

# 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

### 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 Coblentz..... (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

### Visit Us On The Web

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*

Volume XV

July 9, 2023

No. 28

## “For What Is Your Life?”

David A. Cox

*“For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time then vanishes away.” — (James 4:14)*

James asks solemnly, “For What is your life?” This is a question that man struggles to answer. Why? Because man does not know within himself the answer to life. Man did not create life. The farmer can plant a seed in the ground; from it, life springs forth, but he cannot see or answer the question of life. We can get answers to biological questions, but to understand the answer to life belongs to the giver and creator of life, God. James asked the question in the context that deals with the arrogance of people living life and making plans for the future without the thought of God. However, James asks the question to bring their thoughts back to the life God gives us and the purpose of life. It is vain for men to live their lives and deny giving honor to God. Consider a few thoughts about “What is your life?”

### It Is A Must To See Life As Brief

James answers the question about life, saying, “It is even a vapor that appears for a little time then vanishes away.” We must see that the time we live is temporary, short, and brief. If we live to be 70, 80, 90, or even beyond, life is still brief. The psalmist refers to it “as a tale that is told.” (Psalm 90:9, KJV ). What is the tale that is being told in your life? Is the “tale” one of pursuing the material things of life at any expense? Is it living and putting off what you should be doing by thinking there will be time for that later? We must understand that no one is promised anytime in the future. All we have is the present time. Let us not take for granted the time we have and waste the opportunities before us.

### It Is What You Make It.

Life is given to us by God. There are things in life we cannot control and cannot change, regardless of how much we want to. But even in the midst of life with things that we cannot change, everyone has the choice to make or aim their life in the direction of their choosing. God gives us life but does not make our lives what they are; we do that by our own

choice. God gives us instructions from His word. We can choose to follow it, or we can choose to dismiss it. We choose to be vessels for honor to God or to dishonor God. Our lives are what we make of them.

### **It Is A Pilgrimage.**

The Hebrew writer describes life of the faithful as a pilgrimage. "These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off and were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth" (Hebrews 11:13). The fact is life is a pilgrimage to the life hereafter. As the faithful of God could see, by faith, as they journeyed through life by faith, God was their helper. They remembered, "Behold, God is my helper; The Lord is with those who uphold my life" (Psalm 54:4). As the faithful are on the pilgrimage of life, they trust in God and make their lives to please Him.

It has been said, "Time childhood of eternity." The statement is so true. We live with time on the earth. We value time, and we long for time. But as we live on earth, may we never lose sight of the reality of what life is about. Yes, life live, enjoy life, and make plans for life, but remember, life is not forever; it is a vapor. As the Lord wills, may we live, serve the Lord and honor Him.



## ***Tolerating Black Shoes***

**Robert F. Turner**

I like brown shoes and wear them most of the time. However, if you insist upon wearing black shoes, I will not argue the point. Go right ahead! I'm a very tolerant man with respect to shoes.

But some of my friends tell me I am intolerant in religious matters. They just can't understand why a kindhearted, tolerant fellow like me would say that they must obey God's commands and practice in religion only that which God has authorized. (Well, maybe that is the way they put it.) Sometimes they find it difficult to tolerate my intolerance.

Some intolerance is born of egotism - the product of

self-centered individuals who think they are the center of the universe, and that their ways must be accepted by all. This is very bad (James 4:11-12).

And there is an intolerance of sort, which is born of love. I love my granddaughter and insist that she not eat the shoe polish (the brown, that is). I can't bring myself to be unconcerned about this matter.

And there is an intolerance born of respect for authority and deep concern for those who fail to respect the divine will. Paul contended with the Israelites frequently because (a) he loved them, and (b) he knew they could not be saved while they followed their own erroneous ways. Paul's convictions, and his concern for men, made him seem intolerant (Romans 10:1ff).

People who really believe something - strongly enough to work for it, teach it, and practice it - are often called "narrow" or "bigoted." Meanwhile, the shallow-thinking, crowd-following, spineless fellow is likely to mistake his own lack of conviction for broad-mindedness and congratulate himself for being such a wonderful person.

It is well and good to be tolerant in matters of indifference - where the rights of men are equal. But to tolerate sin and transgression of God's law is to assume the right to judge that law (James 2:9ff), or to relegate divine matters to the category of black and brown shoes.

In the final analysis, tolerance is often a disguise for the lack of conviction and concern. In their liberal attitude toward shoe colors, men forget to prepare for a robe and a crown.

~via *The Lenexa Edifier*; Lenexa, Kansas.



## ***Are We Cain or Abel?***

**Andy Brenton**

*"And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain*

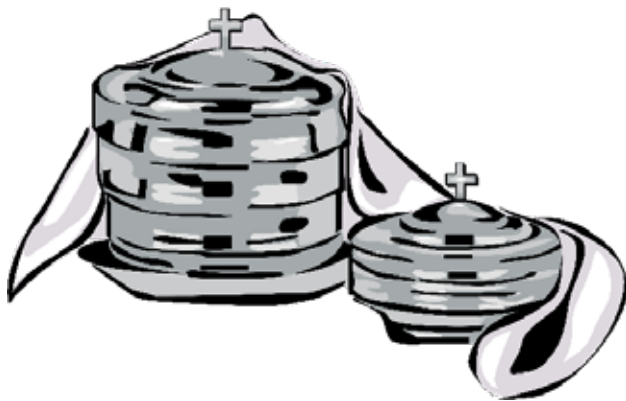
and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell” (Genesis 4:3-5).

