

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

November 17, 2013

No. 46

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

Controlling Our Words

Terry Francis

Over the past couple of weeks, personal experiences reminded me of just how difficult it is to control the tongue. James said, “If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body” (James 3:2). Let me confess quickly: I am not a perfect man!

Perhaps we all need a quick refresher course for controlling our words. Consider a few things to remember:

- Listen more - talk less. James said we should “be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger” (James 1:19). A wise man once pointed out that our ears can’t work if our jaws are moving. That’s a great principle to remember!
- Control your thoughts. Jesus said, “Hear and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but what comes out of the mouth; this defiles a person” (Matthew 15:10-11). He later explained, “what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person” (v.18). Our words always begin as thoughts. We fail to control our tongues because we failed to control our thoughts.
- Put others first. James also said, “Each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire” (James 1:14). Paul said we should “count others more significant than [ourselves]” (Philippians 2:3). Sometimes we struggle to control our words because we are more interested in “good ol’ number one” than we are others. If we would put the needs of others ahead of ourselves, we would refrain from saying some of the hurtful things we often say.
- Remember your words can do great damage. James compared them to a forest fire (James 3:5-6). That damage often goes further than we realize. One gossip asked his victim for forgiveness. The victim handed him a feather pillow and asked him to go and spread the feathers all over town. While this confused the confessed gossip, he complied and returned to the victim and asked if he was forgiven. The victim then requested that he go and collect all of the feathers. “That’s impossible!” cried the gossip. “Exactly,” replied the victim.

“While I forgive you I also want to show you that the damage you have done is impossible to repair.” Be careful what you say - you can never completely repair the damage done.

Please understand, this article is written to me and for me. I'm just sharing it with you. Hopefully it will help you as you attempt to learn to tame the tongue.

-via *The East Shelby Family Report*; Collierville, Tennessee.



Victory In Jesus

Robert F. Turner

Respecting victory over physical hardships Paul wrote, “I can do all things in him that strengtheneth me” (Philippians 4:13). He concluded a magnificent section of the Roman letter with, “We are more than conquerors through Him that loved us” (Romans 8:37f). Of final victory over sin and death he wrote, “Thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 15:57). As most of our readers know, these are but a fraction of the scriptural attestations to Victory in Jesus.

The words, “Victory in Jesus,” are readily accepted by all brethren. They are freely and honestly spoken and we must assume believed by all. Yet, they can easily be empty words, negated by much of our writing and preaching. In our zeal to tell others what they must do to be saved, the actions of the lost may overshadow the rote of the Savior. We may appear to exalt man coming to Christ above the Christ who gives meaning to that coming. Erroneous doctrines of “unconditional election” and “faith only” have necessitated emphasis upon conditions of pardon — the need for obedience. We are painfully aware of the need to “fight the good fight,” meet “soldier responsibilities,” and “overcome” in our personal battles with Satan. But we must never forget: Victory in Jesus is a gift of God, neither merited nor bought by man,

This victory is according to “an eternal purpose” which God the Father purposed in Christ Jesus (Ephesians

3:11), “before the foundation of the world” (1:4). Foreknowing that man would sin, God’s part of salvation was to give mankind a Savior, the very Son of God, who would pay the penalty for sin. All agree that salvation is “in Christ,” although some might equate this with church membership and miss its deeper significance. For others, emphasis upon conditions of pardon has become more “good news” than the Victory in Christ for which the conditions are given. I once asked a class of 30 brethren to write briefly “the plan of salvation” – and only two mentioned the crucified and resurrected Lord. Twenty-eight wrote something like “faith, repentance, confession, and baptism.” These are conditions, but not the means, nor the basic plan of salvation.

To appreciate victory in Jesus we must see ourselves for what we are: separated from Almighty God by our sins, facing justice in irrevocable judgment, “Your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you,” (Isaiah 59:2). Sin is the problem, the disease, the slave-holder. “All have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God,” (Romans 3:23). The law of God is “holy, and just, and good” (Romans 7:12), but it classifies sins and makes them more apparent (Romans 3:20; 7:7-13). None are free of guilt on a law basis, for none have kept any law perfectly (Romans 3:20; Galatians 3:10). Without mercy, we are without hope, lost, utterly undone. It is difficult for our self-sufficient and proud generation to see ourselves in this light. Like David, we may need a pointed “thou art the man” to open our eyes; but the remedy will not be applied until we are stripped of pride and throw our selves upon His mercy (Matthew 16:24). In this sense all law “brings us to Christ” (Galatians 3:24). The candidate for salvation presents himself “Just as I am, without one plea; but that thy blood was shed for me.”

