

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..... 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

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 XV

June 18, 2023

No. 25

Come Join Us For Our

Vacation Bible School

Classes from Infant through High School will be studying the theme:

Lost and Found

June 26 - 29

(Monday through Thursday)
10:00 a.m. to 11:25 a.m.

Speakers for the Week In the Auditorium Adult Class:

- Monday 10:00 a.m. – Frank Himmel
Tuesday 10:00 a.m. – Clay Gentry
Wednesday 10:00 a.m. – Greg Chandler
Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Daniel Tucker
Thursday 10:00 a.m. – Jeff Henderson

MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

514 West Market Street
Athens, Alabama

The Gift of Salvation Is Conditional

David A. Cox

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

In writing to the Romans, Paul refers to eternal life as "the gift of God." Many conclude from this verse that salvation is unconditional. The thought is, "why would it be called a 'gift' if there are conditions connected to it?" Paul does indeed use the word "gift," but notice he does not say that eternal life is an unconditional gift. Consider a couple of examples in scripture about the gift of salvation.

The Sermon on the Mount. In this sermon, Jesus spoke of those who would enter the kingdom of heaven. He said, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21). It is clear that Jesus says to enter the kingdom of heaven something must be done; the Father's will. This means the gift has some conditions that must be met to enter the kingdom of heaven or receive eternal life.

Paul's Letter to the Ephesians. In Ephesians 2:8, Paul mentions again the gift of salvation that we receive by the grace of God. The gift is not due to works of merit or something owed to us. Still, it is a gift from God (Ephesians 2:9). In verse 10, Paul continues, "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God has prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." Paul is saying the gift of salvation is coupled with "good works" that God has appointed for us to do.

What We Must Conclude. From the previous passages, it is clear that there are conditions that God has ordained for men. What are these conditions that God has given for man to do?

1. Believe. In John 6:40, Jesus said, "And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son of man and believes in Him may have everlasting life." Jesus also said, "if you believe not that I am He, you will die in your sins" (John 8:24). John said, concerning the things that are written in the gospel record, "And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples...but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have

life in His name." It is evident that to receive the gift of God, one has to believe.

2. **Belief Will Lead One to Action.** Believing something and not acting on it will not help you. James said, "The devils believe and tremble" (James 2:19), but surely we know they did not receive the gift of salvation. Faith will bring one to change and respond to the offer of salvation. The devils did not do that. An example of this faith and action is observed in Acts 2. The Jews gathered at Jerusalem and heard Peter preach the gospel to them. Peter proclaimed, "...let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God has made this Jesus, whom you have crucified, both Lord and Christ." At this point, the Jews that heard believed the preaching of Peter and cried out, asking what they should do. Peter responded, saying, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38). Peter told them to receive forgiveness of sins and the gift of salvation, conditions must be met. Based on their belief and confession of faith, the conditions were to repent and be baptized for the remission of sins. On that day, three thousand responded in obedience and were baptized for the remission of their sins.

Salvation is an exceedingly great gift that God has given to man. When one hears, believes, repents, confesses, and is baptized, he has complied with the conditions that God desires man to do. Let each of us respond to receive the gift of salvation and then live each day faithfully serving Him.



Communion for June

Communion Bread — Lisa Wulfekuhl
Communion Cups — Danny Holt

Social Injustice

Mark W. White

God is absolutely concerned with Social Justice. Moses penned, “*You shall not oppress a hired worker who is poor and needy, whether he is one of your brethren or one of the sojourners who are in your land...you shall give him his wages on the same day, before the sun sets (for he is poor and counts on it), lest he cry against you to the Lord, and you be guilty of sin...*” (Deuteronomy 24:14-17). The prophets proclaimed vigorously that failure to treat the poor fairly made worship vain. Amos’ words are typical of such concern: “*Hear this, you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, saying, ‘When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, that we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and sell the chaff of the wheat?’*” (Amos 8:4-6). He went on to quote God saying, “*I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them ...but let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream*” (Amos 5:21-24). A criterion of final judgment will be whether or not we feed the hungry, clothe the naked and take care of the sick (Matthew 25:31-46). The New Testament clearly condemns as sin prejudice and discrimination based on race or material wealth (Acts 10:34; Jas. 2:1-9). Therefore, it is Biblical to preach against such mistreatments among people and to teach employers to be fair with their employees.

