

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 XI

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No. 48

Double Yellow Lines

Richie Jenkins

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

Evangelist

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

Double yellow lines on the highway mean stay on your side. When we think about that, all that stands between the other person and us are two yellow lines. If one crosses over, there can be tragic consequences. Just two yellow lines and the other persons' willingness to heed the warning, protect us.

Spiritually, we have yellow lines as well. **Yellow lines mean there is a restriction.** We must stay on our side. Our side is strait and narrow (Matthew 7:13-14). We are bound by God's law and our willingness to obey His law. If we cross over the boundary there are serious consequences (1 John. 3:4). Our eternal soul's salvation hangs in the balance.

Consider, as in driving, **when someone crosses over the yellow lines there is an accident and the innocent are hurt.** So it is with sin. When we choose to sin someone who is innocent is hurt. For example, consider the person who commits adultery. Their innocent mate is destroyed. Also, when a man gets drunk and his family does without food because he spent all their money on the bottle, the innocent are hurt. Additionally, when a man gets drunk and he comes home and beats his wife and children, the innocent are hurt. By the same token, when a drunk hits another head on, the innocent are hurt. Similarly, when a parent abuses a child, the innocent are hurt. Likewise, when a man beats his wife, the innocent are hurt. Therefore, the person crossing the yellow line may walk away from the accident but the innocent do not. It may take months, if not years, before the innocent are ever fully recovered. Some don't. No one escapes the hurt of sin, neither the guilty nor the innocent.

Further, **just as the yellow lines were meant to keep us on our side of the road, therefore safe, so does God give us His law.** His law is called the perfect law of liberty (James. 1:25). Liberty is the freedom to act within prescribed restraint. Today's thinking that liberty means we have permission to do what we want to do is false. That is license. For example, God gave us His marriage law for man's good. He who made us knows we operate best when one man is married to one woman for life. The only exception is when one crosses the yellow, that is, commits fornication. Then the in-

nocent has the right to put away that guilty mate and thus remarry (Matt. 19:9). But again, sin, crossing the yellow line, caused the crash. God said, "Stay on your side of the road." Moreover, God has said drunkenness is sin. He did not make us to be drunk. Our bodies were not made that way.

Happiness does not come from crossing the yellow line; only sin, misery, death and destruction. In reality, **our greatest happiness is when we are obedient to God's perfect law which gives us liberty.**

It is important that we realize, that we not only must be careful with our driving, we must, too, be careful with our soul. **Stay on God's side.**

~via *Focus Magazine*; November 2017.



Bible Baptism

Dee Bowman

I am at a loss to explain why the brilliant Bible commentators, in an almost united front, are opposed to baptism as a necessity for the remission of sins. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16). What could that possibly mean except that a man who believes must then be baptized in order to be saved? If I say, "He that goes to the store and brings me a loaf of bread and a gallon of milk shall be rewarded," how would you interpret that? "Well," someone says, it also says that "he that believeth not shall be damned"—nothing about baptism." Now I ask you, does the last part of the verse negate the first part? And would it not be foolish to be baptized when you didn't even believe? To adopt that argument makes Jesus speak against himself.

As a matter of fact, the Bible teaches that baptism is necessary for the forgiveness of sins. In Acts 22:16, Ananias came to Saul and said, "and now why tarriest thou? Arise and be baptized and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." In 1 Peter 3:21, Peter said, "the like figure whereunto baptism doth now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but

the answer of a good conscience before God), by the resurrection from the dead." Peter, in the first recorded sermon on the day of Pentecost, told the people to "repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins..."

What do you do with such passages? Did Ananias, who was chosen of God to preach the gospel to Saul of Tarsus, tell him to do something he did not need do? Did Peter, speaking by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, affirm that baptism was for the remission of sins, when indeed it was not? And did Peter, who was endowed with the Spirit of God (Acts 2:4), call upon the people who heard him to do something that was contrary to the Spirit which prompted him?

Actually, in all nine cases of conversion recorded in the book of Acts of the Apostles, baptism is either directly commanded or necessarily implied as being necessary to salvation. Bible baptism is necessary to salvation.

It needs to be noted, too, that baptism is for believers. Religious groups who "baptize" babies (most of them don't baptize babies at all, they sprinkle them), do so without the authority of the Scriptures. Baptism is never mentioned for non-believers, but for those who have heard and believed the gospel. Notice the passage in Mark 16:16 again. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved," it says. If belief is all that is necessary, then it would be good to take some kind of strong group and go out into the streets and forcibly baptize people so they could be saved. The little babies have nothing at all to say about whether or not they want to be "baptized." Bible baptism is for those who "believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 8:36-37).

Furthermore, Bible baptism is a burial. People have no right to change the word of God to fit their own whims and fancies. Bible baptism is immersion, not sprinkling or pouring. In the story of the conversion of the Ethiopian nobleman, Luke states "And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him" (Acts 8:38). Paul says, in Romans 6:3-4, "Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." The same Apostle, again writing by the inspiration of

the Holy Spirit, said to the Colossians, we are “buried with him by baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead” (2:12). Again, I ask you: what will you do with the passages? Do they state the will of God on the matter of the mode of baptism? Do they give any indication as to how he expects baptism should be administered? Surely we can see that. Bible baptism is immersion; that’s a fact.

