

# MARKET STREET

*"And this 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.....7:00 p.m.

### Elders

Albert Bowers.....(256) 233-4847  
Jerry McGlocklin.....(256) 232-7620  
Kenneth Smith.....(256) 233-2050  
Bonnie Sutton.....(256) 232-2081

### Deacons

Marty Adams .....(256) 233-5147  
Rusty Brand .....(256) 233-7343  
Tim Craig .....(256) 233-4597  
Joel Hamm.....(256) 230-6223  
Bobby McGuire .....(256) 232-7887  
Frank Noblitt .....(256) 777-0725  
Stuart Wilson .....(256) 233-6291

### Evangelists

David A. Cox.....(256) 233-8910  
E-mail: david.a.cox@att.net  
Warren Glass.....(256) 233-6086

### Visit Us On The Web

MarketStreet-church.org

## 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 I

March 1, 2009

No. 9

## True Worship

Bubba Garner

When I was growing up, my family went camping every summer. For a city boy from Houston, that mostly meant a week without television and computer games. But I came to appreciate the simple sounds and sights of nature, the kind that didn't need electricity or other manmade invention for their enjoyment. The stars shined brighter and in greater numbers than they did above the city lights. The crickets chirped and the frogs croaked without the interruption of a plane flying overhead or a car passing by. These remain special memories of the Lord's handiwork telling of the glory of their Maker.

Man, the crown of God's creation, has an even higher privilege of praise. Birds sing because they don't know how to behave any differently. We choose to offer up worship to God. Stars shine because they have been programmed to do so. We choose to pray to the Father of lights. The challenge comes in making certain that our worship is as pleasing to Him as the rest of the hymns of creation.

Public worship is an activity in which we participate week after week. But how can we make sure it is true worship?

**True worship originates in the heart.** Jesus quoted the words of Isaiah when He told the Pharisees, "This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far away from Me" (Matthew 15:8). By elevating their traditions over the inspired doctrine, they had made their worship vain and empty. That is, it was not pleasing to God because it did not flow from an honest, thankful heart.

Worship can easily turn into something done out of habit or rote expression. Since we do take part in it so often, we have to constantly keep from "going through the motions." And this can happen in subtle ways. When we give more concentration to the mechanics of a song than the words sung or think more about lunch after services than we do the Lord's Supper, we have to wonder if our heart is far away from where it should be. If it is, true worship has ceased.

**True worship reaches to the throne of God.** The Psalmist leaves no doubt as to where our praise ought to be directed. “Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless His name... for great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised” (Psalm 96:1-2,4). God is to be the center of every worship service. It is He who is worthy of all our soul’s adoration. It is He who makes us worthy to worship Him.

When worship turns into entertainment, the aim is no longer to please the Object of the worship but the appetites of the worshipers. Whether they’re old songs or new songs we’re singing, we need to first make certain they are songs that are pleasing to the Lord’s ears. Whether they’re short sermons or long sermons, the goal ought to be that God is glorified by the truth being preached. Worship that must meet my preferences and fit my tastes is not all about Him; it’s a hymn to me.

**True worship profits those who prepare for it.** In Nehemiah 8, when the people of Israel gathered to hear the reading of the Law, Ezra the scribe stood “at a wooden podium which they had made for the purpose” (8:4). They didn’t wait until everyone had assembled to haphazardly throw something together. Such unpreparedness would have been disrespectful and distracting to the occasion. They purposed well in advance to make ready what was needed so they could truly worship at the appropriate time.

Many would be embarrassed to arrive at someone’s home without a gift or token of affection. Yet we will come to the house of the Lord empty handed and expect to leave having “gotten something” out of the service. When little or no personal investment is put in, can we really expect to gain much? And perhaps preparing for Sunday morning begins with cutting the activities shorter on Saturday night. Reading the Bible and saving the morning paper until after services would certainly help with eliminating the thoughts of the world. The first day of the week is worthy of our first-rate preparation.

“Oft we come together, oft we sing and pray.” But just because we do these things often does not take away our responsibility to see that they are done in spirit and truth. “For such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers” (John 4:23).

~via *Southside Sunday*; Pasadena, Texas

**Remember our Service This Evening 5:00.**

## *Slaves To Emotions*

**Dan S. Shipley**

*“People don’t ask for facts in making up their minds. They would rather have one good, soul-satisfying emotion than a dozen facts.” (Robert Leavitt)*

Without a doubt, emotions do motivate the masses. Whatever their cause and whether they be good or bad these strong personal feelings are intensely powerful movers of men. Emotions have influenced all; dominated many. As strength is measured by its conquests, we see impressive evidence of just how strong emotions can be when such things as truth, right, justice, and good judgment are often made subordinate to their prompting. But perhaps nowhere is the narcotic-like effect of emotionalism more prominent or persuasive than in the spiritual realm. Even those who escape its inordinate influence elsewhere succumb to it here—and with the worst possible consequences. Truly, emotionalism is a popular and compelling power in religion; one that needs to be recognized and reckoned with.

But this is not to say that all emotion is wrong, or even that it is wrong in religion. What sincere person can read of the crucifixion of Christ and not be moved? Is not the Godly sorrow associated with repentance a strong feeling of remorse for having sinned against God? (2 Corinthians 7: 10). Are we not to rejoice and weep with one another? (Romans 12:15). This sort of emotion is altogether right and appropriate, being expressible within the bounds of Divine truth.

But there is a subtle and dangerous kind of emotionalism which leads many in the broad way that seemeth right (Proverbs 14:12). These are the feelings that men come to trust and rely on, even above the word of God. This attitude is well-exemplified in the oft heart [felt] expression, “I wouldn’t trade the feeling in my heart for all the Bibles in the world!” — which is just another way of saying that one has more confidence in his feelings than in the word of God. The man who trusts anything more than what God says insults the veracity of God!

However, others honor their feelings in less obvious ways. While God promises to save only those who do His will (Matthew 7:21), many persist in feeling that sincerity and good intentions are sufficient. With

many, the matter of eternal torment becomes another emotional issue in which the word of God is made subordinate to feelings. Questions dealing with the religion of parents, whether one is judging another, whether everyone is going to hell except your bunch, whether one church is as good as another, or whether the Lord's church can scripturally support an orphans home can easily become more emotional than scriptural issues - - and the big problem with this is that not everyone appreciates scriptural answers to emotional arguments.

All important decisions, especially those affecting ones standing with God, ought to be based on something more substantial than emotions. Feelings of the moment, no matter how strong, can never be more trustworthy than Gods word which will judge all. The slave to emotion cannot be the servant of Christ.

-via *The Messenger*; Columbus, Mississippi



## ***“As Many of Us As”***

**Billy Norris**

“Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?” (Romans 6:3). In death on the cross Christ shed His atoning blood (John 19:34). The phrase “as many of us as” tells the exact number who reach the cleansing blood of Christ—no more, no fewer. The “us” shows that Paul was in that number. Without being in Christ and reaching the blood of Christ there is no redemption, no forgiveness of sins—“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace” (Ephesians 1:7). Without being baptized into Christ, into His death there then is no cleansing from sin. “Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life” Without being buried with Christ through baptism we cannot rise to “walk in newness of life” Ask your preacher if baptism is essential to salvation. God’s word clearly shows that it is.

-via *The Gospel Guide*; Vol. 37 No. 11; November 2007.

# ***News & Notes***

## **THE SICK:**

### ***In The Hospital:***

*Jerry Tucker*; Athens-Limestone Hospital – ICU  
*James Dungy*; Athens-Limestone Hospital

### ***At Home:***

Wendell Sherbert	Annie Mae Bragg
Jerry Gilbert	Mary Norton
Carl Hargrave	June Dawson
Caroline Wilson	Margaret Carter
Yvonne Sherbert	Peggy Taylor
Benton Hardy	Jeff Waddell
Dwight Lovell	Mike Sherbert
Kennedy Pepper	Uyles Reid
Angela Green	Joe Giardina
Matt Poff	

### ***Limestone Health Facility:***

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 108 Mary Smith, rm 85  
Rosella Pugh, rm. 33 J.D. Clanton, 11E  
Sarah (Jennie) Green,

