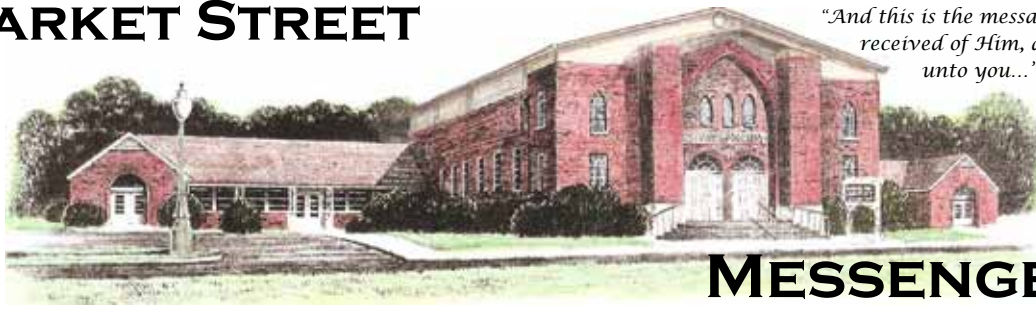


MARKET STREET

"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
Phone (256) 232-1525

Volume X

May 13, 2018

No. 19

Are You Smarter Than A Salmon?

Shawn Jeffries

Three years ago, my family and I were able to visit the wonderful state of Washington for the first time. Among the many amazing things to see there, are the famous Pike Place Market, the Space Needle, Mount Saint Helens, and the Ballard Locks. The Ballard Locks was especially interesting. These locks sit at the west end of Salmon Bay, Seattle. Their purpose is to prevent the mixing of sea water with the fresh water of the lakes. They also serve as an elevator for boats travelling from the fresh water to the salt water (and vice versa).

Integrated in the locks is a fish ladder. This fish ladder helps with the migration of anadromous fish, notably salmon. The salmon hatch in lakes, rivers or streams; they then migrate to the sea, and then towards the end of their lives they return to the fresh water (where they were born) to spawn. Simply put, the fish ladder allows a way of passage for adult salmon to move from salt water to fresh water so they can continue their life cycle. If it wasn't for the fish ladder, these salmon would eventually die off because they wouldn't be able to go back home to reproduce.

At the Ballard Locks there is actually a place where you can view these fish as they pass through the ladder (the months of July and August are said to be the prime months to witness this). After spending much of their life in the sea, amazingly they are able to find their way to the ladder, pass through it, and return to where they were born. These salmon are so intelligent that they are able to remember their true home and even find their way back there before attempting to reproduce.

What about us? Are we as smart as salmon? Like salmon, do we understand where we come from and where we are going? These are things that God expects us know.

1. God expects us to know where we come from. He expects us to know that we are His creation. In fact, we are His greatest creation. Unlike salmon or any other animal, God created us in His image (Genesis 1:26-27).

Part of being made in the image of God means that we have eternity

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

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 503-8843
Tommy Coblentz..... (256) 232-3312
Jerry McGlocklin..... (256) 232-7620
Kenneth Smith..... (256) 777-6737
Bonnie Sutton (256) 232-2081

Deacons

Joel Hamm (256) 278-1977
Danny Holt (256) 206-2746
Larry Mitchell (256) 230-0185
Marcus Morris..... (256) 232-8871
Russ Wulfekuhl (256) 683-9396

Evangelists

Buc Chumbley (256) 777-1065
David A. Cox..... (256) 233-8910
Cell: (256) 614-3757

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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

within us. It means that we have an eternal soul that will live on in eternity somewhere once it departs from this earthly body (Ecclesiastes 12:7; 2 Corinthians 5:1-10).

It also means that we have free-moral agency. Unlike animals we have the ability to choose right from wrong. We can either choose to serve God and enjoy His blessings or choose to rebel against God and experience terrible consequences (Joshua 24:14-15). The tree of the knowledge of good and evil was placed in the Garden of Eden so that the very first man and woman (Adam and Eve) could exercise this marvelous ability (Genesis 2:15-17).

All of this means that God made us special. He made us unique and superior to anything else. Do we appreciate this? If so, then we need to acknowledge it by living our lives everyday serving our Creator and bringing Him glory (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14). God being our Creator means He has the inherent right to tell us what to do and we have an obligation to obey the instructions He has given.

2. God also expects us to know where we are going after this life. Do you know this? The Bible says you can!

These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God (1 John 5:13).

Notice how the Apostle John knew where he was going after this life. We can as well! When we obey the gospel we can **know** that we are right with God and on the path to be with Him for eternity. Unlike salmon we are going to live on after this life. Unlike salmon we are pursuing something more than an earthly home (John 14:1-6).

While it was fascinating to see salmon travel through the fish ladder back to where they were born, unfortunately only a few ever make it that far. Of the hundreds and hundreds that spent their adult lives at sea, only a relatively small number make it back home. Most are eaten by predators or fall for the bait of fishermen. But hopefully we can learn from those who do make it back. Hopefully we can be at least as smart as they are and always remember who we are and where we are going.

~via *With God's Word*; Columbia, Tennessee.

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Soul Winner For Jesus

Sean P. Cavender

"I want to be a soul winner for Jesus every day, He does so much for me; I want to aid the lost sinner to leave his erring way and be from bondage free."

The song "*A Soul Winner for Jesus*" reminds us of the great call and duty we have to evangelize, teach, and help the lost see the great need to obey the gospel of Jesus Christ. The New Testament gives us several examples of people who were focused on winning souls to Christ.

Those men and women identified the need to believe in Christ (Acts 8:37). They also emphasized the message of repentance from sin (Acts 2:38). Baptism for the remission of sins was also taught and practiced (Acts 2:38; 8:38). Consider some of the examples recorded in Scripture:

1. **The Lord Jesus Christ.** Jesus repeatedly emphasized the need to preach the gospel to sinners. He went through Galilee preaching the gospel (Mark 1:14-15). He did not want to be distracted from preaching, making it a priority to reach the lost (Mark 1:38). The Lord came to call sinners to repentance (Mark 2:17).
2. **Philip the Evangelist** (Acts 21:8). Philip is most notable in the Scripture for his work as an evangelist. He is "the evangelist." He went about "proclaiming Christ" (Acts 8:5). Wherever we go, are we proclaiming Christ to others? Do we tell them about the good news of salvation in the Lord? Are we actively persuading those who are lost to see the need to be forgiven of their sins through Jesus the Son of God? Philip was recognized by Luke through inspiration of the Holy Spirit as being an evangelist and soul winner for Christ.
3. **The Apostles.** When Jesus called His first disciples to follow after Him, He told them that they would forsake their fishing nets to start fishing for men (Luke 5:10). Peter and the eleven spoke on Pentecost (Acts 2:14) and 3,000 were saved. Paul visited a number of places, going on three missionary journeys, introducing the world to the gospel of Christ.
4. **The early church.** After the persecution of Stephen, the early church was scattered. Yet, everywhere they went, they were preaching the word (Acts 8:4; 11:19-20). The Lord was with them and many believed and turned to the Lord (Acts 11:21).

Sometimes these soul winners went by themselves (Acts 8:26, 40). Other times they went two by two (Mark 6:7). No matter where they were sent, no matter who they came across, they proclaimed Christ. We can fulfill the great commission today, just as these examples went into the world and converted lost souls to Christ. Be a soul winner for Jesus!

~via *Bald Knob Builder*; Bald Knob, Arkansas.



We “Have A Name”

Robert F. Turner

Concerning the church at Sardis the Lord said, “I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead” (Revelation 3:1). Now think, where did they get that “name”?

“Name” is here used in the sense of reputation; the popular opinion. But the smallness and insignificance of the cause of Christ in the world at that time negates any suggestion that this was a “name” in the world’s Hall of Fame. The world couldn’t care less. Yet, someone had to give them that name, and give it such general acceptance as to warrant significance. The Lord certainly did not sanction this appraisal; so we are forced to conclude that their peers, or social circle, gave them their “name.”

Other churches, others of their professed “kind,” must have talked of their “good works,” “wonderful spirit,” “liberal contributions” or whatever that generation considered great. It is apparent that brethren of that age were no more qualified judges of what God approves than their current counterparts. Doesn’t it shake you? They had a good reputation they got it from their own brethren and it did not amount to a hill of beans (when beans were cheap). No wonder Paul said those who “*measure themselves by themselves, and compare themselves among themselves, are not wise.*”

For the Lord said of Sardis, that Big Name church, “*thou art dead.*” What remained was “*ready to die.*” The “*few names in Sardis*” who had not defiled their garments

must have stood out from the rest like a sore thumb - a few cranks or “fanatics” who would not line up with the majority. Perhaps those “on the march” wished them gone, so as to remove that source of criticism and embarrassment, not realizing that they were the last bit of salt in the whole stinking mess.