God was very concerned, as we see throughout the Old Testament, with the heart attitude of the person who brought a sacrifice to the altar. Very often in the Old Testament era, people simply went through the motions, offering their sacrifices in a casual, careless, halfhearted, mechanical way, for which they were hypocrites. God said, “I hate, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me. Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them. Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!” (Amos 5:21-24).

God was displeased by the faithlessness of the people as they went through their religious practices. Yet that happens in every generation. People go to church every Sunday and go through the motions of religion while their hearts are far from God. They act out their religion, as actors in a play, but without faith, without any real personal commitment to God.

God is no different today than He was then. Do we render spirit and truth worship unto God as He requires (John 4:24)? What will our worship be like this coming Lord's day? Will we offer a Cain or Abel worship?

~via *Knollwood Reminder*; Dayton, Ohio.



## Communion Preparation for July

Communion Bread — Kerry Cox  
Communion Cups — Russ Wulfekuhl

# 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:

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:

Wynell Romine; Florence Nursing & Rehabilitation

## Updates:

**Paul Adcock** went to the doctor on Friday to get the results on the MRI he had done on his prostate. They told Paul that he had cancer. He will go back to the doctor on August 1<sup>st</sup> and have biospies done and determine from the biopsies what type of treatments he will be taking ... **Sharon Nave** will have some additional

testing on Thursday to confirm the effectiveness of her treatments... *Joyce McGlocklin's sister, Wynell Romine*, rehabilitation at Florence Nursing and Rehabilitation Center... *Meredith Parks' aunt, Sheridan Goodwin* had surgery on Wednesday for her broken hip. They were not able to do anything to help correct the problems. She is not doing well following the surgery... *Jeanette Weir* continues her recovery at home... Remember our expecting mother, *Laura 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.

**FLOWERS:** The fresh flowers in the auditorium today were given in memory of *JoAnn Gilbert*.

**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/VBS:** The *Jones Road church* is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Friday night. The speaker in this meeting is *Ben Walker*... The *Jennings Chapel church* is beginning a meeting and it will continue through Friday evening. *Eric Reynolds* will be the speaker in this meeting... The *Russellville church* in Russellville is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Don Miller*.

**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.

**OUTOFTOWN: The Parks:** *Charles, Meredith, Aabron, Harper & Carson* are in St. Louis, Missouri this week... **The Adams:** *Marty, Marvella & Kenneth* are in Auburn getting Kenneth settled in for the upcoming school year... **The Hamms:** *Joel, Sharma, Clayton & Ragan* have been at the Gulf coast this week... **Betty Pepper** has been at the Gulf coast on vacation... **The Snells:** *Larry & Louise* are at the Gulf coast this week with family on vacation... **Sheila Holt** is on a trip to Iceland this week... **The Holts:** *Larry & Griffin* are going to Dothan this Thursday to get Griffin setup for school.

**THE RECORD:** Attendance the week of July 2<sup>nd</sup>:

Sunday:	Bible Classes .....	126
	Morning Worship .....	166
	Evening Worship .....	110
Wednesday:	Bible Classes .....	93

## Men Privileged To Serve:

*Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup>:*

### *Morning Worship*

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader .....	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Stephen Lynn
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Tommy Coblenz
Assisting .....	Hunter Cox
Serving .....	Matthew Vaughn... Landon Adams
.....	Danny Johnson..... Jerry Baker
Closing Prayer .....	Albert Haraway

### *Evening Worship*

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader .....	Clayton Hamm
Prayer.....	Terry Andrews
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper .....	Tommy Coblenz
Closing Prayer .....	Christian Usery
Other Assignments for the week of July 9 <sup>th</sup> :	
Usher .....	Hayden Pierce/Marvin Putman
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt

*Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>:*

Song Leader .....	Griffin Holt
Bible Reading .....	Joel Hamm
.....	(Acts 12:20-25)
Prayer.....	Tommy Coblenz
Invitation.....	Stephen Lynn
Closing Prayer .....	Dan Reed

*Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>:*

### *Morning Worship*

Announcements.....	Harvey Nixon
Song Leader .....	Stephen Lynn
Prayer.....	Larry Snell
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Keith Hinkle
Assisting .....	Harold Ash
Serving .....	Heath Dollar .....
.....	Charles Vaughn
.....	Matthew Usery..... Luke Vaughn
Closing Prayer .....	Larry Tucker

### *Evening Worship*

Announcements.....	Harvey Nixon
Song Leader .....	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Kenneth Smith
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper .....	Keith Hinkle
Closing Prayer .....	Jerry Baker
Other Assignments for the week of July 16 <sup>th</sup> :	
Usher .....	Danny Johnson/Marcus Morris
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews