

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

April 26, 2009

No. 17

Your Brain Will Fall Out

Mark W. White

A word often heard today sounds benign and harmless – even appealing. The word is “pluralism.” Its first cousin is “multi-culturalism.” No one objects to cultural differences in a country known as a great melting pot of races and peoples. Cultural holidays, foods, dress, and even language is not at issue. But what about a multitude of religious views and practices? Are all religions right? Is Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, Islam, and Atheism on equal ideological footing? Is it so that all ways of faith should be recognized a valid, acceptable belief systems?

Pluralism is a denial of an objective truth or standard of behavior; a tolerance of all views; an acceptance that grants equality and viability to views different from one’s own views.

Today, *intolerance* is an “ugly word.” It is undesirable for one to be thought of as intolerant, narrow, or bigoted. Certainly there is a place for being tolerant of others’ views. There are opposing views which make no difference whether we accept one or the other. People do have a constitutional right in this country to believe anything they choose. But that does not mean that every view, and any view, is correct. For example, an American woman has the right to believe abortion to be legally right. Another has the right to believe abortion is morally wrong. Both have the constitutional right to try to convince the other that their view is wrong. Saying something is a constitutional right, however, and saying that it is correct are two separate issues. They are not one and the same.

When we go to the pharmacy for medicine we are not pluralists. Just putting any medicine in the bottle will not do. The doctor has prescribed something, even if it is a “generic” drug. You have confidence in both pharmacist and doctor that the right drug has been prescribed and the bottle is filled appropriately. But your confidence does not guarantee that the ingredients are the right ones. Even if both of you agree the prescription is “right” doesn’t make it so.

What do these examples have to do with pluralism? Think about one's views on religious and ethical matters. Are some things wrong, while others are right? Are some beliefs right even if men do not agree with them? Such as: Jesus IS the Son of God? The Bible IS God's inspired Word? Adultery IS sin? Or—are the opposite views equally “right”? Jesus is NOT the Son of God? The Bible is NOT God's Word? Adultery is NOT sin? That is the pluralistic view. In other words, if you believe it, it's right. If you don't believe it, then it's not right. Right? Wrong!

Logic says an entity cannot both be and not be at the same time. It either exists or does not exist. Some things are true whether or not man thinks they are true. Some things are false whether or not man agrees. If being narrow-minded includes accepting as fact what God has declared is His truth (and He has, John 17:17, 8:32), are we intolerant if we believe and teach that truth?

When the apostle Paul spoke of the Christians in Berea, he said: “They received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so,” (Acts 17:11).

So, what source should we seek in order to find God's truth? With “all readiness of mind,” we should search “the scriptures.” This means scripture settles the issue! This also means that a view opposing what the Bible says is wrong! Should we first consult our own minds, and then decide what we “think”? No, it is settled by God's Word. It is truth whether or not men believe it.

The following, written by an author unknown to me, needs our attention:

“There is no room for broad-mindedness in the chemical laboratory. Water is composed of two parts hydrogen and one part oxygen. The slightest deviation from that formula is forbidden. There is no room for broad-mindedness in the mathematics classroom. Neither geometry, calculus, nor trigonometry allows any variation from accuracy, even for old time's sake. The solution of the problem is either right or it is wrong—no tolerance there. There is no room for broad-mindedness in the garage. The mechanic says the piston rings must fit in the cylinder walls within one one-thousandth part of an inch. Even between friends there

cannot be any variation if the motor is to run smoothly. How, then, shall we expect that broad-mindedness shall rule in the realm of ethics and morals?”

Narrow-minded? Maybe so, but then, you can be so broad-minded your brain will fall out!

~via *College View Columns*; Florence, Alabama.

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Is It Really Real To You?

Carlton G. McPeak

Bible students have read and studied about the flood all their life. Is that a story real to you? Did God really destroy the world with water leaving only eight people alive after the waters subsided?

Bible students have read about Abraham offering his son as a sacrifice. Is that story real to you? Did God really ask Abraham to offer his son as a proof of Abraham's allegiance to God? Did Abraham really draw back a knife to kill his son only to be prevented by an angel's voice which told him to stop?

Bible students have enjoyed reading about David killing a nine-foot giant with only a stone from a sling shot. Is that story real to you? Did Goliath really fall face down in front of David after being hit by a stone taken from a river bed?

Bible students have read about Daniel being thrown into a den of lions and not being eaten by them. Is that story real to you? Did Nebuchadnezzar really have Daniel thrown to the lions?

Students of the life of Christ have read the gospel accounts of Jesus walking on the water during a heavy storm. Is that story real to you? Was Peter really able to walk on the water after being commanded by Jesus to come to Him?

Christians have heard, as well as read, about the resurrection of Jesus occurring on the first day of the week. Is that story real to you? Did Jesus really appear

to Mary, to Peter, to the other apostles and to over 500 at one time?

