

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

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

David A. Cox.....(256) 233-8910
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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.

David A. Cox, Editor

Volume XI

September 15, 2019

No. 37

Gospel Meeting

September 15 – 18

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:45 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Monday -- Wednesday

7:00 p.m.

Speaker: Johnny Felker

MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

514 West Market Street

Athens, Alabama

Baptism: Its Purpose

David A. Cox

“And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord” (Acts 22:16).

There are two general views about the purpose of baptism. One view is that baptism has absolutely nothing to do with salvation, but is a public proclamation of one’s faith. This view is often stated as “an outward sign of an inward grace.” The second view is that baptism is not only essential for obedience, but is directly connected to man’s salvation. Obviously, these two views stand in direct conflict with the other. What does the Bible teach concerning the purpose of baptism?

First, notice what Peter taught by inspiration about baptism. Jesus connected baptism and salvation just prior to his ascension into heaven when he told his disciples to go “and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved” (Mark 16:15-16). In Acts 2, Peter, just days later, told the audience after being convicted of their sins of crucifying Christ, “Repent, and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38). Peter clearly states here that baptism was to remit or bring about the forgiveness of their sins. Peter, in writing his first epistle, makes a connection between baptism and salvation when he spoke of Noah. Noah did all that God commanded him to do (Genesis 6:22) and built an “ark to saving of his house” (Hebrews 11:7). Peter then says that this is, “The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 3:21). Notice Peter describes the deliverance of Noah and his family from the flood as even baptism now saves us. This is done at baptism because:

- Our sins are “washed away” or remitted (Acts 22:16; Acts 2:38).
- The old man of sin is put to death and we arise as a new man in Christ (Romans 6:4-6).
- One enters a new relationship in Christ (Galatians 3:26-27).
- In this new relationship one is taken from the kingdom of darkness, translated into the kingdom of God’s dear Son (Colossians 1:13).

In baptism, the Bible teaches that one should not be concerned about the “outward sign”, but “the answer

of a good conscience toward God” (1 Peter 3:21b). Baptism is the point in which we are added to the body of Christ, brought into a relationship with God and saved from our sins.

Let us remember that when it come to baptism that we need to make sure that we do not align ourselves with what man says, but with what God has said. Man needs salvation from sin and God has done all for man that He can do. Man must completely place his trust in God and submit completely to his will.



Comfort for the Depressed

Johnny Felker

In 2 Corinthians 1, Paul discusses what must have been one of the lowest points in his life, a time filled with deep feelings of anxiety and despair. He reports that in Asia he was “burdened excessively, beyond... strength” so that he “despaired even of life”, having the “sentence of death” within himself (2 Corinthians 1:8-9). He spoke of how he had “no rest” for his spirit, how he was “afflicted on every side”, “conflicts without, fears within” (2 Corinthians 7:5). Have you ever felt this way? Have you known this kind of pressure? As Paul reflected upon his sufferings he made several observations that will help each of us when we go through similar times of suffering.

Suffering causes us to trust in God rather than ourselves. “For indeed we have the sentence of death within ourselves in order that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead” (2 Corinthians 1:9). How powerfully suffering reminds us of our human weakness! Our inability to remove suffering points to the need to trust in God. How hard it is for us to learn that lesson! Often we have to be put flat of our back before we start looking up!

Suffering prompts us to pray. Paul had learned what a great help prayer was in suffering. He reminded the Corinthians that deliverance from his afflictions could be found through their prayers (2 Corinthians 1:11). In chapter 12, when he spoke of his thorn in the flesh he mentions how he prayed repeatedly to the Lord. And so

we are encouraged to do: "Is any among you suffering? Let him pray!" (James 5:13).

God has the power to deliver us from suffering. In contrast to man's weakness Paul describes God as one who can "raise the dead" (2 Corinthians 1:9). He who can raise one from death can also deliver one from it. In this assurance Paul affirmed that God had not only delivered him in the past but would do so in the future in keeping with his will (2 Corinthians 1:10-11)!

God has the power to strengthen us while suffering! Not all God's comfort comes through the removal of that which makes us suffer. When Paul prayed for relief from his "thorn" (2 Corinthians 12) God said, "My grace is sufficient for you" (2 Corinthians 12:9). To know that we are Christians, that we have the hope of heaven, that we live in his favor provides sufficient strength to endure for Christ's sake whatever may be our lot in life. "For momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison..." (2 Corinthians 4:17).

Our sufferings make it possible for us to comfort others in their afflictions. Paul hoped to comfort others in their afflictions just as God had comforted him (II Corinthians 1:4). What a great attitude he had! Rather than complain about his problems, he rejoiced that they provided him with the power and compassion to help others who faced similar circumstances. Who can be a better comforter to the suffering than the one who has experienced suffering and overcame it?

