

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**
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No. 33

The Widow's Mite — A Challenge to All of Us

Wilson Adams

I don't know about you, but the lesson of the destitute widow and her response of sacrifice especially convicting (Mark 12:41-44). It is obvious she went "all in" for the All in All. She held nothing back. While others gave from their surplus, she sacrificed.

And that's what it comes down to. Let's lay the cards on the table. It comes down to this: surplus or sacrifice. You will give from one or the other.

The warning of scripture is clear. "It is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven" Matthew 19:23). It is hard but not impossible. Jesus followed up that declaration with this one: "...but with God all things are possible" (v.26b). He then found a rich man (Zaccheus) who was willing to sacrifice for the Cause. The impossible became possible.

It raises the question: "Does God expect me to give up my house, sell my car, and liquidate my assets?" Yes—if they come between you and Him (aka rich young ruler).

If your stuff is more important than your Savior, you have a problem. Seriously, He demands #1. And He knows. He knows if you are all in or if you are holding back. He knows if you give out of your surplus or if you sacrifice. He knows all.

Who Are the Rich?

You tell me.

Let's say 100 people represent the world's population. If so, 53 of those people live on less than \$2 per day. Are you kidding me? No. And if you make \$4000 per month, you are one hundred times wealthier than the average person on the planet. All of which asks... Which is more convoluted—that we have so much more than everyone else or that we don't think we are rich?

"Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God... Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share..." (1 Timothy 6:17-18). Jesus loves us enough to tell us the truth.

Brethren, this should serve as a **wakeup call** to all of us. It's easy to

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 Coblenz.....(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

Evangelist

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David A. Cox, Editor

gloss over scenes like the rich young ruler or the poor widow, but we do so to our own peril. Let us examine our lives and ask one simple question:

Am I giving from sacrifice or from surplus? (adapted)
~via *Veteran's Parkway Church*, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.



Baptism Does Not...

Jim Mickells

The Bible has much to say on the subject of baptism. The Book of God tells us that baptism is for remission of sin (Acts 2:38); that it saves us (Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21); it puts us into Christ where all spiritual blessings are (Romans 6:3; Ephesians 1:3); through this act we can become the children of God (Galatians 3:26-28); it is to be preceded by faith, repentance and confession of our faith that Jesus is Lord (Acts 8:36,37; 2:38); and the mode of baptism is immersion (Acts 8:38; Romans 6:4).

It seems that the vast majority of the religious world rejects the idea that baptism has anything to do with the forgiveness of sin. As noted above, their claim is totally false. Yet we have some brethren who take the Bible teaching on baptism to the other extreme, thinking that it is a kind of cure all problem with regard to sin, without ever repenting. This teaching is erroneous as well!

One cannot continue to practice sin after he has been baptized into Christ. Paul, in writing to the Corinthians, said, "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Corinthians 6:9-11). They had been guilty of all of these things, but no longer did they practice them ("such were some of you"). Now they had been washed in the blood of the Lamb (Acts 22:16), set apart by God to be used in His service, and declared just in His sight.

Baptism does not make unlawful marriage lawful. If it was an adulterous relationship before baptism, it is still an adulterous relationship after baptism. One who was involved in homosexuality before baptism cannot continue to practice such after baptism. Baptism washes away the sins that had been committed upon one's repentance. When men and women were told to repent, before baptism, it meant they had to turn from sin to God and they were not to continue in them.

To say that one is not subject to the law of Christ before baptism is to teach something that the Lord's will did not reveal. How did the Corinthians become guilty of fornication, adultery, etc. if they were not subject to that law? How would one become a sinner in need of salvation if he has not violated the law of God? In writing to those at Thessalonica, Paul said, "in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Thessalonians 1:8). Will He take vengeance on those who have not submitted to the gospel of Jesus Christ? He said so! Does this not indicate that those who fail to obey are subject to that gospel? Sure it does. Likewise, just because one has been baptized, such does not guarantee that heaven will be that person's home. I don't personally know of anyone who is a member of the Lord's church that believes in the doctrine of once saved always saved. Yet I know several who live as if they believe such to be the truth. Baptism does not automatically punch your ticket to God's eternal abode. It takes faithful living on the part of each individual. Jesus said, "And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved" (Matthew 10:22). Notice a similar statement made in Revelation 2:10, the later part of that verse, "Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."

Baptism does not solve all the problems associated with sin in one's life. You may well need to repent and be baptized for the remission of your sins like those on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:36-38). They turned away from their iniquities, like the Corinthians, and served God. Or you may have been baptized for the remission of your transgressions and you have allowed sin, with its allurements, to overtake you. You need to repent and pray like Peter told Simon. "Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you" (Acts 8:22). May we all be willing to submit

to God's plan of forgiveness so that each might stand washed, sanctified, and justified in the sight of our Lord.

~via *The Beacon*, Columbia, Tennessee.



Toward Better Communication

Sewell Hall

“This you know, my beloved brethren. But let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger, for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.” (James 1:19-20)

Can you imagine better advice for getting along with others? How often we hear it said that the problem in a family, a plant, an office, a school, or even a church is a breakdown of communication. Obedience to this verse would change all of that.

“Be quick to hear.” Listen! Try to understand where the one who is talking “is coming from” and what he or she really means. See if you can repeat what was said so accurately that the one who said it will agree that you have stated the position accurately.

