

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

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No. 22

Christ Is Our "Mercy Seat"

Ron Mosby

Under the Law of Moses, the mercy seat was "the lid or cover of the Ark of the Covenant" in the holy of holies. It was made of pure gold. At the ends of the mercy seat were two cherubim made of gold and made of one piece with the mercy seat at its two ends. The wings of the two cherubim were spread upward covering the mercy seat, with their wings facing one another, each turned toward the mercy seat. It was above the mercy seat and between the two cherubim that God would meet with Moses and speak to him about all that He would give him in commandments for the sons of Israel (Exodus 25:1, 10-22).

The Ark of the Covenant was placed in the holy of holies and a veil was made as a partition between the holy place and the holy of holies. Only the high priest was allowed to enter the holy of holies, and that only once a year, on the Day of Atonement. First, the high priest would offer the blood of a bull for himself and his household and would sprinkle the blood with his fingers on the mercy seat. He then offered the blood of a selected goat for the people and sprinkled it the same way on the mercy seat (Exodus 26:31-33; Leviticus 16:1-17).

It is interesting that the same Greek word in the Septuagint translated 'mercy seat' is the same Greek word translated 'propitiation' in the New Testament (Romans 3:25). It is the word *hilasterion*. This is highly significant and provides a beautiful type and anti-type. We can see this clearly in the context of Romans 3:25 and Hebrews 9. Since the blood of bulls and goats could never take away sins (Hebrews 10:4), and since man's punishment must be equal to his crimes against heaven, God mercifully interposed with the gift of His grace through redemption that is found only in His Son whom He displayed publicly as a propitiation through faith in His blood (Romans 3:24-26).

When Christ was crucified, the veil in the temple was rent in twain from top to bottom making way into the holy of holies (Matthew 27:51). Yet, Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, which was a copy of the true one, but when He ascended on high He entered into

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
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MARKET STREET MESSENGER

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Market Street church.*

David A. Cox, Editor

heaven itself now to appear in the presence of God for us (Hebrews 9:24).

Under the Law of Moses, when the high priest offered the blood of bulls and goats, it could only sanctify to the purifying of the flesh. It was only symbolic for the time and could never make the worshiper perfect as pertaining to the conscience (Hebrews 9:9, 13). Now, through baptism we meet God at a spiritual mercy seat sprinkled with the blood of Christ. This is why baptism is an 'appeal to God for a good conscience' (1 Peter 3:21) because only the blood of Christ can give us a clean conscience (Hebrews 9:13-14). When baptized we must have faith in the operation of God as we enter the death of Christ where His precious blood was shed (Colossians 2:12; Romans 6:3-4, 17-18).

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son and set Him forth publicly as our propitiation, mercy seat, through faith in His blood. Now He has allowed us through prayer to enter, not the holy of holies made with hands, but into heaven itself, that we may come boldly before His throne of grace with confidence that we may obtain grace and help in our every hour of need (Hebrews 4:16). "Christ said that He is the way and the truth and the life, and no one comes to the Father but through Him (John 14:6).

We can be thankful to God that we now have all the truth in His word and that Christ is now both our mediator and our mercy seat!

~via *Southside Sunday*; Pasadena, Texas.



Where's Your Hope?

Devan Harber

The question is not really about location, but foundation. So many today are fresh out of hope. They wonder about this earth confused, unsure, and unstable. The world around them is crushing them. The major issues are catastrophic—the minor ones are debilitating: the news is traumatic and even the weather sends them comatose. When everything hinges upon this world

and the consistency thereof, you are tethered to a ship in stormy waters. They have hope in tomorrow because they had today. They have hope in their job and retirement because they worked yesterday. But when that future is in question because of the turbulence of our time, what then?

As the people of God our hope is built on so much more! It is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness. Sound familiar? That's because we sing it! My hope is built, or firmly rooted on a solid foundation. It is our hope in Christ that gives us an anchor for the soul, that keeps the soul steadfast and sure while the billows roll (see Heb. 6:19).

Our hope can be built up or it can be laid waste. The wise man who built his house upon the rock endured the harshness of life and his house stayed sure. The fool who built his house upon the sand lost it all. What's the difference? The rock is a solid foundation upon which a life can truly be built. The only reliable foundation is the identity of Jesus Christ and His gospel. Our hope should be built on nothing less!

Last year we turned on the news and witnessed some of the devastation happening in Ukraine. I couldn't tell you what brought it all about since I don't keep up with the news or current affairs. Regardless of the reason, it was (and I guess still is!) an incredibly sad turn of events. There has always been turmoil on the world stage and as long as the world continues, there will be. We have brethren in that country, living through an unimaginable nightmare. They are not the only ones. Try being a Christian in Moscow, or China... Try meeting with other Christians in the dark of night, closed off from the world, meeting in hushed voices and having to sing songs quietly. Imagine living in an area of the world where you are threatened day in and day out. Where is their hope? Exactly where it should be: the Kingship of Jesus Christ. If our hope is in this life only, we are woefully ill-equipped to handle the hardships that come.

