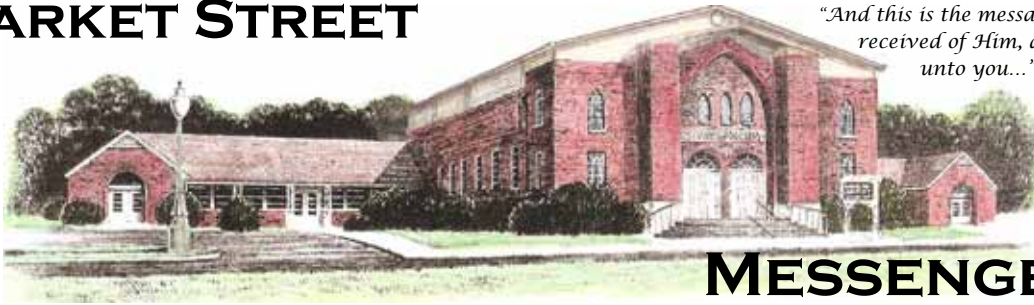


MARKET STREET

"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

August 5, 2018

No. 31

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

Is Obedience Necessary?

David A. Cox

"Though He were a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him" (Hebrews 5:8-9).

The Hebrew writer speaks of Christ learning obedience and then says that Christ is the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him. Jesus stressed the importance of obedience in the Sermon on the Mount as he said, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21). Jesus emphasized that man's salvation is dependent on **doing** (obeying) the will of God.

Many believe and teach that obedience is not necessary for salvation; man is saved "wholly of grace" by faith in Christ and does not need to do anything to be saved from his sins. What do the scriptures teach? In the passages above, the Hebrew writer and Jesus taught that obedience accompanied salvation. Without obedience, there is no salvation, but eternal destruction (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9). In James 2:14-26, James, talking about faith and works of obedience says, "faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead" (James 2:17). James goes on to show that Abraham, the father of the faithful, was justified by his works. If faith does not have the obedience required, then faith will not produce life. Obedience to the commands of God will prompt one to be born again (John 3:3-5).

It must be understood that obedience is not merely doing certain things, but also involves being prompted to submit to the will of God. Obedience must be based upon faith in God through Christ (Hebrews 11:6; Matthew 28:18). There are several examples of this in scripture:

1. Noah, by faith, built an ark to the saving of his house (Hebrews 11:7).
2. Abraham pleased God as he obeyed the commands of God; being ready to offer his only son upon the altar according to the command of God (Hebrews 11:17-19).
3. The Jews, on the day of Pentecost, were told the command of God (by Peter) to "repent and be baptized" (Acts 2:38), which was the will of God to men (Luke 13:3; Mark 16:16). Three thousand responded

in obedience to that command (Acts 2:41).

In each of the above examples, individuals obeyed the commands that God had given. Why? It is because without obedience they would not have done the will of God. In Matthew 7, Jesus speaks of those on the day of judgment that would be told to depart from the presence of God for their failure to do the will of God.

The scriptures are quite clear that we must do the commands of God to receive forgiveness, mercy, and grace. For those that choose not to obey the commandments of God, they “will be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord” (2 Thessalonians 1:9). God’s Word answers the question, “Is obedience necessary?” Yes, if you are going to be saved.



Encourage To Continue

Robert Jackson

There were times in the life of our Master that he became weary and exhausted.. I am sure there were times in the lives of the other saints of God when they became tired and weary in mind and body. Most of us have faced days in life when we become tired of battle. However, we must continue. We must encourage each other not to grow weary. This is what Paul is saying, “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not” (Galatians 6:9).

Discouragement is the Instrument of the Foe.

I believe that the devil uses discouragement as much as any means to get people to leave the faith. We are seeing many of our preachers turning away from this great work. We are watching numbers of our young people turn away from the Lord. They become discouraged and leave. This is a very powerful instrument in the hand of the evil one.

How We Become Discouraged...

Sometimes we become discouraged because of *ourselves*. We let our bodies and minds get in a run-down condition. We become weak and faint. We must take care of our bodies and minds. We are to present them

as a living sacrifice unto God (Romans 12:1).

Sometimes it is due to the fact that we *fail to build ourselves up* by neglect of feasting on God’s word. We cannot but grow weary when we stop studying and meditating upon the law of Christ.

Brethren often discourage us. They fail to work. They act so unconcerned about souls. They argue and fuss over things which they should not. They keep things in a stir. Older brethren often have very little patience with the young. Such leads to discouragement.

Things of the world discourage us. We see so much of the things of the world. So many follow that course that we think we are outnumbered, so what is the use? This leads to discouragement.

However, we must never stop doing good. Let us continue. We will reap if we faint not. Don’t ever forget this. Keep this in mind, and you will continue on in the work of our Lord.

~via *The Contender*; Florence, Alabama.



Two Worshipers

Mark McCrary

“And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.”
(Genesis 4:3-5)

Genesis 4 tells of two brothers, the children of Adam and Eve, who offered sacrifices to God. We are likely to infer from the text that God commanded these sacrifices since both acted at the same time. Whether God gave instruction as to how and what to sacrifice, we are uncertain. What we do know is this: while their action was the same, it seems obvious that what motivated that action was very different. It is also very apparent that how God viewed their action was very different as well.

