

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

July 23, 2023

No. 30

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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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

"You Are The Man!"

David A. Cox

"Nathan, said to David, 'You are the man!'" — (2 Samuel 12:7)

In 2 Samuel 12, Nathan confronts David for the sins he had committed and tries desperately to cover up. Nathan makes it very clear to David that he is the man who is responsible. We have become a society of victims. Today, people will not accept personal responsibility for the wrongs they commit in life. It is rare to hear someone say to another, "I am sorry, I was wrong or I have sinned. Will you forgive me?" The unwillingness to accept responsibility for our wrongs, sins presents a real problem in having a relationship with God. Blaming others or claiming to be the victim of circumstances is unacceptable to God. Everyone needs to accept responsibility for their actions. They must admit their failure and take corrective action so that God will be pleased.

Casting Blame On Others

In Genesis 3, the first sin was committed in the Garden of Eden. After eating the forbidden fruit, God called for Adam, who was hiding because he was naked. God then asked, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?" (Genesis 3:11). Adam's response was to blame Eve, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate." God then inquires of Eve, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate" (Genesis 3:12-13). Adam and Eve were asked a question that required a simple "yes" or "no" answer, but Adam and Eve placed the blame on someone rather than on themselves.

Another example is King Saul of Israel. God instructed Saul, "Now go and attack Amalek, and utterly destroy all they have and do not spare them. But kill both man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey" (1 Samuel 15:3). Saul failed in doing what God said, the text records, "But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was good, and were unwilling to utterly destroy them. But everything despised and worthless, that they utterly destroyed" (1 Samuel 15:9). There is no

doubt that Saul disobeyed God's command. However the next day, Samuel, the prophet of God, went to Saul and Saul declared, "I have performed the commandment of the Lord" (1 Samuel 15:13). Samuel replied to Saul, "What then is this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?" (1 Samuel 15:14). Saul's reply was to blame others as he said, "They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and the oxen, to sacrifice to the Lord your God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed" (1 Samuel 15:15). When Saul's claim to obeying God was shown to be wrong, he cast the blame on the people for sparing the Amalekites and not destroying them.

How God Responded To Blaming Others

How did God view Adam, Eve, and Saul for casting the blame on others? In the case of Adam and Eve falling into sin, God still held each of them accountable for their sin, and they suffered the consequences of their actions (Genesis 3:14-24). The response to Saul is the same. God was not pleased with Saul's disobedience, regardless of how he might have reasoned within himself to be justified in his sin. Because of Saul's disobedience, God rejected him as king of Israel (1 Samuel 15:17-24).

The Responsibility God Desires.

The attitude toward sin that God desires is the attitude David displayed when Nathan said, "You are the man." David was the king of Israel and should have been desiring to please God. Rather, he committed the sin of fornication with Bathsheba. The sin resulted in Bathsheba becoming pregnant. David made significant efforts to cover up his sin even to the killing of Uriah and taking Bathsheba to be his wife. The sin of David is unmasked, it is no longer hidden and it really never was to God. What David did is not what Adam, Eve or Saul did. The reaction of David is entirely different. David responded to Nathan saying, "I have sinned against the Lord" (2 Samuel 12:13). Yes, David accepted his responsibility for his sins. David accepted the responsibility for his sin and humbly pleaded for mercy and forgiveness (Psalm 51). What a different reaction!

May we all take the responsibility for our actions as David did and find the forgiveness and spiritual healing we all need. By accepting that we are the one who is responsible for what we do will help us to take the corrective steps to please God."

Remember Our Service at 5:00.

Fellowship: Defined & Experienced

Sean P. Cavender

The biblical word "fellowship" is used in the New Testament in a variety of ways. Generally, it means "an association involving close mutual relations and involvement" (Louw Nida, *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament: Based on Semantic Domains*, 445). Louw Nida also defines fellowship as "one who participates with another in some enterprise or matter of joint concern—'partner, associate, one who joins in with'" (ibid., 446). The Greek term for fellowship is used in Luke 5:10 to describe the business partnership between the sons of Zebedee and Simon Peter.

It is interesting to notice throughout the New Testament the variety of ways and persons with whom Christians have fellowship.

- We have fellowship with God's Son (1 Corinthians 1:9)
- We have fellowship with the Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 13:14)
- We must be in fellowship with the witness of the apostles who were eyewitnesses of the resurrected Christ (1 John 1:3)
- Light must have no fellowship with darkness/ righteousness must have no partnership with lawlessness (2 Corinthians 6:14)
- Fellowship is granted between Christians who agree and teach the same thing (Galatians 2:9)
- Christians are called to join in fellowship with Christ, even in His sufferings (Philippians 3:10)
- Christians are to be partners in the gospel (Philippians 1:5)
- Christians have a sharing and partnership through a financial relationship with those who preach the gospel (Philippians 4:15-16)
- Christians have fellowship and sharing in the body and blood of the Lord through the participation of the Lord's Supper (1 Corinthians 10:16)
- The early church continued in fellowship with each other (Acts 2:42)

We could categorize fellowship into a few broad categories:

- Our relationship with the three members of the

- Godhead (the Father, the Son, and the Spirit)
- Our relationship with the truth of the gospel
- Our partnership with other Christians in sharing the gospel
- Our worship through the joint participatory acts of the Lord's Supper and giving of our means to support the preaching of the gospel
- Our righteous behavior

The psalmist wrote, "we who had sweet fellowship together walked in the house of God in the throng" (Psalm 55:14). Thus, fellowship is a spiritual blessing from God in which we can join with friends and brothers and sisters in the Lord.

~via *Armour of Light*; Wichita, Kansas.

Editors' Note: The above article was written by Brother Sean Cavender. Sean preached for us this past Wednesday night. He told me how much he enjoyed being here and appreciated the encouragement you gave to him. Sean was in Athens for the CEI/Truth Lectures. He spoke on Thursday morning. Sean was leaving the lectures on Thursday night at about 9:30 and was tragically killed as the car he was driving was struck on the driver's side while proceeding with a green light. A worker at CEI told me that as Sean was leaving said, "This has been a great week!" What a picture of the character of Sean, attending the sessions of the lectures and spending time with saints was indeed a great week. Sean's funeral will be in Fort Smith, Arkansas on Tuesday morning. Keep Sean's wife, Kristin, and his two sons, Xander and Zeke, in your prayers.

(D.A.C.)

Beacon of Truth

Radio Program

Sunday Mornings

8:30a.m. - 9:00a.m.



CHURCH OF CHRIST
514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Frank Melton	Bonnie Sutton
Jeanette Weir	Steve Stringer
Pat Nixon	Dan Lovell
Helen Blankenship	Shirley Miller
Doris Lovell	Virginia Lovell

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Priscilla Tucker	Sharon Nave
Harvey Nixon	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:

Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Brenda Wilson, rm. 77
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Auteen Campbell, rm. 96
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
 Mildred Lambert; Unity Care, Huntsville
 Bobby Ogles; Story Point West, Knoxville, Tennessee
 Stan Stanford; Goldton at Athens
 William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison
 Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

Updates:

Priscilla Tucker had a petscan done on Thursday and received a good report...*Paul Adcock* will go back to the doctor on Tuesday, August 1st ... *Sharon Nave* will be going to the surgeon on Monday... *Barbara Ash* is

cheduled to have surgery on Wednesday in Huntsville ... *Harvey Nixon* is doing better after getting his medications adjusted... *Jeanette Weir* continues her recovery at home... Remember our expecting mothers, *Laura Adams & Lynsey Adams*, in your prayers.

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.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES CLASS: The Ladies' Bible class meets on Tuesday morning at 10:30. They are studying on "*Preparing To Teach My Neighbor.*"

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *New Hope church* begins a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The speaker in the meeting will be *Tim Norman* ... The *Oakland church* begins a meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening. The speaker in the meeting will be *Kenny Moorer*.

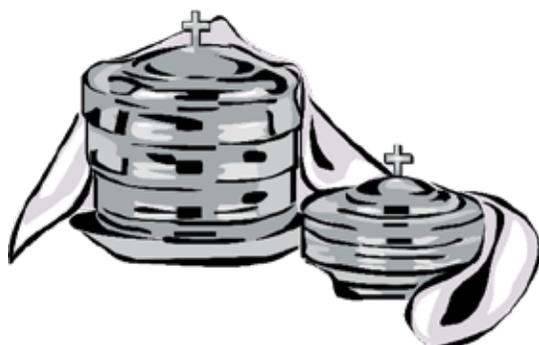
SINGING: The *Jackson Heights church* in Columbia, Tennessee will be having their annual singing on Friday night, July 28th. The singing will begin at 7:00 p.m.

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.

OUT OF TOWN: *Sherry Davis* in Michigan on vacation... *The Hamms: Joel, Sharma, Clayton & Ragan* have been at Gulf Shores this week.

THE RECORD: Attendance the week of July 16th:

Sunday:	Bible Classes	113
	Morning Worship	139
	Evening Worship	110
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	86



Communion Preparation for July

Communion Bread — Kerry Cox
Communion Cups — Russ Wulfekuhl

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, July 23rd:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Harold Ash
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Joel Hamm
Assisting	Larry Mitchell
Serving	Landon Adams..... Hayden Pierce
.....	Christian Usery
Closing Prayer	Heath Dollar
	Roger Hammonds

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Larry Holt
Prayer.....	Keith Hinkle
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer	Danny Holt
Other Assignments for the week of July 23 rd :	
Usher	Danny Johnson/Marvin Putman
Work Sound System.....	Russ Wulfekuhl

Wednesday, July 26th:

Song Leader	Bob Broadus
Bible Reading	Marty R. Adams
.....	(Acts 13:13-41)
Prayer.....	Joel Hamm
Invitation.....	Larry Snell
Closing Prayer	Larry Mitchell

Sunday, July 30th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Kenneth Smith
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harold Ash
Assisting	Stephen Lynn
Serving	Nathaniel Adams..... Matthew Vaughn
.....	Roger Hammonds..... Ronnie Locke
Closing Prayer	Terry Andrews

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Prayer.....	Marty R. Adams
Preaching.....	
Lord's Supper	Harold Ash
Closing Prayer	Bob Broadus
Other Assignments for the week of July 30 th :	
Usher	Danny Johnson/Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt