century sought to bind aspects of the Law of Moses on Gentile converts. In doing so, they were preaching another gospel (Galatians 1:7-9). The completeness of the salvation Christ provided did not combine the Old Law and the New Law. Mixing the two laws today evokes discussion about using mechanical instruments in worship to God, Sabbath day keeping, etc.

Paul faced the challenge of mysticism (Colossians 2:18-23). The worshipping of angels, special knowledge (knowledge that only the spiritually elite were privy to know), will worship, etc., all of which constituted

challenges to the completeness of the salvation found in Christ.

Paul addressed these matters. All men are subject to Christ (Colossians 1:18). All men need to be brought to Him in submission to His will. The body takes instruction from the head; the body derives nourishment from its head. All the spiritual needs we could ever imagine are summed up in Christ (Colossians 2:10). Christ is a complete Savior. Christ is a complete guide for our journey to heaven. Christ is a qualified judge. Before Him all men will stand and give account.

If this is who Christ is and this is what Christ does for us, then our greatest task and opportunity is to yield our lives to His will. Let us be thankful we can be complete in Christ, but only in Christ.

-via *Stallings Drive Bulletin*; Nacogdoches, Texas.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Benton Ball	Mot Beasley
Jeanette Weir	Fay Ferguson
Betty Hastings	Gwen Bullock
Abby Gilbert	Michael Vaughn
Phillip Harwell	Una King Currier
Will Carl Sullivan	Charles White
Matt Poff	Anita Willis
Jerry Taylor	Robin Legg
Ava Brooke Cambell	Charles Burns
Barbara Piper	Elizabeth Kate Miller

In The Hospital:

Wynell Casteel, Athens-Limestone Hosp., rm. 307

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Beulah Pope, rm. 100	Matty Murray, rm. 60
Harvey Pope, rm. 18	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. 82

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

GOSPEL MEETING: The *East Florence church* in Florence will begin its meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening. *Larry Wright* will be the speaker.

SINGING: There will be a singing at the *Helton Drive church* in Florence on Friday night at 7:00.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Coblenz's: Tommy and Marcella* are in Florida on vacation... *Nancy Hardison* is in North Carolina... *The Coxes: David, Tyler and Hunter* are in Lake Jackson, Texas this weekend... *The Lovells: Jordan, Heather, Aiden and Rylee* will be leaving this afternoon on the week.

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 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 Three** will be meeting this evening after our evening service. If you are in group three, remember to meet with your group tonight.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for Week of July 28th*

Sunday:	Bible Classes.....	137
	Morning Worship	185
	Evening Worship.....	125

Wednesday:

Bible Classes.....	112
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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, August 4th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Kenneth Smith
Song Leader	Stefan Fudge
Prayer	Keith Hinkle
Preaching	Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Joel Hamm
Assisting	Dan Lovell
Serving	Paul Hasting..... Steve Bradley
.....	Delmer Carter Keenon Carrier
Closing Prayer	Terry Andrews

Evening Worship

Announcements	Kenneth Smith
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer	Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching	Kasey Harbin
Lord's Supper	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, August 4th:

Usher	Norman Brown
Work Sound System	Marty Adams

Wednesday, August 7th:

Song Leader	Todd Williams
Bible Reading.....	Mark 4:1-9
.....	Mot Dollar
Prayer	Joel Hamm
Invitation	David Cox
Closing Prayer	Landon Adams

Sunday, August 11th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer	Ronnie Locke
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Dwaine Allfrey
Assisting	Larry Mitchell
Serving	Russ Wulfekuhl Will Chumbley
.....	Stefan Fudge..... Bart Brown
Closing Prayer	Dan Reed

Evening Worship

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

Other Assignments for Sunday, August 11th:

Usher	Marvin Putman
Work Sound System	Nathaniel Adams