These simple statements of Scripture cannot be ignored. That person who takes it upon himself to follow some church’s traditional view on baptism runs risks that are not only dangerous, but absolutely foolish. God emphatically states that every person is responsible for consulting His word to find the means for his salvation from his sins. “Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free,” He says (John 8:32). We must not—put our confidence and trust in the creeds and traditions of men. The Bible is the final authority on any religious matter (1 Peter 4:11).

Let us not put our confidence in human wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:18-24). Human creeds serve only to divide, confuse, and make trouble. The word of God is sufficient and is without any need for addition or subtraction (2 Timothy 3:16-17); in fact, will tolerate none (Galatians 1:6-9). That word tells us what God expects, not what men have devised. It tells us His way (Isaiah 55:8-9). We should be dubious of any doctrine or practice for which we cannot find a “thus saith the Lord.”

~via *Southside church of Christ*; Pasadena, Texas.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Gina Werka	Bonita Dollar
Arvid McGuire	Margaret Carter
Bill Eden	Helen Blankenship
Beverly Sutton	Minnie Carter
JoAnn Gilbert	Bobbie Adcock
Loretta Warner	Doris Lovell
Alvis McLemore	Yvonne Strickland

Ann Bush

Lloyd Adams

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
Carrie Warner	

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Mattie Murray, rm. 2	Dorothy Draper, rm. 73
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Johnnie Leigeber, rm. 121
Brenda Wilson, rm. 73	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Connie Brock, rm. 62

Limestone Health Facility:

Mot Beasley, rm. 105 Alice Roberson, rm. 49

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Elease Barksdale, Limestone Lodge
 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:

Gina Werka was not able to be at services last week due to kidney stones...*Bonita Dollar* had surgery on her back Monday and is recovering ...*Ross Melvin* fell this past Wednesday morning and hit his forehead and knee. He went to doctor repair the injuries. He is scheduled to go to the doctor and get things set up for his treatments...*Bill Eden* has been sick and unable to be at services this week...*Minnie Carter* continues to wear a brace for two more weeks ... *Kim Rogers niece, Carrie Warner*, is continuing treatments for cervical cancer.

PICTURES: We are needing to finish the process of making and updating pictures of everyone for the Mar-

ket Street directory. If you have not had your picture made yet or have not updated it, please do so this week or next. Pictures will be made in room 20 in the east wing after services.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES' CLASS: The *Ladies Bible Class* meets on Tuesday morning in the West Auditorium. They will only meet the month of December at Limestone Manor on December 10th. They will resume their regular weekly meetings on Tuesday, January 7th.

HOLIDAY PARTY: The Annual Holiday party and potluck is scheduled for **December 13th at 7:00p.m.** It will be at the *Deer Trail Clubhouse*. There are sheets with information located at the entrance of the building.. If you have any questions, you can see *Marilyn Bradley* or *Marcella Coblentz*.

DAVID TERRY (1943 – 2019): We need to continue to remember the family of *David Terry* who passed away last Friday. His memorial service was conducted at the Market Street building this past Friday morning.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Delmer Carter and all the family* in the passing of Delmer's brother-in-law, *Joe Laxson*, this past Thursday. There will a graveside service this afternoon at 2:00 at the Bethel Cemetery.

MEN'S BIBLE CLASS: The *Men's Bible Class* will meet Monday night, December 16th at 7:00p.m.

OUT OF TOWN: *Evelyn Stitt* was in Birmingham last weekend for a funeral of a cousin ... *Mike Ogles* is back from Germany this weekend, but will be leaving for France this week ... *The Parks: Charles, Maredith, Aahtron & Harper* are in St. Louis, Missouri... *Nancy Hardison* is in North Carolina.... *Christian Usery* is in Long Beach, California with his work.

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 Nov. 24th:*

Sunday:	Bible Classes	142
	Morning Worship	183
	Evening Worship	124
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	100

December Ladies' Bible Study at Kerry Cox's House

Monday, December 2nd at 6:00 p.m.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, December 1st:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Terry Andrews
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harold Ash
Assisting	Hunter Cox
Serving	Roger Hammonds Danny Holt
.....	Marvin Putman Nathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Smith

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Prayer.....	Landon Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Harold Ash
Closing Prayer	Dan Reed

Other Assignments for the week of December 1st:

Ushers.....	Larry Mitchell/Marvin Putman
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt

Wednesday, December 4th:

Song Leader	Bob Broadus
Bible Reading	Danny Johnson
.....	Hebrews 5:12-14
Prayer.....	Dwaine Allfrey
Invitation	David Cox
Closing Prayer	Arvid McGuire

Sunday, December 8th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Marty Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harvey Nixon
Assisting	Larry Mitchell
Serving	Roger Hammonds Harold Davis
.....	Danny Johnson Clayton Hamm
Closing Prayer	Mike Ogles

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Dan Reed
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Harvey Nixon
Closing Prayer	Harold Ash

Other Assignments for the week of December 8th:

Ushers.....	Dwaine Allfrey/Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System.....	Landon Adams