

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

September 8, 2013

No. 36

The Heart & Inspiration of Scripture

Randy Harshbarger

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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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

Many People have made many vain attempts to find some kind of lasting fulfillment and satisfaction from within. At last, the soul is empty and lonely. Because man is made in the image of God, the only way to find fulfillment is to have faith in God. Anything less will always come to ruin and disaster. Yes, we can make other gods and serve them. We can make God into our own image.

At last, though, the futility of such vanity will bring only despair. Isaiah 44:19 says: "And no one considers in his heart, Nor is there knowledge nor understanding to say, "I have burned half of it in the fire, Yes, I have also baked bread on its coals; I have roasted meat and eaten it; And shall I make the rest of it an abomination? Shall I fall down before a block of wood?" Living without faith only leads to delusions and doubt (2 Thessalonians 2:11-12).

History teaches us that human beings have always worshiped some kind of higher being. The Apostle Paul wrote that the Gentiles could not find God because they worshiped the creature rather than the creator (Romans 1:20-23). The creature cannot tell you where you came from, why you are here, or where you are going. Without Scripture these questions remain unanswered.

"Oh God, if there is a God, save my soul, If I have a soul" is the prayer of the dying agnostic. He died in doubt; he had no faith and no hope. It is only by faith that we can see the unseen (2 Corinthians 4:16-18).

If you will observe the world you live in, you can see the wonder of God's creation. "The heavens declare the glory of god; And the firmament shows His handiwork" (Psalms 19:1). Upon this basis, Paul made his statement to the Romans (Romans 1:19-20). God's existence is evident through His creation. In fact, this evidence is adequate, leaving the unbeliever without excuse.

God has given you and me a revelation of Himself. His will is expressed

in the Scriptures. Whatever void you feel in your heart can be filled with God's word. Do not sell the Bible short! You might fill the void with delusions; yet, they will remain. The world speaks volumes about the power of a higher being. Yet, without Scripture we could never know why we are here or where we are going.

Did the world just appear? Where did this world come from? Hebrews 11:3 says: "By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible." Every effect must have a cause. Without a Creator there could not be a creation. You are here; where did you come from? Read your Bible. Faith in God's word helps us understand even the non-physical and invisible realities that lie within each of us.

-via *Redeeming the Time*, Athens, Alabama.



Why Did Peter Forget?

Dan Richardson

"And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, 'Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times'" (Luke 22:61). Peter had just denied the Lord, not once, but three times. After his denials, and when the Lord looked at him, he then "remembered" what Jesus had previously said to him. Our question concerns why he forgot what the Lord had said to him? Perhaps to reflect on this will help us with our own forgetfulness. There are some facts recorded, previous to Peter's denials, which may shed some light in answering this question. They are timely lessons for us to consider.

Perhaps it would be helpful to first consider this matter negatively, that is, matters that were not the cause of Peter's forgetfulness. First and perhaps it should go without saying. Peter was not mentally incompetent, unable to understand what Jesus had said. Too much is revealed of his character to suggest he was inept. Second, Peter didn't forget because of a lack of clarity

in the Lord's teaching. The Lord's communication was crystal clear. So much so, that Peter vehemently denied what the Lord said he would do (vs.33). Characteristic of all the Lord's teachings is their clarity to be understood (John 8:31-32; Ephesians 3:3-4; 5:17). Third, Peter's forgetfulness was not because of a long interval of time between when Jesus spoke to him and when he denied Jesus. To the contrary, Jesus had foretold Peter's denials that very night. So, why did Peter forget?

He Was More Judgemental of Others Than Himself. When the Lord previously revealed He would be betrayed by one of His own disciples, the record states of the disciples: "And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this" (vs. 23). That they were lacking in proper disposition of heart can be observed in the next verse: "A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest" (vs. 24). They were more focused on their personal greatness than humility. Jesus had warned of this one-sided judgment towards others (Matthew 7:1-5). Arrogance makes it easier to see the faults of others more clearly than our own. We must use God's word as a "mirror" to reflect personal flaws rather than as a binocular to view everybody else's sin (James 1:22-25).

He Was Over-Confident In His Own Strength. When Jesus told Peter he would deny Him, he answered assertively, "Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death" (vs. 33). It's always easier to "talk the talk" than to "walk, the walk". Jesus warned of Satan, their adversary, but Peter seemed ready to stare the devil down! Christians are warned, "Therefore let anyone who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall" (1Corinthians10:12), and, "...not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment" (Romans 12:3). Having boldness (confidence) in the Lord's strength is one thing (Ephesians 6:10), being self-reliant in one's own strength is something else.

