

# 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

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No. 33

## *What Choice Will You Make?*

**David A. Cox**

In Joshua 24:15 we read, “choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” I believe that as Joshua made this statement in his final address to the children of Israel, he stated some vital lessons for them, as well as for us today. Let us notice some of the lessons we can learn from this statement made by the leader of God’s people.

### **Man Has Has To Make Choices**

From this address, the fact is clear that men are faced with the task of making a choices. Adam and Eve faced this matter of in the Garden of Eden. In Genesis 2, God commanded that man could eat of every tree in the garden, “But the tree of the knowledge of good and evil,” man was commanded not to eat of it. God told man in the day he would eat of that tree he would die (Genesis 2:16-17). In Genesis 3, the serpent tempted Eve to eat of the forbidden fruit. He told her that she would not die, which was contrary to what God had said. Eve made the choice to eat and then she gave to Adam the forbidden fruit and he ate of it too (Genesis 3:1-6). Because of this decision, man was driven from the Garden of Eden and was separated from God. Yes, Adam and Eve faced the task of making a decision, and they made the wrong one.

Moses was faced with the task of making a choice in his life. He had been reared in Pharaoh's house after having been taken by Pharaoh's daughter when he was an infant. When he was grown, he saw the hardship placed on his people (the people of God), and he refused to be associated with the king and his wickedness. Hebrews 11:24-25 tells us that when Moses “became of age, he refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin.” Moses could have made the easy decision; one that would have benefited him the most in his earthly life, but Moses esteemed “the reproach of Christ greater riches

### **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  
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[MarketStreet-church.com](http://MarketStreet-church.com)

### **MARKET STREET MESSENGER**

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Market Street church.*

*David A. Cox, Editor*

than the treasures in Egypt: for he looked to the reward” (Hebrews 11:26). Moses understood the nature of the benefits; pleasures of this life are only temporary, but the benefit of being faithful to God would reward him eternally. Moses made the correct choice.

### **Man Must Make A Choice**

We can also learn that it is imperative that each one make a choice. Notice Joshua did not say choose if you want to, or if you have to choose, but rather Joshua said, “choose for yourselves this day” So, this choice was a necessity for them to make. We can see that Christ taught this as well in the Sermon on the Mount. In Matthew 6:24 we read, “No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.” This is seen again in Matthew 12 as Christ was accused of casting out devils by the power of Beelzebub, the prince of the devils. Christ taught there that it was ridiculous to say that devils were cast by the power of the devil. Then in Matthew 12:30 Christ said, “He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with me scatters abroad.” There is no place where we can hold to both; Christ tells us that it is not possible. So, it is clearly seen that this choice must be made by each one of us.

### **The Choice Is Whom You Will Serve**

Joshua told the Israelites to “choose ... whom you will serve.” Were they going to be righteous and serve God or would look for the convenient way, or take the path of least resistance? As we have already noticed, Christ taught that man cannot serve two masters (Matthew 6:24). Paul states this as well in Romans 6:16, “Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slave to whom you obey; whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?” Clearly, Paul states that men can choose whom they will obey. God will not force man to obey him, but if one chooses unrighteousness, then they are not serving God and will suffer eternal punishment. The service God expects is a constant service, not one that is sporadic, or an occasional one day a week. Rather, our choice to serve God will cause us to devote our lives to God and His will. Paul speaks of the devotion one should have as he says, “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service” (Romans

12:1). As Joshua told the children to choose whom they were going to serve, Paul warns us about whom we are serving, and exhorts Christians to live faithful for the Master.

### **What Will Be Your Answer?**

The question now comes to each one of us to answer. Will we choose to follow something other than God and His will for us? Let us be as Moses and the other great men of faith we read about in Hebrews 11. May we look upon our life here on this earth as a journey to a better place, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Let us reject the glitter and so-called pleasures of this life and choose to follow and serve God faithfully. Then at the end of our earthly life may we say with the apostle Paul, “I have fought a good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith: Finally, there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that Day: and not to me only, but also to all who have loved His appearing” (2 Timothy 4:7-8).

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## ***God Is Not Mocked***

**Mike Thomas**

Paul told the Galatians, “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap” (Galatians 6:7). Specifically, the warning applied to their response to God’s command to help the needy (vv. 6-10). He wanted them to know they could not outwit God should they decide to disobey Him. In principal, however, the inability of man to fool God applies to all of us in every aspect of life. We will never trick God or hide our true behavior from Him because “there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account” (Hebrews 4:13). Still, we’re tempted to try it anyway as we sow seeds of ungodliness.

