

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 X

June 3, 2018

No. 22

ALL THINGS TO ALL MEN

Berlin R. (Buc) Chumbley

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

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.

*Editors: David Cox
Buc Chumbley*

1 Cor 9.19-23 *"For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more; 20 and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law; 21 to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law; 22 to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. 23 Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with you."*

Chapter 9 of 1 Corinthians is part of the larger discussion which begins in chapter 8 and continues through chapter 10. The entire passage is dealing with issues of "rights" and "liberty." Paul is writing to the Corinthians about their "rights" based on their "knowledge" of eating meat that had been first sacrificed to an idol. He will ask them to forego that "right," even as he foregoes his own rights as an apostle.

Paul's argument was not based upon the question of how the meat was prepared and blessed, but whether their eating the meat would strengthen or weaken someone else's faith. If by eating the meat weakens someone's faith, then don't eat "beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak" (1 Cor 8.9). The focus should not be on the rules in principle, but rather, on the rules as practiced. But there is a greater lesson Paul wants to teach these saints in Corinth. By this discussion on eating meats Paul will use it as a springboard into a discussion on how to win souls to Christ.

As an educated and observant Jew, Paul never rejected his nation, nor did he try to convince other Jews to abandon their heritage. Instead, Paul tried to convince the Jews that Jesus was the fulfillment of God's plan of salvation for Israel, and to give themselves over to Christ.

In teaching the Jews about Christ, Paul also hoped to convince them that the gospel was for all men (Rom 1.16-17) and that he had been commissioned to take the gospel to the Gentiles.

To accomplish this task, Paul would have to travel to various places populated by Gentiles whose culture was vastly different than the culture of the Jews. While at these places, Paul felt it was necessary for him to give up some of his "Jewish culture" that he might be "all things to all people" in winning these souls to Christ.

"To be all things to all people," doesn't suggest an unprincipled, Chameleon-like attitude towards the gospel. Paul was not suggesting that he would compromise the truth to win over Gentiles. Paul would not become a drunk to win the drunks. Nor would he become a homosexual to reach out to the homosexual community. He would never compromise his moral compass. Neither did he violate the Sabbath to be like the Gentiles; or worship "like the Jews" to win the Jews. The message of the cross must never be tampered with or adjusted. However, the method through which the cross is preached can and must change as the culture around us changes.

What we ultimately find in this passage is an examination of the preaching methods of Jesus. Jesus was always keenly aware of who He was speaking to and was committed to building a bridge over which the unchanging good news could travel. We see this in how Christ spoke to the woman at the well in John 4 and the adulterous woman of John 8. Jesus built a bridge to both these women and invited them to cross over where they might find life eternal. We see this in how Paul spoke to the Greeks about philosophy, even quoting a pagan poet, in order to then speak about the crucified and risen Savior in Acts 17.

This accommodation without compromise is what Paul meant when he said, "I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some." (I Cor. 9:22.) He was willing to do whatever it took to help bring someone to Christ. Stooping to whatever level is necessary without compromising the gospel. Giving up any rank or privilege he might have, so he could share the life-changing good news of Jesus with someone who was lost. So, should we.

REJOICING IN YOUTH

Jeff Wilson

Jehoahaz was only twenty-three years old when he became king (2 Kings 23:31). His brother Jehoiakim was only twenty-five (2 Kings 23:36). Upon Jehoiakim's death, his son Jehoiachin became king at the age of eighteen (2 Kings 24:8). After Jehoiachin's brief, three month reign, his uncle Zedekiah took the throne, himself only being twenty-one years old (2 Kings 24:18). Notice a pattern here?

These four are the final kings to sit on David's throne in Jerusalem before Nebuchadnezzar led the Babylonian hordes to destroy the city and end the earthly dynasty per God's forewarned judgement. Besides sharing the common factor of all being sons or a grandson of Josiah, they were all quite young when they took the throne for their relatively brief reigns (3 months, eleven years, 3 months, and eleven years, respectively). And they were all, to a man, despite their youth, explicitly condemned by God for their wickedness (cf. 2 Kings 23:32, 37; 24:9, 19).

Let that sink in. Even Jehoiachin, who was only eighteen years old and lasted only three months on the throne, was old enough and served long enough to draw the attention – and judgment – of heaven itself (cf. Jeremiah 22:24-30). If you do the math, Jehoahaz was a prisoner of Egypt at roughly twenty-three, Jehoiakim was dead at around thirty-six, and Zedekiah was a blind, son-less Babylonian captive by the time he was thirty-two. The way we look at youth and age today, these weren't kings, they were kids, "young men" at the most.

