

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
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Athens, Alabama 35612
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No. 47

"Give No Provision For The Flesh"

Gardner Hall

A Cuban gentleman named Mr. Rodriguez sat beside me on a recent flight from Miami to Newark. In a few minutes, he dispensed with the conversational niceties and was telling me of torture and imprisonment that he and his family had suffered under Fidel Castro. As he talked, his eyes burned with hatred for anything related to the communist system. It was immediately obvious that, when Mr. Rodriguez thinks of Marxism, he has no illusions about its propaganda of equality and justice for the poor, because to him it has meant separation from loved ones, pain, shame and anguish. There is absolutely no possibility that he will ever be a communist or give help or sympathy to that system in any shape or fashion.

Mr. Rodriguez's attitude toward communism is much like the attitude we should have toward the sins of the flesh. The thought of giving provision (literally forethought) to the flesh to fulfill its lusts should be as foreign to us as the idea of sending arms to communist subversives would be to my anti-communist friend.

Sadly, instead of abhorring the sinful desires of the flesh too many Christians are mesmerized by the avalanche of gaudy appeals to carnality in the media and join the world in rushing along like lemmings trying to get all the gratification they can, not realizing that they are headed over the cliffs to destruction.

How can we maintain our purity and give no provision to the flesh when its appeals are so prevalent in almost every aspect of our lives?

How To Give No Provision to the Flesh

1. **Hate it!** Contemplate the broken homes, pain, lost confidence and hopelessness suffered by those who succumb to the flesh. Consider the wrecked lives of loved ones and once strong Christians who have fallen and are therefore spiritually crippled, if not dead.

By looking beyond the glamorous front the flesh tries to present and coming face to face with its harsh reality, we will be injected with a healthy

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
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Market Street church.*

David A. Cox, Editor

dose of hatred towards it that will render us as unmoved by its shallow enticements as my Cuban friend by the propaganda of communism. We won't naively associate the flesh with glamour, partying, or Hollywood, but with anguish, selfishness, greed and other fruits of the flesh—and thus won't have any difficulty obeying the Lord's admonition in Psalm 97:10: "Ye that love the Lord, hate evil."

2. **Flee it!** People who love life do not play with barrels of nuclear waste, bottles of nerve gas, or test tubes of the AIDS virus. Pure Christians who love God and their souls learn not to play with suggestive movies, excessive flattery, alcohol, scanty clothing (on beach or street, compromising situations, get rich quick selling schemes or any other activities that involve one in flirting with the lusts of the flesh. Weak Christians who insist on practicing or defending such activities are frankly naive about their dangers and are the first to see their children swept away into the world or be swept away themselves.

Flee fornication and youthful lusts, avoiding every appearance of evil! (1 Corinthians 6:19; 2 Timothy 2:22; 1 Thessalonians 5:22).

3. **Be optimistic about victory over it!** "Nobody's perfect." "Everyone is wrong about something." "I'm just so weak and temptations are so strong." These statements, though true in certain contexts, are often made in an effort to build the flesh up as some kind of invincible monster so that we won't look or feel so bad when we join the world in giving in to it. Such a defeatist attitude reveals a lack of confidence in God who has given us a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline (2 Timothy 1:7). Ultimate victory can be won by anyone who truly wants it, in spite of our stumbling, because God gives adequate armor to overcome the flesh. Consider yourself to be more powerful by God's grace than any shallow lust Satan might use to defeat you and refuse to make hackneyed excuses for giving in to it or treating it as unconquerable.

Christians who give no forethought to the sins of the flesh by hating them, fleeing them and being confident of victory over them will win the victory. And, after 10,000 years in heaven, we won't have much difficulty in seeing such lusts as the shallow and empty bait that they really are.

-via *Susquehanna Sentinel*; Marietta, Pennsylvania.

Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.

“Unscriptural”

Norman Sewell

We often use terms like “liberal” and “conservative” to describe attitudes and ideas in the political realm, and similar attitudes in regard to the Bible. We generally understand their meaning, especially in politics, but it seems they are not always understood in matters regarding scripture. And different people use such words as “conservative” in a relative sense. They refer to themselves as conservatives simply because others are more liberal than they are. Just as the term “anti” was used years ago to refer to those who were against certain practices, liberal and conservative are sometimes used more to prejudice than to accurately describe a person's stand.