The older of the two, Cain, gave of his harvest to God. The younger, Abel, gave “of the firstborn of his flock.” God looked favorably on Abel’s sacrifice; unfavorably on Cain’s. The pressing question is why?

Some have argued we may infer that God gave instructions to the brothers, and that Abel followed those instruction, while Cain did not. This may be truth. What the text does tell us, however, is likely the key to understanding what happened, and the key to understanding a major lesson about worship. Abel gave the firstborn. The offering of the firstborn was viewed as the best because it implied a complete trust that God would continue to provide for the worshipper; that God’s primacy in the worshipper’s heart demanded that He come first before everything else. Of Cain’s sacrifice, there is no parallel statement (the Law of Moses would later provide instruction on giving of the “first fruits” of one’s harvest—Deuteronomy 26: Proverbs 3:9); while Abel gave the “firstborn,” Cain simply brought “the fruit of the ground.” In simple terms, Abel gave something meaningful in worship, while Cain simply gave.

What type of worshipper are you? One who gives the best in trust and honor to God, or one who goes through the motions hoping to get credit for time served, without a deep love to please God? The first type of worship is difficult, demanding a selfless heart; the second is easy to carry out, may salve the conscience for a while, but is in the end empty and unsatisfying. King David—a true worshipper—stated in 2 Samuel 24:24, “...Nor will I offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God with that which cost me nothing.” Jesus would later say, “But, the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, “for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” (John 4:23-24). What does your worship to God really cost? Are you giving your best, or simply giving?

~via *Applying God’s Word*; Louisville, Kentucky.

Gospel Meeting

September 16-19, 2018

(Sunday through Wednesday)

Paul Sheehan, Speaking

**MARKET STREET
CHURCH OF CHRIST**



News & Notes

THE SICK:

James Johnson	Pricilla Tucker
Larry Tucker	Lucille Craig
JoAnn Gilbert	Cornelia Pepper
Bobbie Adcock	Doris Lovell
Linda Jones	Wayne Reyer
Ann Bush	Damien Powers
Perry Cagle	Winfred Corsbie

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

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

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Virginia Meyer, rm 98	Dorothy Draper, rm. 73
Matty Murray, rm. 2	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Joyce Martin, rm. 63	Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	

Limestone Health Facility:

Stan Stanford, rm. 105

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:

Larry Tucker has been down with back trouble this week. he had a MRI done on Friday...**Donna Wright** had a lung biopsy done on Thursday in Huntsville. She is awaiting the results ...**Pricilla Tucker** had surgery on Friday at Huntsville Hospital - Women's and Children's ...**Jeanette Weir** has completed her radiation treatments and will be going to the doctor...**JoAnn Gilbert** is scheduled to have knee replacement on her right knee redone on Tuesday, August 14th ...**Judy Vaughn** is going through a series of treatments for her bladder and will have three more...**James Johnson** has been unable to be at services...**Ernest Roberts**, a preacher in Grenada, vision nearly non-existent and is awaiting a recommendation of the action to take from the doctor in Indiana.

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.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The **Oakland church** is beginning a meeting today, and it will continue through Friday. **Kenny Moorer of Florence** will be the speaker in this meeting.

OUT OF TOWN: **Brettlyn Currier** is in Gatlinburg, Tennessee this weekend...**Mike Ogles** is traveling this week between Auburn, New Orleans and Washington, D.C. with his work.....**The Bradleys: Steve & Marilyn** returned home from Texas on Monday...**Jim Whitt** has been working in Kentucky this week...**The Adcocks: Paul & Dale** back home after being on vacation last week.

PREACHING AWAY: **David Cox** is preaching for the **South Franklin church** in Franklin, Tennessee today. **Kerry** is with him.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of July 29th

Sunday:	Bible Classes	145
	Morning Worship	197
	Evening Worship	140
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	114

Remember Our Study Periods

- Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.
- Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.
- Come Join Us As We Study Together*

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, August 5th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Ashton Gatlin
Preaching.....	Buc Chumbley
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Larry Holt
Assisting	Harvey Nixon
Serving	Harold Davis
	Danny Holt
	Matthew Usery.....
	Sam Gregory
Closing Prayer	Roger Hammonds

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Griffin Holt
Prayer.....	Landon Adams
Preaching.....	Nathaniel Adams
Lord's Supper	Larry Holt
Closing Prayer	Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for the week of August 5th:

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

Wednesday, August 8th:

Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Bible Reading	Mark 6:30-44
.....	Griffin Holt
Prayer.....	Christian Usery
Invitation	David Cox
Closing Prayer	Joel Hamm

Sunday, August 12th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Steve Usery
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Larry Holt
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Russell Melvin
Assisting	Marcus Morris
Serving	Charles Vaughn
	Hunter Cox
	Clayton Hamm
	Heath Dollar
Closing Prayer	Keenon Currier

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Steve Usery
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Tony Thomas
Preaching	Buc Chumbley
Lord's Supper	Russell Melvin
Closing Prayer	Keith Hinkle

Other Assignments for the week of August 12th:

Ushers.....	Larry Mitchell/Ashton Gatlin
Work Sound System.....	Nathaniel Adams