And that's the rub. These days, the larger tendency of the world – and thus the temptation for Christians – is to expect too little of our young people, to excuse their immaturity and iniquity on the basis of their age. "Kids will be kids" is the dogma of the moment. In our culture, we encourage our children and young people to enjoy their childhood, their teenage years, their college years, their twenties, in a way that too often implies that real responsibility, full adulthood, and rigorous moral accountability don't kick in until their thirties or forties.

But the Bible says otherwise. In Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:1 the Preacher calls young people to carefully balance the fun and opportunities of their youth with the reality of a God who sees, knows, and judges

Enjoy life, yes, but remember there is a larger context for the fun we naturally seek. The Bible says that young people can do great evil and earn God's wrath.

The challenge for our young people – and for those of us who parent them, teach them, and are concerned for them and about them – is to avoid allowing the shallow silliness of our time and place to blind them to the present responsibilities they possess before God. We want them to rejoice in their youth, but only in a way that acknowledges God's claims on their lives.

YOUR SERMON

Don Truex

“The gospel cannot be preached tangibly enough. A truly evangelical sermon must be like offering a child a fine red apple or offering a thirsty man a cool glass of water and saying: ‘Wouldn't you like it?’”
---Dietrich Bonhoeffer

All of us eloquently and powerfully “preach” by the life we live in our homes, community, work place, local church, recreational and social activities. Does your life give a good account of what Christ has done on your behalf? In other words, are you preaching a sermon of...

- Conviction in faith
- Commitment in service
- Faith in adversity
- Joy in salvation
- Integrity in word
- Christ-likeness in relationships

Remember, it will be forever true that who you are, much more than what you say, is an “epistle known and read by all men.”

Remember our services today at 5:00 PM

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

JoAnn Gilbert	Cornelia Pepper
Bobbie Adcock	Polly Leopard
Linda Jones	Ann Bush
Doris Lovell	Wayne Gooch
Wayne Reyer	

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:

Dorothy Draper, rm. 73	Macon Horne, rm. 102
Joyce Martin, rm. 63	Mattye Murray, rm. 2
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Mable Crafts, rm. 39

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:

Polly Leopard is now at home recovering after surgery-
Jackie Whitt's mother, Dean Holt, is awaiting a second opinion.

Our sympathy is extended *Kim Rogers* and her family in the passing of Kims' mother *Ruth Sullivan ... Barb Ash's* brother *Stephen Bassett* is in serious condition with heart issues in Louisville, Ky. *Isabella Perry* is scheduled for surgery Tuesday for a broken fibula. *Lona Jackson* has had another bout with Bell's palsy

OUT OF TOWN: *David, Kerry and Jackie Cox, Mary Cecil, Brettlyn, Keenon Currier* are in Meadville, Pa where David is holding a weekend meeting. The *Coblentz's* are on vacation and the *Morris's* leave tomorrow on a trip

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 27th
 Sunday: Bible Classes.....144
 Morning Worship.....190
 Evening Worship.....136



June 11-14, 2018

Monday through Thursday
 10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

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



Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, June 3rd:

Morning Worship

Announcement.....Keith Hinkle
 Song Leader.....Ashton Gatlin
 Prayer.....Joel Hamm
 Preaching.....Buc Chumbley
 Lord's Supper:
 Presiding.....Marty Adams
 Assisting.....Larry Holt
 Serving.....Marvin Putman, Roger Hammonds
Danny Johnson, Tommy Burns
 Closing Prayer.....Kenneth Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements.....Keith Hinkle
 Song Leader.....Albert Haraway
 Prayer.....Hunter Cox
 Preaching.....Buc Chumbley
 Lord's Supper.....Larry Holt
 Closing Prayer.....Jerry McGlocklin

Other Assignments for the week of May 27th:
 Ushers.....Heath Dollar, Keenon Currier
 Work Sound System.....Terry Andrews

Wednesday, June 6th:

Song Leader.....Griffin Holt
 Bible Reading.....Mark 2:13-19
Danny Johnson
 Prayer.....A.J. Price
 Invitation.....Bob Broadus
 Closing Prayer.....Larry Tucker
 Usher.....Landon Adams

Sunday, June 10th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....Marcus Morris
 Song Leader.....Bob Broadus
 Prayer.....Larry Mitchell
 Preaching.....Buc Chumbley
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding.....Harvey Nixon
 Assisting.....Steve Usery
 Serving.....Matthew Usery, Matthew Vaughn
Landon Admas, Clayton Hamm
 Closing Prayer.....Harold Ash

Evening Worship

Announcements.....Marcus Morris
 Song Leader.....Tyler Cox
 Prayer.....Kenneth Smith
 Preaching.....Buc Chumbley
 Lord's Supper.....Harvey Nixon
 Closing Prayer.....Steve Usery

Other Assignments for the week of June 10th:
 Ushers.....Keith Hinkle, Steve Bradley
 Work Sound System.....Nathaniel Adams