Brethren, God is not mocked when we miss services

on purpose. He knows when we are truly unable to attend and when we're forsaking the assembly (Hebrews 10:25). He knows our heart and sees our hypocrisy, especially when we find ways to go to other places we want. We may convince ourselves and other people of our inability to attend, but God is not duped. He sees the seed of deceit we are sowing and will let us reap its crop one Day.

God is not mocked when we mistreat our family. He is not fooled by our friendly demeanor before others, only to become an absolute monster when at home. He sees us treating them in ways contrary to love by being rude, self-seeking, and unkind (1 Corinthians 13:4-8). Like our family, He knows the real us and will hold us accountable for the seed of bitterness we are sowing.

God is not mocked when we neglect Him on a daily basis. We think we can go days without prayer and diligent meditation on His word, and still feel like we're going to heaven because we're not totally evil, but God is not mocked. The solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His" (2 Timothy 2:19) in following Him from the heart.

Instead of wasting our time on worldliness, we should use our time to develop a genuine love for God and faith in Him. For, the law of sowing and reaping can also be by honest souls to hear "the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience" (Luke 8:15).

-via *Standing Firm*; Beaver Dam, Kentucky.

## *Gospel Meeting*

October 13-17, 2013

(Sunday through Thursday)

### Schedule of Services

Sunday 9:30 a.m.; 10:45 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.  
Monday through Thursday- 7:00 p.m.

Gardner Hall, Speaking

**Market Street church of Christ**

514 West Market Street  
Athens, Alabama

## **Beacon of Truth** Radio Program

**Every Sunday Morning**

on WVNN

770AM - 92.5 FM

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Market Street church of Christ

## *News & Notes*

### **THE SICK:**

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

### *In The Hospital:*

#### *Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:*

Beulah Pope, rm. 100	Mattye 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 *Jenning Chapel church* near Toney will begin its meeting today and it will continue through Friday. *Buc Chumbley of Hueytown* will be the speaker.

**SYMPATHY:** We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Ross Melvin and all the family*, in the passing of Ross' cousin, *Charles Leighber* this past week. His funeral was Thursday afternoon at Spry Funeral Home. He was laid to rest in the Athens City Cemetery.

**OUT OF TOWN: The Carters:** *Delmer and Margaret* have been in Michigan this week visiting family... *The Hinkles:* *Keith and Angie* are out of town on vacation this week.

**PLACED MEMBERSHIP: Ross and Louise Melvin** have been visiting with us for some time and have expressed their desire to be a part of the work at Market Street. We are glad for the decision that they have made. They will be in *Work Group 3*. Let us extend a warm welcome to them.

**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 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 the week of August 11th

<b>Sunday:</b>	Bible Classes.....	127
	Morning Worship .....	198
	Evening Worship.....	128
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Bible Classes.....	100



**The Market Street  
 church of Christ Website at:  
 MarketStreet-church.com**

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, August 18th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements .....	Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader .....	Tyler Cox
Prayer .....	Marty Adams
Preaching .....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding .....	Ronnie Locke
Assisting .....	Kenneth Smith
Serving .....	Keith Hinkle ..... Brandon Griswold
.....	Marvin Putman ..... Bonnie Sutton
Closing Prayer .....	Mot Dollar

*Evening Worship*

Announcements .....	Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader .....	Todd Williams
Prayer .....	Norman Brown
Preaching .....	Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper .....	Ronnie Locke
Closing Prayer .....	Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, August 18th:

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

**Wednesday, August 21st:**

Song Leader .....	Stefan Fudge
Bible Reading.....	Mark 4:21-29
.....	Terry Andrews
Prayer .....	Hunter Cox
Invitation .....	David Cox
Closing Prayer .....	Dwaine Allfrey

**Sunday, August 25th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements .....	Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader .....	Joel Hamm
Prayer .....	Tommy Coblentz
Preaching .....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding .....	Jerry McGlocklin
Assisting .....	Marty Adams
Serving .....	David Terry ..... Danny Johnson
.....	Kenneth Adams ..... Landon Adams
Closing Prayer .....	Larry Mitchell

*Evening Worship*

Announcements .....	Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader .....	Stefan Fudge
Prayer .....	Marcus Morris
Preaching .....	Song Service
Lord's Supper .....	Jerry McGlocklin
Closing Prayer .....	Kenneth Smith

Other Assignments for Sunday, August 25th:

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