He Underestimated The Power of The Flesh. While Jesus prayed in the garden of Gethsemane, he instructed Peter, James and John: "Pray that you may not enter into temptation" (vs.40). Mark's account adds these words of the Lord specifically to Peter. "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Mark 14:38).

The Lord sought to prepare His disciples for the time of temptations ahead; they were to “watch” (be vigilant, stay awake, alert), and “pray” (trust in God for their direction and strength). When Peter faced his temptation later that night, he failed. Earlier, in the context of Jerusalem’s destruction, the Lord had commanded the disciples, “But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap... But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man” (Luke 21:34, 36).

We, too, must stay alert and trust in God, never underestimating the power of the flesh. Paul instructed the Christians in Thessalonica, “but let us keep awake and be sober, for those who sleep, sleep in the night; and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation” (1Thessalonians 5:6-8). Also, Paul admonished Christian in Rome, “...the hour is come to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immortality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires” (Romans 13:11-14).

It is interesting to observe that Peter, by following the Lord “at a distance” (vs. 54) is found warming himself by the fire of those opposed to the Lord. Putting himself in this circumstance led to him denying the Lord. Likewise, when we put distance between ourselves and the Lord, we too are making provision for the flesh and setting ourselves up for failure. Let us, instead, draw near to God (James 4:7-8), ever “looking to Jesus” (Hebrews 12:1-2), so that we will remember what he says.

-via *Search*; Vanduser, Missouri.

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Gospel Meeting

October 13-17, 2013

(Sunday through Thursday)

Gardner Hall, Speaking

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street

Athens, Alabama

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Wayne Vaughn	Mot Beasley
Benton Ball	Betty Hastings
Wynell Casteel	Gwen Bullock
Charles Burns	Matt Poff
Abby Gilbert	Phillip Harwell
Una King Currier	Anita Willis
Elizabeth Kate Miller	Jerry Taylor
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
Mable Craft, rm. 71	

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 MEETINGS: There will be a gospel meeting beginning today at the *Eastside church*. The meeting will continue through Wednesday. *Ben Walker of Hartselle* will be the speaker in the meeting... The *Kelly Spring Road church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday night. *Jeff Archer of Huntsville* will be the speaker in this meeting... The *Capshaw church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. *Mac McMurray* will be the speaker in this meeting.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Marcella Coblentz and all the family*, in the passing of her brother-in-law, Charles White this past Wednesday morning. His memorial and burial will be in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

OUT OF TOWN: *Cindy Griswold* was out of town this past weekend... *David Cox* is in Barbados this 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 two 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 the week of Sept. 1st

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 131
 Morning Worship 168
 Evening Worship..... 118

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 103



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

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, September 8th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Joel Hamm
 Song Leader Tommy Burns
 Prayer Kenneth Smith
 Preaching Jordan Lovell
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Dwaine Allfrey
 Assisting Terry Andrews
 Serving Bart Brown Keenon Currier
 Kenneth Adams Russ Wulfekuhl
 Closing Prayer Mot Dollar

Evening Worship

Announcements Joel Hamm
 Song Leader Stefan Fudge
 Prayer Bonnie Sutton
 Preaching Jordan Lovell
 Lord's Supper Dwaine Allfrey
 Closing Prayer Marion Mitchell

Other Assignments for Sunday, September 8th:

Usher Marvin Putman
 Work Sound System Landon Adams

Wednesday, September 11th:

Song Leader Marty Adams
 Bible Reading Mark 5:21-34
 Nathaniel Adams
 Prayer Marcus Morris
 Invitation Jordan Lovell
 Closing Prayer Larry Mitchell

Sunday, September 15th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Jerry McGlocklin
 Song Leader Todd Williams
 Prayer Dan Reed
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Kenneth Smith
 Assisting Larry Mitchell
 Serving Tommy Coblentz .. Marvin Putman
 Keith Hinkle Brandon Griswold
 Closing Prayer Marty Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements Jerry McGlocklin
 Song Leader Joel Hamm
 Prayer Ronnie Locke
 Preaching Jordan Lovell
 Lord's Supper Kenneth Smith
 Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, September 15th:

Usher Danny Johnson
 Work Sound System Landon Adams