The majority “*had a name*”—and it seems the “*name*” was more valued than the truth. Well, we all have a name—of some sort—with both God and man. Our concern for what men think often blinds us to what God thinks of us – and that’s what I’d call real near-sightedness. Man, a good reputation is not enough. We’ve got to consider who gives us our “*name.*”

~via *Sound Doctrine*; Las Vegas, Nevada.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Jerry McGlocklin | JoAnn Gilbert |
| Pat Nixon | Phyllis Broadus |
| James Johnson | Sherry Davis |
| Cornelia Pepper | Bobbie Adcock |
| Ann Bush | Ruth Sullivan |
| Doris Lovell | Linda Jones |
| Wayne Reyer | Wayne Gooch |

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Irene Inman | Jeanette Weir |
| Janice Cagle | Patsy Thomas |
| Priscilla Tucker | Ella Melvin |
| Bobby McLemore | Cindy Glass |
| Matt Poff | Susan Cox |
| Elizabeth Howard | Al Pollard |
| Linda Ordonez | Wayne Wooldridge |
| Cindy Walker | Phillip Harwell |
| Gene Carpenter | Charles Burns |
| Betty Christopher | Una King Currier |
| Ava Brooke Campbell | |

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Jo Dunnavant, rm. 105 Ann McLemore, rm. 106

Dorothy Draper, rm. 73 Joyce Martin, rm. 63
 Mattye Murray, rm. 2 Mable Crafts, rm. 39
 Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36 Christine Hudson, rm. 77
 Valeria Dalton, rm. 7

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Robert & Mot Beasley, at City Center, Decatur
 Frances Bowers, Limestone Manor
 Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
 Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison
 Carl Hargrave, at granddaughter's home in Hartselle
 Irene Inman, at home
 William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison
 Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Sherry Davis has been sick and not able to be at services, but is doing better... **Adrian Maynard**, from the *Hindsbury Road church in Barbados*, has been in touch with the doctor about his brain surgery. Still waiting.

DIRECTORY PICTURES: We are in the process of making directory pictures. There are several pictures that we are needing for the directory and some pictures that need to be updated. The pictures will be made in the next couple of weeks in room 20 in the east wing.

CONGRATULATIONS: We want to congratulate **Christian Usery** on his graduation from LaGrange College this coming Saturday. We wish the very best for Christian and his continued work and studies.

GOSPEL MEETING: The *Reunion church* is beginning a meeting today. The meeting will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Wes Gossett* of East Orange, New Jersey.

OUT OF TOWN: **Sherry Davis** is visiting with family this morning... **Steve Bradley** is in Houston, Texas... **The Holts: Shelia & Addison** are in New York this week... **Harvey Nixon** has been in North Carolina with his work... **Jim Whitt** has been in Kentucky with his work... **Nacncy Abernathy & Janice Cagle** have been at the Gulf this week... **The Ashes: Harold & Barbara** are in Gulf Shores this weekend.

WORK GROUPS: Work Group Two will be meeting after our evening service. If you are in group two, remember to meet with your group tonight.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of May 6th

| | | |
|------------|-----------------------|-----|
| Sunday: | Bible Classes | 156 |
| | Morning Worship | 191 |
| | Evening Worship | 133 |
| Wednesday: | Bible Classes | 100 |

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, May 13th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....Keith Hinkle
 Song Leader Hunter Cox
 Prayer..... Larry Mitchell
 Preaching..... Buc Chumbley
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Marcus Morris
 Assisting Larry Holt
 Serving Tommy Burns..... Clayton Hamm
 David Terry Kenneth Adams
 Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements.....Keith Hinkle
 Song Leader Ashton Gatlin
 Prayer..... Tommy Coblentz
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper Marcus Morris
 Closing Prayer Keenon Currier

Other Assignments for the week of May 13th:

Ushers..... Danny Holt/Steve Bradley
 Work Sound System..... Terry Andrews

Wednesday, May 16th:

Song Leader Griffin Holt
 Bible Reading Mark 2:18-27
 Albert Haraway
 Prayer..... Bob Broadus
 Invitation A. J. Price
 Closing Prayer Christian Usery

Sunday, May 20th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Albert Haraway
 Song Leader Tyler Cox
 Prayer..... Landon Adams
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Larry Tucker
 Assisting Joel Hamm
 Serving Keenon Currier..... Christian Usery
 Russ Wulfekuhl Heath Dollar
 Closing Prayer Terry Andrews

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Albert Haraway
 Song Leader Bob Broadus
 Prayer..... Marcus Morris
 Preaching..... Buc Chumbley
 Lord's Supper Larry Tucker
 Closing Prayer Larry Holt

Other Assignments for the week of May 20th:

Ushers..... Larry Mitchell/Dwayne Allfrey
 Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams