

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

May 10, 2009

No. 19

Three Men Rebel Against Hypocrisy

Bill Hall

Three men rebel against hypocrisy, but they vary greatly in their reactions. **The first man** turns to total moral abandonment. He throws off all restraint as he gives himself to the fulfillment of every fleshly desire. "Self" becomes his god. He hardens himself to the tears of his family as he goes out to do what he wants to do. His "justification" for his shameful conduct: "At least I'm not a hypocrite!"

The second man goes to the opposite extreme. He is fed up with the weakness and hypocrisy that he sees in all the churches, and he is not going to be like such people. He will become a Christian and from the beginning "he's going to live with it." He will be an example of what a Christian really ought to be. To him, the cure for hypocrisy is perfection.

The third man wants to avoid hypocrisy in his life, but at the same time, he has a deep sense of his own imperfection. So he takes on no air in infallibility, but sets out to be genuine. His genuineness soon becomes apparent to others. He does not claim perfection, but he strives for perfection. As he worships God, he does not claim to be perfect as a worshipper, but when the singing begins he gives his heart to what he's doing; when the prayer is led, he listens and makes the prayer his prayer; during the supper he meditates on the suffering of the Lord; and throughout the sermon he participates in a study of God's word; if his mind wanders, he brings it back; and when the worship period ends, he asks God to forgive him for his failure and to accept his worship in spite of his imperfection. When he goes to his job, he does not claim perfection among his fellow workers, but they know that he will try to give eight hours of work for eight hours of pay; that he is trustworthy; that he is pure in speech and life; and that if he is ever overcome by pressure around him to sin, he will humbly seek the forgiveness of those who have been wronged.

He is the same in the home. His family respects him because he

is genuine and does not claim strength and goodness beyond reality. His family sees his faults, but his one redeeming quality that enables him to maintain their respect is his ability to say, "I'm sorry." In every area of his life, he walks humbly before his God and his fellow man. Our third man has found the true cure for hypocrisy. The first man, if he does not repent, will some day be a miserable wretch, his life completely torn and shattered. The second man is headed for disillusionment. His goals are unreal; his outlook is totally wrong. But the man who "walks humbly with his God" and is wholly free from guile and is a blessed man indeed. His life and his attitude with God is what God wants it to be and he lives in hope of heaven. "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:3).

-via *Needmore Bulletin*; Haleyville, Alabama.



One Thing Is Needful

Ed Brand

We are surrounded by plenty – as in much. If you dispute this observation, take an inventory of your belongings. Will one page be sufficient to catalog all of them? So you see, we are surrounded by plenty, much of it our own.

Suppose you were told you must choose ten items from that number. The ten things you choose, you can keep; the remainder must be given away. What ten would you choose? The house, obviously, then the car, food, clothing, checkbook, the dog... Oh, I forgot, of course the furniture.

You may have chosen different articles, but I suspect you chose along the same line as the above. Unless you have a cat instead of a dog. Have you noticed something missing in this list? I have, but of course I should, since I know where this article is heading. Where is the Bible?

It is interesting that the possession which is the most valuable, is so ignored. It is often left at home when its owner goes on vacation (Home Alone). Even surrounded by people, it is sometimes lost. "Let's see,

where did I put that thing?" It often goes for long stretches with no human companionship.

On one occasion, Jesus had been received into Martha's house (Luke 10:38ff). She was busy doing the things necessary in order to entertain a guest in her home. Food must be prepared, cooked, and then served. Her sister, Mary, didn't seem to notice that poor Martha had to do all of these things. While she was busy, busy, busy, Mary was listening to Jesus. Jesus was placed in the unenviable position of having to settle a family squabble. "Bid her therefore that she help me," said Martha.

His answer was simple, but profound: "but one thing is needful: for Mary hath chosen the good part..." Martha is the overworked, harried sister who has been deserted by Mary to do all this work alone. The feelings Martha experienced are common to each of us. We are doing what has to be done, while Mary is off visiting with the guest.

"One thing is needful." Instead of choosing ten things, now you have to choose only one. Mary chose "the good part." She chose good for the soul. When all of our things are gone, this is the one thing which shall last. That ought to help us put things in perspective, shouldn't it?

Opportunity for spiritual growth and satisfaction should rate better than a hurried "later." The worship of God on the day he specified ought not be an afterthought or resentful intrusion into our busy schedule (the preacher went ten minutes over and the roast might burn!)

It's easy to be like Martha, isn't it?

-via *Think On These Things*; Cortland, Illinois

Radio Program

Every Sunday Morning

on WVNN – 770AM

8:30 a.m. - 9:00

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

Righteous Suffering

Clark Dugger

“Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial among you, which cometh upon you to prove you, as though a strange thing happened unto you: but insomuch as ye are partakers of Christ’s sufferings, rejoice; that at the revelation of his glory also ye may rejoice with exceeding joy” (1 Peter 4:12, 13).

Certainly not all people who suffer are Christians. But it is safe to say that all who are truly disciples of Christ will suffer. “Yea, and all that would live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution” (2 Timothy 3:12). Such persecution is directly related to the godly living of the child of God. If one lives godly he will meet with resistance from all that is in opposition to God. It’s no wonder then that Peter says to “think it not strange concerning the fiery trials among you.” In fact such suffering is to be expected.

