

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 XV

March 5, 2023

No. 10

Sowing To The Wind

David A. Cox

"They sow the wind, and reap the whirlwind." — (Hosea 8:7a).

Israel was cursed with corruption, and the fruits of idolatry were clearly seen in their life. Hosea is a prophet of God told to prophesy to Israel. God loved Israel, but Israel is described as having "no truth or mercy or knowledge of God in the land. By swearing and lying and committing adultery, They break all restraint, with bloodshed upon bloodshed" (Hosea 4:1-2). What a dire description of a people who should have known God. In describing the apostasy of Israel makes the statement, "They sow the wind and reap the whirlwind." God's point to Israel is that you have sown folly, vanity, and sin. You will receive disappointment, emptiness, and destruction! Let us consider what these ten northern tribes had done.

A Lack of Knowledge. "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hosea 4:6). The charge is not that they did not have worldly wisdom, for Ephraim began to build alliances with the nations around them. They relied on other nations and not on God. The pursuit of acceptance from others caused Israel to not read, study and pursue growth in the knowledge of God and His will. Today, as the people of God, we must grow in the knowledge of the scriptures. The appeals are plentiful in scripture: "Be diligent to present yourself approve of God" (2 Timothy 2:15); "As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow" (1 Peter 2:2); "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). Many often want to let their emotions guide them as to how they see their spiritual maturity. Israel may have felt very good, but their emotions and feelings did not stop their destruction. If we neglect to study and grow in our knowledge of God's word, then we are sowing to the wind and are open to destruction.

Trusted in the Wrong Sources for Help. Israel faced times when they should have looked to God but did not.

1. Israel joined themselves to idols (Hosea 4:17).
2. Israel relying upon the need for help, turned to Assyria for help

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..... 6:30 p.m.

Elders

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 503-8843
Tommy Coblenz..... (256) 232-3312
Kenneth Smith..... (256) 777-6737

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
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Market Street church.*

David A. Cox, Editor

(Hosea 5:13).

3. Israel trusted in the multitude of mighty men among them (Hosea 10:13).

What a shame for Israel to be seen in these three cases. The folly of idolatry should have been apparent in their minds. In the time of need, Israel should have immediately known that they should turn and rely on God. Israel should have known that their nation's power was not due to the mighty men among them but in the power of God, who had been with them in the past. We must learn from Israel that our trust must be in God. We are His people, and He is our God.

What a tragedy for the ten northern tribes of Israel to fail when they should not have. Let us learn to not sow to the wind; it may be easier often, but it can lead to our destruction. Let us grow in the knowledge of God's word, and increase our faith trusting in Him always.



The Self-Emptying of Jesus

T. Doy Moyer

One of the most intriguing, discussed, and challenging texts in Scripture is found in the statement made by Paul in Philippians 2:5-8:

“Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”

This is said to be the mind or attitude of Christ (v. 5) and is set forth as the example for disciples to follow (vv. 3-4). This shows an attitude of humble submission, putting aside any selfish ambition, and putting others before self. If Christians do not follow this example, they do not have the mind of Jesus and are missing what discipleship is all about. It is certainly a challenge

because it is the very point at which (likely) most of us struggle. Self keeps getting in the way, and I doubt I'm overstating it to say that all of us can do far better than we do.

Jesus Christ's self-denial is monumental due to His own identity as God manifest in the flesh. Part of Paul's point is to say that if Jesus, who is God, could empty Himself and put others first, who do we think we are when we act in our own selfish interests? We have no inherent claim over others, yet the God who created us all and who does inherently own our lives was willing to set Himself aside to die so that we might live. What amazing grace! How do we begin to wrap our minds around what He did?

I often like to point people to the text itself and ask, what does the text specifically say that Jesus emptied himself **Of**? So often when I've done this, I start getting answers back immediately. I might hear terms like “glory,” “power,” or “the form of God.” I will then ask them to actually put their eyes on the text to answer the question. What does it say Jesus emptied himself **Of**? Look again.

Notice that it does not say he emptied himself **Of** anything. It says He emptied **Himself**. That is a huge difference. He was not just giving something of himself. He was giving himself. Completely. This is important for helping us understand how we follow His example. When Jesus tells His disciples to deny themselves (Luke 9:23), He was not telling them to deny themselves **Of** things. He was telling them to deny themselves. The Lord does not just want things from us; He wants us. Completely.

The self-emptying of Jesus is highlighted by the fact that He is by very nature God. He was not denying his divine nature by going to the cross. He was, however, showing the kind of God whom we serve. While the wages of sin are death (Romans 6:23), Jesus took the wages upon Himself in a way that likely goes beyond our full understanding. This coincides with Isaiah 53:12, “He poured out Himself to death.” Why? Because “He Himself bore the sin of many, and interceded for the transgressors.”

In coming to earth, He, being in the form of God, took on the form of the servant. I judge this to be a reference to what we normally call the Suffering Servant for which Isaiah is known (e.g., Isaiah 49, 53). He fulfilled what the Servant was called to do so that He

would be the light to the nations and that “My salvation may reach to the end of the earth” (Isaiah 49:6). Because of what He did, the Servant “will justify the many, as He will bear their iniquities” (Isaiah 53:11). The act of emptying Himself was not just about coming to earth; it was about going to the cross in order to provide justification for His people.