So are we preaching the “social gospel” when we do so? Not at all. Then what is the difference between social justice and the social gospel? Well, the social gospel is an incomplete message, leaving out absolute essentials. The social gospel does not preach God’s loving gift of His Son as our propitiation for sin. It rightly recognizes racism and social injustice as wrong, but the social gospel never warns of personal sins or of the people’s need of redemption. It does not proclaim salvation by grace through faith, nor the necessity of repentance and baptism into Christ. It is “social,” but it is not “spiritual.”

It is “a different gospel” (Galatians 1:6-9).

Jesus crucified on the cross was the heart and core of Paul’s preaching (1 Corinthians 15:1-4). Apostolic sermons centered on the resurrection of Christ, calling for repentance and reconciliation with God. If we preach the true Gospel, we address the causes of all human ills.

~via *Cy-fair Family News & Notes*; Cypress, Texas.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Angie Hinkle	Doris Fisher
Ronnie Locke	Paul Adcock
Jeanette Weir	Steve Stringer
Pat Nixon	James Adams
Dan Lovell	Helen Blankenship
Shirley Miller	Doris Lovell

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Harvey Nixon	Sharon Nave
Priscilla Tucker	Peggy Pepper
Vicki Stringer	Anita Wheeler
Nikki Ogles	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	Henry Fusch
Liz Fusch	Kimberly Pressnell
Tim McGuire	Wynell Romine

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77	Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
Connie Brock, rm. 62	Auteen Campbell, rm. 96

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:

Frank Melton; Lifecare Center — Ooltewah, rm. 116
Sheridan Goodwin; St. Louis, Missouri

Updates:

Ronnie Locke continues his recovery and rehabilitation following his surgery... **Angie Hinkle** is improving but is still experiencing low energy levels... **Jeanette Weir** continues her recovery at home... 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 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.

GOSPEL MEETINGS/VBS: The **Jackson Drive church** is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Friday night. The speaker in this meeting is **Phillip Owens**... The **Hickory Heights church** in Lewisburg, Tennessee begin their Gospel Meeting/ Vacation Bible School today and it will continue through Friday evening. **Lowell Sallee** will be the speaker in this meeting... The **Tri-Cities church** in Muscle Shoals is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening. **Nick Woods** will be the speaker in this meeting.

OUT OFTOWN: **The Hamms:** *Joel, Sharma, Clayton & Ragan* have been in Florida on vacation... **Wanda Nave** is in Arizona... **Danny Johnson** is in Arizona... **The Coxes:** *David & Kerry* are in Monterey, California this weekend for the gospel meeting. They will return on Thursday.

THE RECORD: *Attendance Average for May:*

Sunday: Bible Classes 125
 Morning Worship 154
 Evening Worship 115

Wednesday: Bible Classes 84

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Morning at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evening at 6:30 p.m.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, June 18th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Tommy Coblenz
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Larry Mitchell
Preaching.....	Hunter Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Stephen Lynn
Assisting.....	Harold Ash
Serving	Heath Dollar Matthew Vaughn
.....	Ronnie Locke Roger Hammonds
Closing Prayer	Dan Reed

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Tommy Coblenz
Song Leader	Clayton Hamm
Prayer.....	Larry Tucker
Preaching.....	Nathaniel Adams
Lord's Supper	Stephen Lynn
Closing Prayer	Bob Broadus
Other Assignments for the week of June 18 th :	
Usher	Larry Mitchell/Danny Johnson
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt

Wednesday, June 21st:

Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Bible Reading	Russ Wulfekuhl (Acts 11:1-18)
Prayer.....	Terry Andrews
Invitation	Harvey Nixon
Closing Prayer	Bob Broadus

Sunday, June 25th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Marty Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harvey Nixon
Assisting.....	Marcus Morris
Serving	Griffin Holt Charles Vaughn
.....	Marvin Putman Harold Davis
Closing Prayer	Christian Usery

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Landon Adams
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Marcus Morris
Closing Prayer	Hayden Pierce
Other Assignments for the week of June 25 th :	
Usher	Russ Wulfekuhl/Tommy Coblenz
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews