

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 VI

February 9, 2014

No. 6

Do We Really Believe We Are Forgiven?

Carlton G. McPeak

The Bible is full of passages that tell us that we can be forgiven by God as well as how. For the Christian the action is simple; namely, repent of your sin and pray to God asking Him to forgive you (Acts 8:42). The question to meditate on is, "Do we really believe that we are forgiven?"

The obvious answer would be resounding, "Yes!" The confidence level is very high that God has forgiven us when we are willing to follow His commands. But do our actions convey to the world what our mouth says and our hearts feel? Do we really believe it?

If we ask the question, "How could God ever forgive me?" Do we really believe He has forgiven us? Inherent in this question is some degree of doubt. If we really believe, then why would we have any doubt?

If we really believe that God has forgiven us, then why are we unwilling to forgive ourselves? We should be as forgiving of ourselves as God is willing to forgive us. We need to have the confidence in God that He has "really forgiven us" and dismiss the action from our mind and thinking. We should not be constantly rehearsing the event in our mind.

If we really believe that God has forgiven us, then there is no need for us to tell other people of our sins, especially those that happened years and decades ago. If it is readily understood that we must confess our sins to one another, for that is what the Bible teaches. But five, ten, twenty or more years later and we are still telling everyone about it? The question is, why? Why be rehearsing something that far back?

If we really believe that God has forgiven us, then we need to "move on." We need to forget about the event and act as if it never happened. It is understood that some sins have consequences which never can be forgotten. For example, the conception of a child by a couple who are not married to each other is a constant reminder of their sin, but do they have to focus on the sin? A person may have been killed or seriously

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship..... 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship 4:00 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 Coblantz (256) 232-3312
Joel Hamm..... (256) 278-1977
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

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Market Street church.*

David A. Cox, Editor

injured in an automobile accident because a driver had just enough to drink so that it impaired their thinking. Does the driver need to focus on the sin or the fact that they have been forgiven?

When we have been forgiven by God we need to understand that we have been restored to the relationship we had with God before we committed the sin. We are as “clean” after being forgiven as we were before we committed the transgression of God’s law which brought “blood” upon our heads. We need to feel that He is not holding that sin against us any longer and that we are back in His “good graces.”

When we really believe that God has forgiven us, it should bring happiness to us. Our hearts should be rejoicing because we have been forgiven. A tremendous relief should be felt because we are no longer “in debt” to God for our sinful actions.

The very thought that the Creator of the world is willing to forgive us is nearly overwhelming and truly amazing. If we truly believe that we have been forgiven by God, then our lives should be much happier and less stressful. Do you really believe that God has forgiven you? If you do not, then I hope that one day you will. If you do, then your actions will help others to believe.

-via *The Transformer*; Lake City, Florida.

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Excited?

Tim Henderson

What gets you excited? A closely fought game? A sale at your favorite store? Your favorite television show? That latest, greatest new blockbuster that is about to hit the big screen? Perhaps the twitch at the end of your fishing rod as that big, stinky bass nibbles at the hook? An 8 point buck centered in the crosshairs of your sight? A painting? A book? A valley?

How do you show your excitement? Do you discuss it for hours on end with friends? Call up someone to

join you on a shopping spree? Plan your schedule around that favorite show? Buy all of the merchandise associated with the movie? Spend hours on the lake waiting? Awaken before dawn so you can be on the stand in the crisp, freezing morning? Travel to museums? Spend days reading? Travel and vacation there?

There are so many things that excite us in life. We show our excitement for these things in the way we prepare ourselves, spend money, study (even a hunter or fisherman will spend money and time studying their prey), talk to others, devote ourselves to it, give up other things to have it, or see it, whatever “it” may be.

What excites you? You know, and you know what level your excitement is. But let me ask you something. Does the local church excite you? Do you look forward to it? Discuss it for hours on end with your friends? Schedule your life around it? Devote hours to study and preparation for the next time you can be together? Does it get your blood pumping with anticipation? When services are over, are you anxiously awaiting the next opportunity to be together?

These are some things perhaps we should think about. There is nothing wrong with being excited about things in this world, but we should be wary when our level of excitement for these exceeds our excitement for the local church, Jesus, God, Heaven.

-via *In Search of Truth and Right*; Wellsburg, West Virginia.

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

Assuming The Center

Lawrence Kelley

Paul prayed that all would grasp “the exceeding greatness of His (God’s) power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named” (Ephesians 1:19-20).

Christ’s triumph over death has cosmic implications. According to the text there is nothing which Christ is not now over. This means His dominion includes all beings spiritual and physical, good and evil.