Could there be a better way both to understand, and to express our concerns over practices we think to be wrong? And, what makes certain practices wrong in religious matters? What makes a practice right or wrong is whether it is approved of God or not! This should be the only concern - does God accept this action or does He reject it? If any action is accepted by God we should be able to determine that easily and quickly. All that would be required would be for us to find some reason in the Bible to do the thing suggested or planned. Failing to find some Bible reason (generic or specific) to do it we should then consider it not approved by God. Only by what God has revealed can we possibly know He wants.

Scriptural is not really a term found in the Bible, yet it describes an important principle. Webster's Dictionary says of the word, “pertaining to or contained in the Bible” and then adds the words “scriptural authority.” For a thing to be scriptural it must be found in the scriptures in some way. If we can't find that thing described in scripture in some way we can honestly say it is “unscriptural” or without scriptural approval. While words like “liberal” and “conservative” are sometimes prejudicial and open to definition, “scriptural” and “unscriptural” seem more clear.

Problems may still be encountered in the process of determining what is approved and what is not, but each thing can be tested by comparing it to **scripture**. Some will always want to argue, “The Bible doesn't say not to,” but the test still stands. Can we find it in the

scriptures or not? Paul wrote that “no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God” (1 Corinthians 2:11b). Any attempt to claim we know what God approves apart from what the Spirit has revealed fails by the same test. If the Holy Spirit didn't reveal it, in some form, then we have no way of knowing that God approves.

So, as we try to convince friends that their religious practice is wrong, wouldn't it be better to use a term like **unscriptural**, meaning, you can't find it in the Bible?

-via *Westview Bulletin*, Hamilton, Ohio.



What Would Your Name Be?

Bob Buchanon

The American Indian used to give their children the name that they had earned according to certain traits or characteristics. Thus, some girl might be named Laughing Water, Bright Eyes or Timid One. A boy might be named Sly Fox, Running Deer or Fighting Tiger.

Suppose God gave His children the name that they had earned? Some would be named Generous Heart, Helping Hand, Dedicated Elder, Faithful Teacher, Willing Worker, Steadfast Saint, etc... But on the other hand, there would be some wearing such names as Gossip Speaker, 'Ugly Heart, Trouble Maker, Grudge Bearer, Evil Tongue, Lukewarm Member, etc...

Solomon said, “A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold” (Proverbs 22:1) and “A good name is better than precious ointment...” (Ecclesiastes 7:1). Mere fame may be little value. A good name is far more desirable than a great name. It is not necessary that people should have a high opinion of us. But it is important that our name should be free from disgrace, should be honored for purity and integrity of character.

-via *Westview Weekly*, Athens, Alabama.



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.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

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

In The Hospital:

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Beulah Pope, rm. 100	Mattye Murray, rm. 60
Mable Crafts, rm. 63	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102

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

GOSPEL MEETING: The *Jackson Drive church* will begin a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. *Aubrey Belue* will be the speaker in this meeting.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Nancy Abernathy, Janice Cagle and all the family* in the passing of Nancy's sister-in-law and Janice's aunt, *Barbara Ogles*. She passed away on Wednesday afternoon and her funeral was on Saturday at Limestone Chapel Funeral Home.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Mitchells: Larry and Peggy* are in North Carolina this weekend. . . *The Reeds: Dan and Scottie* are in Florida this weekend visiting with family.

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 One** 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 Nov. 17th

Sunday:	Bible Classes.....	126
	Morning Worship	173
	Evening Worship.....	98
Wednesday:	Bible Classes.....	104



Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.
 Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Men Privileged To Serve:

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 Coblentz
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

Wednesday, November 27th:

Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Bible Reading.....	Mark 8:10-26
.....	Russ Wulfekuhl
Prayer	Nathaniel Adams
Invitation	Jordan Lovell
Closing Prayer	Marry Adams

Sunday, December 1st:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Joel Hamm
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer	Marty Adams
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Keith Hinkle
Assisting	Marion Mitchell
Serving	Delmer Carter Mot Dollar
.....	Marion Mitchell Kenneth Adams
Closing Prayer	Terry Andrews

Evening Worship

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

Other Assignments for Sunday, December 1st:

Usher	Heath Dollar
Work Sound System	Landon Adams