Where is your hope?

~via *Northwest church of Christ*; Beaumont, Texas.

Monthly Communion for June

Communion Bread — Lisa Wulfekuhl

Communion Cups — Danny Holt

What does it Mean to be a Christian?

Mark McCrary

May I ask you to think about a question—do you consider yourself to be a Christian? May I ask you to consider a follow up question- what does it even mean to be a Christian? To a lot of people, being a Christian is just the idea of going to worship services a few times a month (or year), praying from time to time, or having a generally good idea and feeling about God and believing in Him. But, that's not the standard that Jesus set.

Jesus said this in Matthew 7:21-23, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

Perhaps the defining trait for the child of God is obeying God and submitting to Him and His will for our lives. It is looking to Him and His word, and taking that study seriously and contemplating when you study, "Am I living this way? Is God first in my life? Am I obeying Him?"

What many do is profess to have faith, but then do whatever they want to do. Jesus said if we want to be a part of the kingdom of heaven, we are concerned about what God tells us to do, and we do just that.

Are you living as A Christian?

~via *Growing In Godliness*; Louisville, Kentucky.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Paul Adcock	Jeanette Weir
Kedrick Romine	Russ Wulfekuhl
Lisa Wulfekuhl	Steve Stringer
Pat Nixon	James Adams
Dan Lovell	Helen Blankenship
Shirley Miller	Doris Lovell

John Harbin John 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

Updates:

Angie Hinkle is continuing to struggle with the affects of the bout with the virus recently... *Ronnie Locke* had knee replacement surgery on Tuesday in Decatur... *Frank Melton* moved to rehab at Lifecare Center of Ooltewah in Ooltewah, Tennessee... *Jeanette Weir* continues her recovery at home... *Joyce McGlocklin's sister, Wynell Romine*, was dismissed from the hospital and is at home... *Brenda Jones' mother-in-law, Ruby Jones*, has moved from the hospital to rehab in Cincinnati, Ohio... 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.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: The *New Hope church* at Cross Key will begin a VBS on Thursday night and it will continue Friday and conclude Saturday morning.

HONORING GRADUATE: This afternoon there will be a party honoring *Ragan Hamm* on her graduation this past Tuesday night at Athens Bible School. The celebration will be today from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at *Lake Ida*.

OUT OF TOWN: *Joe Hinkle* returned home on Tuesday after being away in Florida... *The Curriers: Kevyn & Mary Glenna* are in California with Keenon this week... *The Coxes: David & Kerry* are in St. George's, Grenada in the West Indies. They will be with the Archibald Avenue church there this week... *The Hardisons: Nancy, Jaclyn & Sandra* are in North Carolina this week on vacation... *Christian Usery* is in Maryland this weekend.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of May 21th:

Sunday:	Bible Classes	125
	Morning Worship	156
	Evening Worship	120



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

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, May 28th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Marcus Morris
 Song Leader Stephen Lynn
 Prayer..... Landon Adams
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Jerry Baker
 Assisting Joel Hamm
 Serving Matthew Usery..... Hayden Pierce
 Harold Davis Heath Dollar
 Closing Prayer Danny Holt

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Marcus Morris
 Song Leader Albert Haraway
 Prayer..... Larry Snell
 Preaching..... Song Service
 Lord's Supper Jerry Baker
 Closing Prayer Tommy Burns
 Other Assignments for the week of May 28st:
 Usher Danny Johnson/Keith Hinkle
 Work Sound System..... Larry Holt

Wednesday, May 31st:

Song Leader Bob Broadus
 Bible Reading Harold Davis
 (Acts 10:17-23)
 Prayer..... Albert Haraway
 Invitation Dan Reed
 Closing Prayer Harvey Nixon

Sunday, June 4th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Larry Snell
 Song Leader Tommy Burns
 Prayer..... Jerry Baker
 Preaching..... John Gibson
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Joel Hamm
 Assisting Hunter Cox
 Serving Matthew Vaughn..... Ronnie Locke
 Matthew Usery..... Luke Vaughn
 Closing Prayer Danny Holt

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Larry Snell
 Song Leader Stephen Lynn
 Prayer..... Keith Hinkle
 Preaching..... John Gibson
 Lord's Supper Joel Hamm
 Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams
 Other Assignments for the week of June 4st:
 Usher Tommy Coblantz/Heath Dollar
 Work Sound System..... Terry Andrews