On the practical application, we simply note again Philippians 2:3-4, which teaches us to do what Jesus did. Nothing from selfishness is allowed; others are to come first. We are to seek the mind of Jesus.

The cross was not the end of the story: “For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (vv. 9-11).

We do not exalt ourselves. The Lord is the One who exalts, and as Christ was exalted, so also He promises to glorify His own people. Paul put it this way a chapter later: “For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself” (Philippians 3:20-21).

May God be glorified as we seek the mind of Christ!
~via *McRaven Road church of Christ*; Clinton, Mississippi.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Pat Nixon	James Adams
Mitzi Carruth	Phillip Vaughn
Dan Lovell	Steve Stringer
Helen Blankenship	Shirley Miller
Betty Lovell	Doris Lovell
Buzz Lovell	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Sharon Nave	Priscilla Tucker
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Peggy Pepper	Vicki Stringer
Freddie Mae Elmore	Nikki Ogles
Anita Wheeler	Lona Jackson
Judy Vaughn	Jeanette Weir
Doris Reid	Lloyd Adams
Charles Burns	Cindy Walker
Kenneth Fisher	Al Pollard
Matt Bassford	Sadricia Wilson
Wynell Romine	Anthony Sutton
Jerry Lawrence	Barbara Piper
Henry Fusch	Liz Fusch
Kimberly Pressnell	Tim McGuire

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77	Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
Connie Brock, rm. 62	

Limestone Health Facility:

Marie Nave, rm. 84a	Alice Roberson, rm. 49
Ann Bush, rm. 75	

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Nell Barksdale; at home
 Deanie Britton; Limestone Lodge
 Gwen Bullock; at granddaughter's in Huntsville
 Barbara Carter; Goldton at Athens
 Unaking Currier; Summerford Health, Falkville
 Irene Inman; at home
 Bobby Ogles; Story Point West, Knoxville, Tennessee
 Stan Stanford; Goldton at Athens
 William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison
 Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Vicki Stringer; Athens-Limestone, rm. 204
Bonnie Sutton; Athens-Limestone, rm. 220

Updates:

Dale Adcock fell and broke her elbow on Monday and will need to wear a cast for 4 weeks...*Mitzi Carruth's* back surgery was rescheduled to April...*Vicki Stringer's* potassium very low was taken to the hospital on Friday...*Kebyn Currier* has been to the doctors concerning his stress test they are not planning anything at this time...Remember our expecting mother, *Laura Adams*, in your prayers.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE DRILL: Remember the Children's Bible Drill this afternoon at 4:45 before our evening service. I hope all of our children can come and participate in this time of instruction and learning.

PICTURES: Have you had your picture made? We continue to make and update photos of everyone for the Market Street directory. Please plan to get your picture

made in the next few weeks.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Tuckers:* Larry & Theresa are in Kansas City, Kansas this weekend visiting with Tyler and Angelique... *The Coblentz:* Tommy & Marcella have been in Auburn this past week.

THE FLOWER FUND: There is a flower fund maintained by the members of the Market Street church for the sending of flowers and plants to families during periods of bereavement. If you would like to participate in this work, please contribute your money to *Ida Nell Griffin*, who looks after this fund.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Jackson Drive church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The speaker in this meeting will be *E. R. Hall*... The *Brookhill church* in Killen is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Jared Hagan*... The *West-view church* in Hartselle is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Frank Himmel*.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL SINGING: Remember the Annual Singing was recorded again this year, both video and audio recordings. If you would like a recording, please fill out a Member's Card and tell us what kind of recording and the number of recordings you would like. Leave the Member's Card in the holder at the end of the pew next to the aisle.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of Feb. 26th:

Sunday:	Bible Classes.....	124
	Morning Worship.....	157
	Evening Worship.....	113
Wednesday:	Bible Classes.....	83



Gospel Meeting

April 16-19, 2023

(Sunday through Wednesday)

Schedule of Services

Sunday 9:45 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
Monday through Wednesday - 7:00 p.m.

Jeff May, Speaking

**MARKET STREET
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, March 5th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Kenneth Smith
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Joel Hamm
Assisting	Terry Andrews
Serving	Danny Johnson..... Ronnie Locke
.....	Hayden Pierce..... Matthew Usery
Closing Prayer	Landon Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Griffin Holt
Prayer.....	Jerry Baker
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer	Bob Broadus
Other Assignments for the week of March 5 th :	
Usher	Tommy Coblentz/Larry Mitchell
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt

Wednesday, March 8th:

Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Bible Reading.....	Heath Dollar
.....	(Acts 6:1-15)
Prayer.....	Hayden Pierce
Invitation.....	Marty Adams
Closing Prayer	Danny Holt

Sunday, March 12th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Harvey Nixon
Song Leader	Stephen Lynn
Prayer.....	Bob Broadus
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harold Ash
Assisting	Larry Snell
Serving	Nathaniel Adams..... Luke Vaughn
.....	Matthew Vaughn... Christian Usery
Closing Prayer	Roger Hammonds

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Harvey Nixon
Song Leader	Clayton Hamm
Prayer.....	Marty Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Harold Ash
Closing Prayer	Landon Adams
Other Assignments for the week of March 12 th :	
Usher	Tommy Coblentz/Marvin Putman
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews