

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

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No. 11

God's Demonstration of His Love

David A. Cox

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" — (Romans 5:8).

Paul makes a most remarkable and profound statement as he writes about God's love for man to the Romans. Have you ever considered what God did to demonstrate His love for us? We may often consider the creation as a demonstration of God's love for us. Indeed, the creation is a marvelous gift of God to man. But the supreme demonstration of God's love for us is clearly seen in the gift of His Son. Imagine how God was grieved to offer His Son to be beaten, whipped, and hung on a Roman cross to allow us to live with Him. That is indeed a supreme demonstration of His love. Let us consider things that were necessary for God to do this.

The Necessity of the Cross. The problem for man was his sin. Sin was the separator between God and man (Isaiah 59:1-2). Paul describes the condition of man as "For while we were still weak..." (Romans 5:6). Why is man weak? Because he is guilty of sin. Paul said, "There is none righteous, no, not one" or, "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:10, 23). The life of perfection is not where man is, and God knows it. But God's tremendous love for man caused Him to offer His own Son as the sacrifice for our sins due to our weakness. We should live looking to the cross and the demonstration of love that God showed for us to be forgiven of our sins and be saved. The cross was a necessity for God to save us. How that should motivate us in our lives to live for Christ.

The Surprise of the Cross. It is the surprise of the cross that we cannot understand. Paul states the thought of men, saying, "For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die" (Romans 5:7). God who can do all things, possessing all power, having all knowledge, why could there not be another way to save us than God becoming man and hanging on the cross in my place. The thought of the cross is a surprise in every way. But we often

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
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MARKET STREET MESSENGER

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Market Street church.*

David A. Cox, Editor

put ourselves in God's place, and we do not see the vast depth of His love for us. Time and again, we sin and fall short of what God expects of us, but as we turn back to God, He forgives us. Why does God do that? Because of His love demonstrated at the cross and the price paid at the cross for us.

The Demonstration of the Cross. The cross is a full demonstration of God's love. We may say we love our spouses, children, families, and brethren, but stating it does not demonstrate it. We demonstrate our love by showing it in our actions toward those we love. God showed His love for us by sending His Son to die on the cross. God demonstrated His toward us at the cross and now demonstrates His love through us. As the love of the cross transforms us, we allow the world to see the love of God in our response to life. How we treat our families, those we work with, and our brothers and sisters in Christ demonstrates to the world the love of God. Life is rough and unfair, but the love of God does not diminish for us, and we can demonstrate it to the world.

May we see the demonstration of God's love and humbly submit our lives to His service.



A Hairy Reminder

Roger Shouse

A person between the ages of 20—30 has about 615 hair follicles per square centimeter. A person 50 years of age has around 485 hair follicles per square centimeter. Typically, most people have somewhere between 100,000—150,000 hairs on their head. By the way, the average hair loss for an individual is 50—100 hairs per day. As a result, there is no way you can tell accurately how many hairs you have (in fact, unless you are going bald, most of us don't really care). But God knows.

Jesus said: "Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? And yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Therefore do not fear; you are of more value than many sparrows" (Matthew 10:29-31). This passage reveals three interesting truths.

First, God knows more about us than we know about us. That is a humbling thought. When we sometimes feel like no one understands us or grasps our situation, we forget that God does. God knows your personality. God knows your strengths. God knows what motivates you. God knows when you stumble. God knows what you like and don't like. God knows the real you. Therefore, when God declares something worthwhile, He knows what He is talking about. When God warns about danger, He knows what He is talking about. When God tells us that we should do something, we need to do it, because He knows us better than we know ourselves.

God is a God of detail. How insignificant are hairs and sparrows to us. Yet God is aware of them. He is a God of details. The motives, attitudes and heart behind our actions are as important to Him as the actions themselves. It does little good to give, if you have left out the detail of being a cheerful giver. Singing fails if we neglect thankfulness in our heart. Let us be a people of details, as God is.

God cares about you. This is why Jesus referred to sparrows and hair. We are of value to Him. Christ was not sent to save the whales, the environment, or the endangered species, but mankind. Man has value! Stress and worry often make us wonder if God cares. These two simple illustrations remind us that He does.

~via *Northside Bulletin*; Jonesboro, Arkansas.