Now, make sure a reply is needed. We do not have to correct every mistake we hear. Some are not serious enough to require attention. Others, though serious, may have to wait for a more suitable time to be corrected.

Even if a reply is needed, take your time. “Be slow to speak.” Think of what you are saying. Think how it will sound to the one hearing it and how it will sound if it is repeated to someone else. Ask yourself if what you are about to say will do good or do harm. Ask God to help you to say only what needs to be said. Nehemiah was asked a question by the king and managed a prayer before he answered (Nehemiah 2:4-5). Remember that once you have spoken, you cannot recall your words.

Above all, “be slow to anger.” Anger almost always breaks down communication; shouting matches seldom end in a better understanding of each other. And, besides jeopardizing human relationships, they endanger our relation with God. We may fancy that our anger is “righteous indignation,” but the Holy Spirit says: “The anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.”

Are you thinking, “That’s not much of a way to win

an argument”? RIGHT! But it is a pretty good way to stop one. How would you like to try to argue with someone who is “quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger”? ~via *Tri-Cities Edifier*, Muscle Shoals, Alabama.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Sherry Davis	Kenia Adams
Barbara Ash	Gayle Ball
JoAnn Gilbert	Loretta Warner
Doris Lovell	Bobbie Adcock
Ann Bush	Lloyd Adams

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Donna Wright	Arvid McGuire
Freddie Mae Elmore	Nikki Ogles
Anita Wheeler	Lona Jackson
Janice Cagle	Judy Vaughn
Ella Melvin	Jeanette Weir
Cornelia Pepper	Wayne Wooldridge
Cindy Walker	Kenneth Fisher
Al Pollard	Charles Burns
David Collier	Phillip Harwell
Una King Currier	Matt Poff
Susan Cox	Brittany Bates Carter
Gene Carpenter	

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Joy Warner, rm. 94	Alvis McLemore, rm. 107
Flossie Smith, rm. 120	Mattie Murray, rm. 2
Dorothy Draper, rm. 73	Brenda Wilson, rm. 73
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	

Limestone Health Facility:

Robert Beasley, rm. 110 Mot Beasley, rm. 110

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Deanie Britton, Limestone Lodge
Frances Bowers, Limestone Manor
Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison
Bettye Harrison, Traditions
Irene Inman, at home
Virginia Meyer, Shepherd Living, Madison
Stan Stanford, at home
William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison
Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Ross Melvin began his treatments on Wednesday of this past week and will have 3 more treatments this week...

Bob Broadus is now at home after spending several days in the hospital with an infection... **Gayle Ball** had surgery on her metatarsal bone this past week and is at home recovering. She is to return to the doctor on Tuesday...

Barbara Ash came home from the hospital on Thursday after spending the night there while undergoing tests...

Donna Wright continues to take her daily radiation treatments and one weekly chemo treatment in Huntsville...

Ida Nell Griffin's daughter -in-law, Sue Griffin, had surgery in Ohio this past Tuesday and it went well...

Arvid McGuire has ended his treatments.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Ephesus church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with *Wilson Adams* preaching... The *Needmore church* in Haaleyville is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Tuesday. The speaker will be *Larsen Plyler*.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION: On Tuesday, August 20th, the ladies will be giving a birthday lunch at Deer Trail. There is information about this at the entrances.

MEN'S BIBLE CLASS: The *Men's Bible Class*, will meet Monday at 7:00 p.m. at the church building.

NURSING HOME SINGING: Remember the singing on Tuesday evening at 5:30 at the Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care.

AWAY AT SCHOOL: Remember our young people who are continuing their education in college:

- Keenon Currier*, Auburn University
- Clayton Hamm*, University of Alabama-Huntsville
- Griffin Holt*, University of Alabama
- Elizabeth Usery*, Mississippi State University
- Matthew Usery*, University of North Alabama

OUT OF TOWN: **Paul Adcock** was in Ohio last weekend... **Ida Nell Griffin** has been in Ohio this past week for her daughter-in-law's surgery... **Jim Whitt** is in Iowa with his work... **Christian Usery** continues working in Connecticut.

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

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of August 11th:

Sunday:	Bible Classes	154
	Morning Worship	195
	Evening Worship	125
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	111

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, August 18th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Landon Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Larry Tucker
Assisting	Larry Holt
Serving	Roger Hammonds
	Harold Davis
	Danny Johnson.....
	Tim Griswold
Closing Prayer	Keith Hinkle

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Bill Eden
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Larry Tucker
Closing Prayer	Dan Reed

Other Assignments for the week of August 18th:

Ushers.....	Marvin Putman/Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System.....	Will Chumbley

Wednesday, August 21st:

Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Bible Reading	Danny Johnson
	Titus 2:1-10
Prayer.....	Marty Adams
Invitation	Nathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer	Harvey Nixon

Sunday, August 25th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Bonnie Sutton
Preaching.....	
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harvey Nixon
Assisting	Terry Andrews
Serving	Will Chumbley.....
	Russ Wulfekuhl
	Nathaniel Adams..
	Charlles Vaughn
Closing Prayer	Dwaine Allfrey

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Russell Melvin
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Harvey Nixon
Closing Prayer	Jerry McGlocklin

Other Assignments for the week of August 25th:

Ushers.....	Steve Bradley/Danny Holt
Work Sound System.....	Marty Adams