From the day Paul rose from baptism to serve Christ (Acts 9:18; 22:16), he learned as Jesus had foretold "how many things he must suffer for My name's sake." And yet in them all, Paul kept the faith. Throughout his life, he demonstrated unswerving commitment to Christ and patient hope of living with Him someday. All of us can have that same hope — that whatever life may bring, God will be there to help us remain faithful and to deliver us to a world where pain does not exist. Be comforted by this promise.

~via *La Vista Church*, Omaha, Nebraska.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Brenda Eden Gina Werka
Albert Haraway Beverly Sutton

Arvid McGuire Helen Blankenship
Gayle Ball Kenia Adams
Loretta Warner JoAnn Gilbert
Doris Lovell Bobbie Adcock
Ann Bush Lloyd Adams
Yvonne Strickland Richard Wufekuhl

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Donna Wright 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 Gene Carpenter
Brittany Bates Carter Denny Smith

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Ann Bush; Athens-Limestone Hosp. – No Visitors
Norman Hamm; Millenium - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

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

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:

Brenda Eden is recovering from some oral-surgery she had... *Beverly Sutton* is having her medications adjusted.

MEN'S BIBLE CLASS: The *Men's Bible Class*, met this past Monday evening and the next meeting will be *October 14th* at 7:00 in the East Auditorium. We will be studying "*Eternity and Today*."

LADIES' BIBLE CLASS: The *Ladies Bible Class* that meets monthly on Monday night will resume meeting

in October.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES' CLASS: The *Ladies Bible Class* that meets on Tuesday morning will begin meeting the first Tuesday in October in the West Auditorium. On the second Tuesday morning of the month the class meets at the Limestone Manor.

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

ESSIE HARDISON (1921 – 2019): It is with sadness that we note the passing of *sister Essie Hardison*. Sister Hardison passed away on Tuesday morning. She was a longtime member of the Market Street church. Sister Hardison has been unable to attend services for several years and was always glad to hear about the work that the church is doing. May the Lord bless her family at this time. Her visitation was Friday morning at Spry Funeral Home followed by a graveside service at the Athens City Cemetery.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS: There are two September birthdays among our older members. They will be celebrating these birthdays on Tuesday. There is information about this at the entrances.

AWAY AT SCHOOL: Remember our young people who are continuing their education in college:
Keenon Currier, Auburn University
Clayton Hamm, University of North Alabama
Griffin Holt, University of Alabama
Elizabeth Usery, Mississippi State University
Matthew Usery, University of North Alabama

OUT OF TOWN: *The Adams: Nathaniel, Laura and Declan* were in Florida this past weekend and are back home... *The Melvins: Ross and Louise* have been in Gatlinburg, Tennessee this week... *The Melvins: Russell and Ella* have been in Gulf Shores this week... *Mike Ogles* continues to be working in Auburn... *Jim Whitt* returned home from Fort Riley, Kansas on Saturday morning and left this morning to go to Washington for an extended work project... *Marilyn Bradley* is in Houston, Texas.

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 Sept. 8th:*

Sunday: Bible Classes 135
Morning Worship 174
Evening Worship 121

Wednesday:
Bible Classes 104

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, September 15th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Harvey Nixon
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer..... Kenneth Smith
Preaching..... Johnny Felker
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Larry Holt
Assisting Marcus Morris
Serving Landon Adams..... Tommy Burns
..... Kenneth Adams..... Keenon Currier
Closing Prayer Harold Ash

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Harvey Nixon
Song Leader Larry Holt
Prayer..... Larry Mitchell
Preaching..... Johnny Felker
Lord's Supper Larry Holt
Closing Prayer Danny Holt

Other Assignments for the week of September 15th:

Ushers..... Heath Dollar/Danny Johnson
Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, September 18th:

Song Leader Albert Haraway
Bible Reading Dan Reed
..... Philemon 1:1-7
Prayer..... Larry Tucker
Invitation Johnny Felker
Closing Prayer Arvid McGuire

Sunday, September 22nd:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Larry Tucker
Song Leader Albert Haraway
Prayer..... Bill Eden
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Joel Hamm
Assisting Terry Andrews
Serving Landon Adams..... Charles Vaughn
..... Kenneth Adams..... Heath Dollar
Closing Prayer Mike Ogles

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Larry Tucker
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer..... Keith Hinkle
Preaching Song Service
Lord's Supper Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer Kenneth Smith

Other Assignments for the week of September 22nd:

Ushers..... Christian Usery/Steve Bradley
Work Sound System..... Will Chumbley