This is good news. Christians are not at the mercy of Satan or evil men, but guarded by God who works all things according to the counsel of His will (Ephesians 1:11). In this capacity as Head over all, Christ leads His servants to victory over the world. Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, (2 Corinthians 2:14). We are now more than conquerors through Christ and should live with the expectation that our Lord will crush Satan under our feet (Romans 16:20), that His kingdom will outlast and crush all the kingdoms of men (Daniel 2:44), and that when all other enemies are subdued death itself will be destroyed (1 Corinthians 15:26).

In the meantime, we are soldiers of the Cross. We make known the Christ as the true and living way for all men to be reconciled to God. We use the sword of the spirit to pierce the hearts, souls and minds of men until they love him with their hearts, souls and minds. We suffer the world’s hatred and endure bitter persecutions. Nevertheless, our triumph over the world is secured by faith in Jesus (1 John 5:4-5). Which brings me to the point.

Christians today are largely characterized by an inferiority complex. We cower before the world like beggars. We mimic the world to appease it. We absorb its culture rather than transform it. We clamor for its approval and long for its acceptance. We try to be “relevant” to the world till any distinction between us and the world is imperceptible. We assume that the world is the center of all things, while viewing Christ and the

church as marginal characters in the great play of life.

This is faithless disobedience. Repentance requires that we assume the biblical truth of the centrality of Christ. Only by getting the fact right, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth,” will we get our act right, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations.”

~via *Taylor’s Church Bulletin*; Taylors, South Carolina.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Jonathan Keenon	Robert Beasley
Jennifer Threet	Gwen Bullock
Gilbert Hardy	Joyce & Crutcher Harbin
Carol Locke	Matt Poff
Mark Hargrove	Eli Williams
Ava Brooke Campbell	Brittney Murrell
Jerry Taylor	Una King Carrier
Phillip Harwell	Elizabeth Kate Miller
Charles Burns	Abby Gilbert
Elizabeth Howard	

In The Hospital:

Fay Ferguson, Athens-Limestone Hosp.; rm. 314
Bennie Pepper, Huntsville Hosp.; rm. 801
Billy Abernathy; Nashville Hosp.

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Beulah Pope, rm. 100 Mattye Murray, rm. 60
Dorothy Draper, rm. 97 Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Robert Johnson, rm. 18 Gayle Mills, rm. 15
Mable Crafts, rm. 63

Limestone Health Facility:

Janet Berryhill, rm. 75-B Jack Cannon, rm. 111A
Albert Norton, rm. 36 Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E
Bob Richter, rm. 93

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Please mark your calendars for our spring Gospel Meeting will be **April 20-24, 2014**. *Dee Bowman of Pasadena, Texas* will be preaching...Also, our Vacation Bible School will be **June 16-19, 2014**.

PICTURES: There are just a few pictures that we still need to get made for the new directory. If you have not had your picture made yet, please try to get it made today.

ACTIVITY FORMS: There are activity forms at each entrance/exit for each member to fill out for the work they would like to do. Please pick up a form, mark it and place it in the baskets where the forms are. Please do this as soon as possible.

WORKGROUPS: **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 Feb. 2nd*

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 127
Morning Worship 178
Evening Worship..... 116

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 97

Third Annual Singing

February 28, 2014 - 7:00 p.m.

Song Leaders: David Deason, Joe Greer & Steve Klein



MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST
514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, February 9th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Joel Hamm
Song Leader Todd Williams
Prayer Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Kenneth Smith
Assisting Terry Andrews
Serving Marvin Putman Norman Brown
..... Stefan Fudge Dan Lovell
Closing Prayer Tommy Coblentz

Evening Worship

Announcements Joel Hamm
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer Larry Mitchell
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Kenneth Smith
Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, February 9th:

Usher Heath Dollar
Work Sound System Landon Adams

Wednesday, February 12th:

Song Leader Marty Adams
Bible Reading Mark 11:15-26
..... Dwaine Allfrey
Prayer Dan Reed
Invitation Jordan Lovell
Closing Prayer Kenneth Adams

Sunday, February 16th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Joel Hamm
Preaching Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper
Presiding Marcus Morris
Assisting Keith Hinkle
Serving Paul Hasting David Terry
..... Nathaniel Adams Kennon Currier
Closing Prayer Todd Williams

Evening Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Stefan Fudge
Prayer Bonnie Sutton
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Marcus Morris
Closing Prayer Ronnie Locke

Other Assignments for Sunday, February 16th:

Usher Marion Mitchell
Work Sound System Terry Andrews