But it is not all suffering that is under consideration. It is being a partaker of “Christ’s sufferings” that Peter discusses. “For let none of you suffer as a murderer, or a thief, or an evil-doer, or as a meddler in other men’s matters: but if a man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God in this name” (1 Peter 4:15, 16). Jesus recognized that such suffering would follow those who follow Him. “I have given them thy word; and the world hateth them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world” (John 17:14). Jesus suffered because He was willing to subject Himself to the will of the Father, and when we suffer for this cause such is righteous suffering.

Peter says this righteous suffering becomes for us an occasion for rejoicing. How can this be? Paul tells us to look “unto Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross” (Hebrews 12:2). Certainly there was no joy to be found in the anguish of Calvary’s cruel tree. But Paul continues in this passage to say that Christ “sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” After the suffering came the glory.

And so Christ says: “Ye shall be hated of all men for my name’s sake: but he that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved” (Matthew 10:22). It is in this manner that these sufferings “cometh upon you to prove

you.” To endure such sufferings to the end is to prove and temper our faith so that it becomes even stronger. Therefore, even the sufferings themselves can produce a time of rejoicing as we look beyond the suffering to the glory. “And not only so, but we also rejoice in our tribulations: knowing that tribulation worketh stedfastness; and stedfastness, approvedness; and approvedness, hope” (Romans 5:3, 4).

We rejoice in righteous suffering because just as Jesus was glorified after the agony of the cross, so shall we reach glory, for, “he that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved.” Such hope of glory gives us a proper perspective of righteous suffering. “For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed to us-ward” (Romans 8:18).

-via *The Proclaimer*; Tyler, Texas..

News & Notes

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

Peggy Taylor; Athens - Limestone Hospital – rm. 306

Reba Byram; Hunnsville Hospital – rm. 1548

Molly Wilson; Hunnsville Hospital East – rm. 573

Evelyn Hays; Hartselle Hospital

Tim Melson; Pittsburg Hospital

At Home:

Carolyn Dean

June Dawson

Polly Davis

Gilbert Hardy

Benton Hardy

Matt Poff

Norman Brown

Angela Green

Jeff Waddell

Limestone Health Facility:

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118 Mary Smith, rm 85

Rosella Pugh, rm. 33 J.D. Clanton, 11E

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
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
- Brandi Lawrence; Afghanistan
- Joel Smith; Iraq

CHILDREN’S BIBLE DRILL: This afternoon at 4:30 will be the time for our Children’s Bible Drill. I hope that all of our children will be able to be present.

NEW BABY: We rejoiced this week with *Stuart and Molly Wilson* on the birth of their son, *Samuel Price Wilson*. Sam weighed 8 lbs. and was 19.5 inches long. We look forward to having Sam with us.

FRED VARNELL (1917 – 2009): It is with sadness that we noted the passing of brother Fred Varnell. He passed this past Monday morning in the Athens-Limestone hospital. His funeral was Tuesday and burial was in the Roselawn Cemetery. Brother Varnell was a long-time member of the Market Street church. He has not been able to attend in recent months after the passing of his wife of 61 years, Mary, last year. We express our deepest sympathy to all of Brother Varnell’s family in his passing.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Our VBS is rapidly approaching. The dates are June 8-11, Monday through Thursday mornings at 10:00. There are some postcards and door hangers to be taken and used for invitations. A good number of invitations were picked up last week, but let’s continue to invite all that we come in contact with.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Hollings’ Gin church* near Ardmore is beginning a meeting Friday and it will continue through next Sunday. *Ed Harrell* will be the speaker.

THE RECORD: Attendance – Week of May 3rd

Sunday:

Bible Classes.....	123
Morning Worship	154
Evening Worship.....	122

Wednesday:

Bible Classes.....	102
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Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, May 10th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Rusty Brand
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer	Albert Bowers
Preaching	David Cox
Lord’s Supper	
Presiding	Joel Hamm
Assisting	Stuart Wilson
Serving	Chris Sides..... Cory Nelson
.....	Ronnie Locke..... Landon Adams
Closing Prayer	Jimmy Userly

Evening Worship

Announcements	Rusty Brand
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer	Frank Noblitt
Preaching	Warren Glass
Lord’s Supper	Stuart Wilson
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Smith

Other Assignments for Sunday May 10th:

Usher	Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System	Danny Johnson

Wednesday, May 13th:

Song Leader	Tim Craig
Bible Reading.....	(Proverbs 13:14-25)
.....	Hunter Cox
Prayer	Jack Cannon
Invitation	David Cox
Closing Prayer	Bonnie Sutton

Sunday, May 17th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Frank Noblitt
Prayer	Marion Mitchell
Preaching	David Cox
Lord’s Supper	
Presiding	Wayne Vaughn
Assisting	Bonnie Sutton
Serving	Curtis Glass..... Tommy Burns
.....	Raymond Brown..... Delmer Carter
Closing Prayer	Wilton Pepper

Evening Worship

Announcements	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Frank Noblitt
Prayer	Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching	Rusty Brand
Lord’s Supper	Wayne Vaughn
Closing Prayer	Lifford Smith

Other Assignments for Sunday May 17th:

Usher	Tyler Cox
Work Sound System	Tim Craig