Even in the days of Peter, people considered the events told by Biblical writers and spokesmen for God, “cleverly devised tales” (2 Peter 1:16). If you do not think the stories are real then you must think they are “cleverly devised tales.” Peter said they were not. He says he was “an eyewitness” to the things which occurred in the life of Christ.

If these stories are not real to you, then hell can not be real to you. If these stories are not real to you, how can heaven be real to you? The person responsible for all of these stories is the same One that told us about heaven and hell. How can heaven be real to you if these stories are not real to you? The Bible must become to you if you are really going to follow it.

Is it really real to you?

-via *The WORD At Lakeview*; Lake City, Florida.



“In Christ”

Billy Norris

Every spiritual blessing. “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ” (Ephesian 1:3). This means there is not one spiritual blessing outside of Christ.

Redemption — “being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus” (Romans 3:24).

No condemnation. “There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus” (Romans 8:1).

The love of God — “the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:39).

A new creature. “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Since all these wonderful things which have to do with our eternal destiny are in Christ, how can we be in Christ? The inspired apostle Paul gives the answer. “For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ” (Galatians 3:26,27). Does your preacher tell you that baptism is not essential to salvation?

-via *Gospel Guide*; Vol. 37 No. 10; October 2005.

Vacation Bible School

June 8 -11, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.

Market Street church of Christ
514 West Market Street
Athens, Alabama

News & Notes

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

Peggy Taylor; Athens - Limestone Hospital – ICU

At Home:

June Dawson	Brandon Craig
David Rice	Mary Davis
Benton Hardy	Angela Green
Jeff Waddell	Kennedy Pepper
Matt Poff	Tim Melson

Limestone Health Facility:

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118	Mary Smith, rm 85
Rosella Pugh, rm. 33	J.D. Clanton, 11E
Sarah (Jennie) Green	Lorene Bradford, rm.117

Athens Convalescent Center:

Betty Bates, rm. 17

Limestone Manor:

Ruth Owens, rm. 80

Shut-In:

Sarah Halbrook, 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 Dunnavant, at home

MILITARY SERVICE: Remember all those that are serving on foreign soil in the military for our country. Those who are among us or have connections to the Market Street church are:

- Cody Brown; Iraq
- Brandy Lawrence; Afghanistan
- Joel Smith; Iraq

TEACHERS MEETING: There will be a teachers meeting this afternoon at 4:30 in the small auditorium on the west side of the building. I hope all of our teachers will be able to be present at this meeting.

SONG SERVICE: Tonight we will be gathering at 5:00 to spend our time in singing songs of praise to God; our Creator and Sunstainer. I hope that everyone will be able to be present at the service tonight.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Carolyn Dean and all the family* in the passing of Carolyn's aunt, *Kathryn Roberts*, this past week. Her funeral was Friday afternoon.

RESTORED: We rejoiced last Sunday morning when *Ann Locke* came forward and confessed that she had not been faithful in her service to the Lord for a number of years and desired to return back to faithful service to the Lord. May the Lord bless Ann and all of us as we run the race of life set before us.

SINGING: The *Oakland church* will be having a singing on Saturday evening, May 2nd, at 7:00.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Danville Road church* in Decatur is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. *Joe Corley* will be the speaker.

THE RECORD: Attendance – Week of April 19th

Sunday:

Bible Classes.....	126
Morning Worship	146
Evening Worship.....	113

Wednesday:

Bible Classes.....	115
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Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, April 26th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Frank Noblitt	
Song Leader	Stuart Wilson	
Prayer	Rusty Brand	
Preaching	Warren Glass	
Lord's Supper		
Presiding	Kenneth Smith	
Assisting	Dwaine Allfrey	
Serving	Marion Pepper	Tim Craig
.....	Tyler Cox	Nathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer	Tommy Burns	

Evening Worship

Announcements	Frank Noblitt
Song Leader	Stuart Wilson
Prayer	Marty Adams
Preaching	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Dwaine Allfrey
Closing Prayer	Bonnie Sutton

Other Assignments for Sunday April 26th:

Usher	Larry Mitchell
Work Sound System	Marty Adams

Wednesday, April 29nd:

Song Leader	Marty Adams
Bible Reading.....	(Proverbs 12:15-28)
.....	Jack Cannon
Prayer	Tim Craig
Invitation	David Cox
Closing Prayer	Tyler Cox

Sunday, May 3rd:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Kenneth Smith	
Song Leader	Tyler Cox	
Prayer	Larry Mitchell	
Preaching	David Cox	
Lord's Supper		
Presiding	Joel Hamm	
Assisting	Stuart Wilson	
Serving	Chris Sides	Cory Nelson
.....	Ronnie Locke.....	Landon Adams
Closing Prayer	Dwaine Allfrey	

Evening Worship

Announcements	Kenneth Smith
Song Leader	Tyler Cox
Prayer	Albert Bowers
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer	Wayne Vaughn

Other Assignments for Sunday May 3rd:

Usher	Tim Craig
Work Sound System	Frank Noblitt