Victory in Christ is a promise of God. Implementing His eternal purpose, God promised Abraham: “in thee (thy seed) shall all families of the earth be blessed” (Genesis 12:1-3), Paul identifies that seed as Christ (Galatians 3:16); and the promise became a central part of New Testament gospel preaching (Acts 2:39; 3:25f). The curse of law, its demand for perfection, was removed by Christ’s death in our stead (Isaiah 53; Galatians 3:13). “While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). Because of His death, the heavenly Father can be both “just, and the justifier” of the believer, though he be less than perfect (Romans 3:26). The promise of Christ becomes a promise of

forgiveness as taught so clearly in Paul's sermon at Antioch of Pisidia (Acts 13:23,32-38). God has kept His promise and "their sins and iniquities will I remember no more" (Hebrews 10:14-17). With this understanding and attitude, coming to Christ takes on new meaning. Faith changes our heart (Acts 15:9). We recognize His holiness, and are ashamed; we see His mercy (verse 11), and gratefully reach out to Him, Our former life hangs heavily upon us, and we sorrowfully acknowledge it, turning from it. The penitent believer submits to baptism (a passive act): as one dead, being buried. We have denied self, and come to Christ for victory over sin (Acts 2:38; Galatians 3:26-27; Titus 3:4-7).

Now we live for Christ, or as Paul puts it, "Christ liveth in me" (Galatians 2:20). The "new creature" is perfected as we press toward the mark in keeping with the "mind of Christ" (Philippians 2:5f; 3:9-15). Our faith in the resurrected Lord removes the fear of physical death and our confidence in His advocacy brings us boldly to God's throne (Hebrews 4:14f). Well might we say, "Oh death where is thy sting? Oh grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:55f).

-via *Susquehanna Sentinel*, Marietta, Pennsylvania.



What Is Worldliness?

Rob Harbison

When worldly concerns, riches, pleasures, and earthly goods stir our desires and seduce us away from God, they become obstacles to the cause of Christ. We could identify such things as worldliness - because their concern is **only** for this life.

When those things become more important to us than spiritual things, then they threaten our very souls. Therefore, we must cut ourselves off from them, "But God forbid that I should glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world" (Galatians 6:14).

How can we identify such worldliness?

Worldliness includes immorality and those things of a baser nature which gratify the carnal side of man at the expense of his spiritual side - things like fornication, adultery, homosexuality, pornography, drinking, drugs, filthy language. etc. These are identified as "works of flesh" (Galatians 5:19-21).

Worldliness is also an overemphasis on things of this world - the sin of being too concerned about possessions and position. Christians must develop a different world-view than we once had (Colossians 3:1-4; 1 Peter 4:1-3).

Worldliness may be respectable, yet still be worldly. many things are morally neutral within themselves - work, pleasure, recreation, entertainment, television. But when they occupy more of our time and interest than serving God does, then they become part of this worldliness that threatens our spiritual life (Matthew 6:33).

Worldliness is deceptive. It promises much but gives little. There is passing pleasure in sin but it is fleeting (Hebrews 11:25).

-via *College View Columns*, Florence, Alabama.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Buddy Pepper	Joyce & Crutcher Harbin
Bill Claxton	Robert & Mot Beasley
Irene Mitchell	Gilbert Hardy
Gwen Bullock	Glenda Key
JoAnna Coblenz	Una King Carrier
Elizabeth Kate Miller	Jerry Taylor
Charles Burns	Mark Hargrove
Abby Gilbert	Lisa Swafford
Phillip Harwell	Ava Brooke Cambell
Morgan Barksdale	

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 Crafts, rm. 63	Ann Moore, rm. 81-B

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

Wynell Casteel, at home

Lola Colwell, at home

Mary Ruth Gardner, at home

Betty Hasting, at home

David Rice, Mobile, Alabama

Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

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: *Average Attendance for October*

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 130
Morning Worship 182
Evening Worship..... 130

Wednesday:
Bible Classes..... 106



Picture Are Being Made

Remember that pictures are being made or re-made of everyone. If you have not had your picture made, please do it soon in the High School/College Classroom.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, November 17th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Marcus Morris
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer Todd Williams
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Dwaine Allfrey
Assisting Marty Adams
Serving Marvin Putman Kenneth Adams
..... Marion Mitchell Danny Johnson
Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements Marcus Morris
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Larry Mitchell
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Dwaine Allfrey
Closing Prayer Dan Reed

Other Assignments for Sunday, November 17th:

Usher Delmer Carter
Work Sound System Terry Andrews

Wednesday, November 20th:

Song Leader Stefan Fudge
Bible Reading..... Mark 8:1-9
..... Keenon Currier
Prayer Kenneth Smith
Invitation David Cox
Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Sunday, November 24th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Todd Williams
Prayer Ross Melvin
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Terry Andrews
Assisting Ronnie Locke
Serving Mot Dollar Brandon Griswold
..... David Terry Bart Brown
Closing Prayer Joel Hamm

Evening Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer Tommy Coblenz
Preaching Song Service
Lord's Supper Terry Andrews
Closing Prayer Bonnie Sutton

Other Assignments for Sunday, November 24th:

Usher Marvin Putman
Work Sound System Landon Adams