How Edom Lost, But Won

Kenny L. Chumbley

"Amaziah . . . did what was right . . . but not with a loyal heart" — (2 Chronicles 25:1,2)

When Edom posed a threat to Judah, King Amaziah did what a king should do: he raised an army to meet the threat, which included 100,000 mercenaries from the northern kingdom of Israel. When a prophet brought word from God that the northerners were not to go with Judah to the fight—who needs Israel when God is on your side (25:7–8)?!—Amaziah sent the Israelites home.

Leading only his Judeans, Amaziah won a great victory over the Edomites in the Valley of Salt (somewhere in the vicinity of Petra).

But then we read, "Now it was so, after Amaziah came from the slaughter of the Edomites, that he brought the gods of the people of Seir, set them up to be his gods, and bowed down before them and burned incense to them" (25:14). On the opponent's home turf (the Valley of Salt, Petra) and against all odds, Judah won the game going away. Then they hire Edom's coach. Does it get more insane than that?

The Chinese have a saying that in war, enemies tend to swap vices. And it's true: in fighting an evil we can easily become evil. Amaziah crushed Edom's army but adopted Edom's gods. And the reason they did is revealed in the second verse: Amaziah did right, but his heart wasn't in it, and eventually, what was in his heart came out. It doesn't matter if we've conquered paganism on the battlefield if paganism has penetrated and conquered our heart.

God enabling, I want to go to Obadiah next week and talk about the Edomites' sin that led to their crushing defeat.

~via *Gibson City church of Christ*; Gibson City, Illinois.

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:

Robert Nance; Oklahoma City, Okla., ICU

Updates:

Harvey Nixon will soon begin a regiment of treatment using Proton Therapy for his prostate cancer. The treatment is designed to eliminate a single metastatic cancer site to prevent further spread of the cancer. The cancer treatment center is in Franklin, Tennessee and there will be 25 treatments over a 5 week period. Harvey plans to begin driving back and forth each day for the treatments as long as it is possible. Please keep Harvey in your prayers...***Dale Adcock*** is scheduled to go back to the doctor in 4 weeks and will schedule surgery on her elbow...***Mitzi Carruth's*** back surgery is scheduled for April 3rd...***Steve Stringer*** was admitted to the hospital last weekend and was released on Friday...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.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Steve Stringer	Jennifer Threet
Harold & Barb Ash	Tommy & Marcella Coblentz
Pat Nixon	James Adams
Mitzi Carruth	Phillip Vaughn
Dan Lovell	Vicki Stringer
Helen Blankenship	Shirley Miller
Betty Lovell	Doris Lovell
Buzz Lovell	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Sharon Nave	Priscilla Tucker
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

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES' CLASS: The Ladies' Bible class will meet on Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. They are studying "*The Parables of Jesus.*"

SYMPATHY: We are saddened to learn of the passing of *Shelia Barrett* on Saturday morning. Shelia's health diminished rapidly in the last couple months. We have missed her presence with us. The arrangements are incomplete at this time. We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Steve & Allison Usery, and all the family* in the passing of Shelia... We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Barbara Ash and all the family*, in the passing of Barb's brother, *Stephen Bassitt*, this past Thursday morning. There will be a memorial service later in the spring.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Anderson church* in Anderson is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Drew Edwards*... The *Ardmore church* in Ardmore is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Lowell Sallee*.

AWAY FROM US: Some of our people are away from home. Keep them in your prayers.

Kenneth Adams is in Auburn for school.

Keenon Currier is stationed in Monterey, California.

Addison Holt is in Birmingham for school.

Christian Usery is in Birmingham for work.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of March 5th:

Sunday: Bible Classes 123
 Morning Worship 149
 Evening Worship 122
 Wednesday: Bible Classes 105



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 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 12th:
 Usher Tommy Coblenz/Marvin Putman
 Work Sound System..... Terry Andrews

Wednesday, March 15th:

Song Leader Griffin Holt
 Bible Reading..... Larry Snell
 (Acts 7:1-16)
 Prayer..... Joel Hamm
 Invitation..... Christian Usery
 Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Sunday, March 19th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
 Song Leader Larry Holt
 Prayer..... Dan Reed
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Tommy Coblenz
 Assisting Jerry Baker
 Serving Harold Davis Sam Gregory
 Matthew Usery..... Charles Vaughn
 Closing Prayer Kenneth Smith

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
 Song Leader Albert Haraway
 Prayer..... Marcus Morris
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper Tommy Coblenz
 Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams
 Other Assignments for the week of March 19th:
 Usher Tommy Coblenz/Danny Johnson
 Work Sound System..... Russ Wulfekuhl