

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. 43

The Silence of the Scriptures

Dennis Carrow

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

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

David A. Cox, Editor

When we consider what we will do in matters of religion we must contemplate those things that God has not addressed specifically in scripture. When we approach an activity that God did not specifically forbid, what should we do? Most division among churches can be traced to the manner in which they deal with this subject. All these things come down to how we determine authority. The term authority simply means to be free, unimpeded, to have the right or **permission**. It is perplexing that men would seek to justify a particular activity based on what God did not say, for in the absence of God expressing His will no permission could ever be obtained for anything.

In order for us to do all in the name Lord (Colossians 3:17) we must function within the parameters of His revealed will. How we determine these parameters is the point of most of the problems with division. There are four distinctive methods employed to arrive at what we perceive to be true.

1) *Psychological Persuasion*. This the thought process that leads to one perceiving that there is more than one way to have fellowship with the Father. It will generally lead one to believe that there is another gospel.

2) *Emotional Experience* is the popular method that relegates truth to whatever one feels at the moment. From this viewpoint we find conflicting testimony and chaos.

3) *Liberal Biblical Exegesis*. This method allows for one to profess belief in Scripture, but continues to operate in the realm of subjectivism. It is related to the previous two methods, only it approaches questions that arise from a subjective and relative view. The doctrine gives birth to the popularized "situation ethics" approach. It allows truth to be marginalized by what a society demands.

4) *Literal Biblical Exegesis* requires that we take the words of Scripture, discern the principles and precepts established, then limit our view to that contextually revealed truth. While all religious activity should be

based upon one's perceived rights, only a literal biblical exegesis will arrive at "what the will of the Lord is." (Colossians 5:17)

As to the subject of permissive silence, (God didn't say we couldn't), consider what exists outside the realm of revelation. Whoever does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God (2 John 9). If we add to what has been revealed, our name will be removed from the Lamb's Book of Life (Revelation 22:18-19). And, even if we simply alter that which has been revealed, condemnation is certain (Galatians 1:6-9).

The Old Testament example of Nadab and Abihu clearly illustrates God's view of those who engage in acts of religious piety that He has not authorized: "Each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered it before the Lord. Then fire went out from the lord and devoured them, and they died before the Lord" (Leviticus 10:1-2). Interestingly when we discover what was at the heart of this action we find men failing to "regard [God] as holy" (v. 3).

When approaching God, we must solemnly consider the subject of reverence. Reverence does not raise its head in arrogant pride – seeking to bring whatever we want. It brings us to open our hearts to His will and worship in spirit and in truth. Though many of the activities we call into question may be sincere expressions of religious piety in the absence of testimony they are not of faith. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God. Because faith must have the source of the word, any thing done under the guise, "God didn't say we couldn't" cannot be of faith, and is self-imposed religion (John 4:24; Colossians 2:23). Consider some of these activities that God does not specifically forbid...

- Adding instrumental music in worship., therefore we may play music in worship.
- Baptizing babies, therefore the practice is permitted if we choose to do so.
- Identifying ourselves with various titles, therefore we are permitted to create a hierarchy of various religious offices to oversee the church.
- Using carnivals, basketball courts, and fleshly amenities as a means to bring people to Jesus, therefore we can build and maintain a theme park for Christ.

Many who are using carnal amusement under the guise of evangelism might defend the practice by saying, "God didn't say we couldn't." However, they would reject the development of a diocese or papacy. they would

reject baptizing babies because there is no authority for such activity. However, there is as much authority for one as there is for the other. The truth is none of these things have authority that comes from God. Each of these grows out of psychological persuasion, emotional appeal, or liberal biblical exegesis.

Finally, consider the two methods that lead down this broad road of digression: first, are the claims of personal authority or illumination. This is the shifting sand upon which Catholicism, Seventh Day Adventist, Pentecostalism, and a host of other religious institutions are built. Second is the crumbling foundation of subjectivism. This is where we find "inter-denominational" churches being formed in the spirit of compromise. The final destination of this philosophy of men result in universalism. At the heart of this concept is the idea that there is no need for authority for there is no objective, absolute truth.

All of these being with the failure to receive with meekness the engrafted word, and limit what we believe, teach, and practice to what God has revealed (1 Corinthians 4:6). Anything we do beyond what is written will separate us from God and cause us to enter into the realm of darkness. Prove all things!

-via *What Is True?*; Little Rock, Arkansas.

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No Time

Steve Klein

Do we have the time to serve the Lord? A recent study revealed that on average, Americans spend about fifty-four minutes per week on religious activities. Compare this to fifteen hours a week that are spent watching television. How many more hours are spent working, shopping, doing household chores, reading, taking vacations or in recreational pursuits?

In Luke 14, Jesus told a parable about a certain man who made a great supper and invited many. But all those invited made excuses for not coming. For one reason or another, they just didn't have time.

"The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of

ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused” (14:18).

And another said, “I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused” (14:19).

Still another said, “I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come” (14:20).

Like most of us, these people were too busy. Some of the things that occupied their time, and that occupy our time, are more important than others; but surely we would all agree that most of the things that keep us busy are not going to seem very important when life is over. “Surely every man walks about like a shadow; surely they busy themselves in vain & idols” (Psalm 39:6).

The problem with busyness is that it robs us of happiness, of a living relationship with Jesus, and ultimately of heaven itself. In explaining the parable of the sower, Jesus said, “Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity” (Luke 8:14).

Have you ever stopped to think about what would happen if you didn't do some of those things that keep you so busy? Just consider it. Make a mental list of your day by day activities. Ask yourself what the consequence would be if you stopped doing each item on your list or if you did it less often. Chances are that you will find that you can actually get by with spending much less time on certain things without being harmed one bit. On the other hand, unless we make time to serve the Lord, harm will come. We cannot kill time without injuring eternity. So, “See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise redeeming the time, because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:15-16).

-via *The Perry Hill Road Bulletin*, Montgomery, Alabama.



Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

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
514 West Market Street
Athens, Alabama

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Irene Mitchell	Buddy Pepper
Bill Claxton	Betty Hastings
Wynell Casteel	Gwen Bullock
Elizabeth Kate Miller	Jerry Taylor
Charles Burns	Mark Hargrove
Abby Gilbert	Lisa Swafford
Phillip Harwell	Ava Brooke Cambell
Una King Carrier	

In The Hospital:

Arvid McGuire; HeathSouth, rm. 215
Morgan Barksdale; Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, Fla.

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 Crafts, rm. 71	

Limestone Health Facility:

Janet Berryhill, rm. 75-B	Jack Cannon, rm. 111A
Albert Norton, rm. 36	Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E

Limestone Lodge:

Yvonne Sherbert, rm. 11

Brookshire Healthcare - Huntsville:

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 112-C

Floyd E. "Tut" Fann Veterans Home - Huntsville:

Albert Bowers, rm. 115-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 **Somerville church** in Somerville. The meeting will continue through Wednesday. *Colby Junkin of Decatur* will be the speaker in the meeting... **New Georgia church** near Rogersville will begin a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. *Whit Sasser of Appleton, Wisconsin* will be the speaker in this meeting.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to **Margaret Carter** and *all her family* in the passing of Margaret's aunt **Mary Lou Wilson** this past week. Her funeral was Thursday.

OUT OF TOWN: The Mitchells: *Larry and Peggy* are in Jacksonville, Florida this weekend... **The Currriers:** *Mary and Keenon* are in Auburn this weekend... **Jonathan Keenon** is in Auburn this weekend... **Ida Nell Griffin** has been on a trip abroad in Israel this past week... **Nancy Abernathy** has been in Arkansas this past 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 the week of Oct. 20th

Sunday:	Bible Classes.....	134
	Morning Worship	185
	Evening Worship.....	134
Wednesday:	Bible Classes.....	105



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

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, October 27th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer	Ross Melvin
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Kenneth Smith
Assisting	Tommy Coblentz
Serving	Marion Mitchell..... Landon Adams
.....	Paul Hasting..... Danny Johnson
Closing Prayer	Mot Dollar

Evening Worship

Announcements	Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader	Stefan Fudge
Prayer	Dan Reed
Preaching	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Kenneth Smith
Closing Prayer	Larry Mitchell

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 27th:

Usher	Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System	Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, October 30th:

Song Leader	Todd Williams
Bible Reading.....	Mark 7:1-16
.....	Marcus Morris
Prayer	Bonnie Sutton
Invitation	Jordan Lovell
Closing Prayer	Hunter Cox

Sunday, November 3rd:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer	Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Bonnie Sutton
Assisting	Marcus Morris
Serving	Tommy Burns
.....	Dan Lovell.....
Closing Prayer	Heath Dollar
.....	Norman Brown

Evening Worship

Announcements	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Todd Williams
Prayer	Keith Hinkle
Preaching	Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper	Bonnie Sutton
Closing Prayer	Ross Melvin

Other Assignments for Sunday, November 3rd:

Usher	Keenon Currier
Work Sound System	Nathaniel Adams