### ***Athens Convalescent Center:***

Betty Bates, rm. 17  
Mae Alesi, rm. 35

### ***Limestone Manor:***

Ruth Owens, rm. 80

### ***Limestone Lodge:***

Lifford Abernathy , rm. 28-E

### ***Shut-In:***

Sarah Halbbrook, Glade Retirement, Memphis, Tenn.  
Jimmy Killen, at home  
Reba Adams, at home  
Mauvis Phillips, at home  
Majorie Lambert, at home  
Fred Varnell, at home  
Ellis Dunnivant, at home

**MILITARY SERVICE:** Remember all those that are away serving in the military for our country. Those among us that are serving away from home:

Cody Brown; Iraq

**LESTER ELMORE (1922 - 2009):** It is with sadness that we noted the passing of brother **Lester Elmore**. He passed away this Saturday morning February 21st. His funeral was this past Monday morning and burial in the Roselawn cemetery. He had been a member at

Market Street for a number of years, but had not been able to attend the last couple of years due to an accident which took the life of his wife, Mary. We express our deepest sympathy to all of brother Lester Elmore's family in his passing.

**CHILDREN'S BIBLE DRILL:** Remember this afternoon we will be meeting at 4:30 in the small auditorium on the west wing for our children's Bible drill. I hope that all of our children will be able to attend.

**SYMPATHY:** We extend our deepest sympathy to **Frank Noblitt** and all the family of **Lucy Clanton**. She passed away last weekend and her funeral was Sunday... Also our deepest sympathy to **Helen Blankenship, Dan, Doris Lovell and Jeanette Weir** and all the family, in the passing of **Adele Lovell**. She passed away on Monday night and her funeral was Thursday afternoon.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** The **Oakland church** is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. **John Kilgore** is the speaker in this meeting... The **Westview church** in Hartselle is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday with **Gary Fisher** preaching... The **Hughes Road at Gooch Lane church** in Madison is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with **Rick Lanning** preaching... The **Elkton church** in Elkton, Tennessee is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with **Frank Walton** preaching... The **Madison Street church** in Pulaski, Tennessee is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with **Bob Waldron** preaching... The **O'Neal church** is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday with different speakers... The **Carriger church** is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday with **Jeff May** preaching.

**THE RECORD:** Attendance – Week of February 22nd  
**Sunday:**

Bible Classes.....	125
Morning Worship .....	140
Evening Worship.....	105

**Wednesday:** Bible Classes..... 97

### *Remember Our Study Periods*

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

*Come and Join Us As We Study Together*

## **Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, March 1st:**

### *Morning Worship*

Announcements .....	Rusty Brand
Song Leader .....	Tommy Burns
Prayer .....	Steve Bradley
Preaching .....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding .....	Kenneth Smith
Assisting .....	Wayne Vaughn
Serving .....	Raymond Brown..... Cory Nelson
.....	Hunter Cox..... Dan Lovell
Closing Prayer .....	Tim Craig

### *Evening Worship*

Announcements .....	Rusty Brand
Song Leader .....	Tommy Burns
Prayer .....	Frank Noblitt
Preaching .....	David Cox
Lord's Supper .....	Kenneth Smith
Closing Prayer .....	Joel Hamm

Other Assignments for Sunday March 1st:

Usher .....	Marty Adams
Work Sound System .....	Danny Johnson

**Wednesday, March 4th:**

Song Leader .....	Tim Craig
Bible Reading.....	(Proverbs 8:1-21)
.....	Nathaniel Adams
Prayer .....	Jimmy Usery
Invitation .....	Marty Adams
Closing Prayer .....	Steven Bradley

**Sunday, March 8th:**

### *Morning Worship*

Announcements .....	Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader .....	Stuart Wilson
Prayer .....	Bonnie Sutton
Preaching .....	Warren Glass
Lord's Supper	
Presiding .....	Larry Mitchell
Assisting .....	Benton Ball
Serving .....	Chris Sides..... Russ Wulfekuhl
.....	Albert Bowers..... Tommy Burns
Closing Prayer .....	Wayne Vaughn

### *Evening Worship*

Announcements .....	Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader .....	Stuart Wilson
Prayer .....	Joel Hamm
Preaching .....	David Cox
Lord's Supper .....	Larry Mitchell
Closing Prayer .....	Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday March 8th:

Usher .....	Delmer Carter
Work Sound System .....	Tim Craig