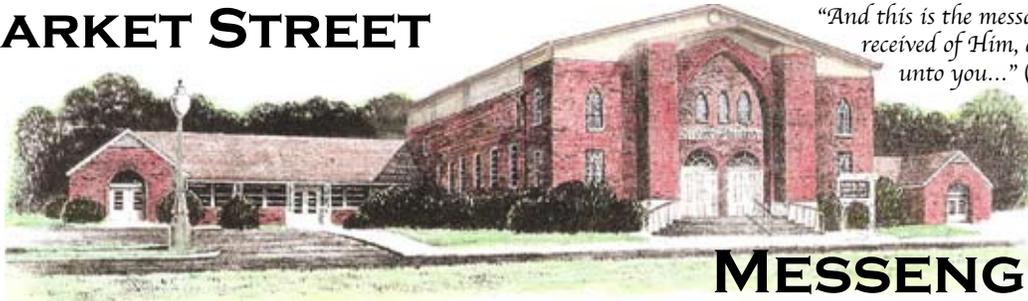


MARKET STREET



“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.....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.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 II

January 17, 2010

No. 3

Where Will You Spend Eternity?

John M. Duvall

There are many people walking the road of life who have no clue that they are going to Hell. Either their ignorance is self-imposed or directed by someone of equal ignorance. While what I am saying may sound harsh, please understand that I am not the first to make such a statement. Jesus said it much more eloquently when He said, *“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way, which leads to life, and there are few who find it”* (Matthew 7:13-14, NKJV). According to Jesus, there are many people who will go in by the “broad gate” that leads to destruction. In other words, many people are traveling the road that will lead them to Hell.

How can you make certain that you are not traveling the road that leads to Hell? Here is what you must do:

1. Make certain that you follow only the Bible, which is the word of God. There are plenty of man-made creeds and man-made “holy” books which will lead a person away from Heaven. Only the Bible contains the true road map to Heaven. Man-made creeds offer their own “interpretation” of Bible verses; interpretations which quite often nullify the very teaching of a Bible verse. Neither will “other bibles or testaments,” such as the Book of Mormon, lead a person to Heaven. Only the Bible contains the true *“gospel of Christ, . . . the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek”* (Romans 1:16, NKJV).

2. Make certain that you respect the authority of the Bible. There are many who claim to follow the Bible, but they do not respect the authority of the Bible. Jesus said, *“He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned”* (Mark 16:16, NKJV). The apostle Peter wrote through inspiration, *“There is also an antitype which now saves us baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,”* (1 Peter 3:21, NKJV). However, many religious teachers

will say, "Oh, but baptism does not save!" While these teachers may have good intentions, such statements show that they do not respect the authority of Jesus and His inspired writers.

Many churches of today will ignore New Testament examples and teachings regarding the functioning and working of the local church. New Testament examples show that each church is autonomous and under the oversight of elders. In addition, the Bible shows that the work of the local church is to evangelize, edify, and extend benevolence towards needy saints. Too often, churches of today will enter the field of entertainment, social activities, and other activities and "ministries" not authorized by the Word of God.

3. Make certain that you challenge every religious teacher to show you book, chapter, and verse. The apostle Paul warned the brethren in Galatia against listening to men who would pervert the doctrine of Jesus Christ. Paul wrote, *"I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received let him be accursed"* (Galatians 1:6-9, NKJV) Not every religious teacher is striving to maintain the purity of the inspired word of God. How can you tell that this is true? Simply observe the scores of denominations that exist today. All denominations do not teach the same doctrine. There are many "faiths" in existence today. Their existence is contrary to Paul's teachings in Ephesians 4:4-6. Paul wrote, "There is one body and one Spirit just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all who is above all, and through all, and in you all." (NKJV) Can all "faiths" be right when God's Word teaches that there is only one faith? The answer is no. Hence the need to demand book, chapter, and verse from every religious teacher to make certain that they are teaching the *"faith which was once for all delivered to the saints"* (Jude 1:3, NKJV).

4. Obey the command of Jesus to believe, repent of your sins, and be baptized. Consider the following verses: *"And He (Jesus) said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe*

will be condemned" (Mark 16:15-16, NKJV). *"Then Peter to them, 'Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit'"* (Acts 2:38, NKJV). The apostle Paul wrote, *"...that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation"* (Romans 10:9-10, NKJV). If you believe in Jesus, if you will repent and turn from your past sinful ways, and if you will be baptized, then you will be saved.

5. Live a faithful life. After you become a Christian, a child of God, having being baptized into Jesus Christ (Galatians 3:26-27), you must then live a faithful life unto God. Living a faithful life means: 1. Studying the Bible daily (2 Timothy 2:15). 2. Praying to God daily (1 Thessalonians 5:17). 3. Worshiping with fellow Christians (Hebrews 10:24-25). 4. Overcoming sin (1 Corinthians 10:13). 5. Always abounding in the work of the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58).

If you follow the aforementioned instructions, then you will enter and continue on the road that leads to heaven. If, however, having once been on the road to Heaven, you have allowed yourself to take another road, then it is time to turn back to the Lord today (cf. 1 John 2:1-2, NKJV).

-via *In Remembrance*, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.



A Healthy Church

Dan S. Shipley

I had suspected that we were abusing the word "sound" in reference to churches, preachers and others, but didn't realize how much until I heard a member tell of having a cousin that was not sound and had to be straightened out on the issues. It was not until later that I learned that "cuz" was 'a deacon in the Baptist church!

"Sound" suffers no injustice when applied to either people or churches, provided its use is warranted and

in keeping with its scriptural sense. God employed this word “hugiaino” to convey the distinct idea of general healthiness and wholeness (1 Timothy 1:10; 1 Timothy 6:3; & Titus 1:13, e.g.); therefore we would do well to use it thusly. As physical health is more than merely having a few healthy organs, so spiritual health involves a great deal more than just being straight on whatever the current issues happen to be. Perhaps if we would speak in terms of spiritual health instead of soundness” we would not be so apt to be misunderstood. For instance, I would welcome a “Directory of Healthy Churches”. Trouble is, who would compile the listings? Who outside the local church could say it was healthy and who inside the local church would say it wasn’t.

In the case of the Laodiceans, God has shown us the possibility of a church being blind to its own condition (Revelation 3). They saw themselves as being spiritually healthy, having (need of nothing while God saw them as being on their spiritual deathbed “miserable and poor and blind and naked.” Being sick is bad; being sick and not knowing it is worse. Worse, because remedies are neither sought nor received by those who think themselves healthy. If self is to be examined with reference to being in the faith (2 Corinthians 13:5), why not the many “selves” who act as one? A little honest introspection will show us that being healthy before God is more than big memberships, big buildings, big contributions, having “big” preachers and taking “big” stands on issues.

Let us see that a healthy church is one whose members are truly converted to Christ. Not to the church; not to the family or the preacher; but to the Lord! Everything depends on our attitude toward Him! To love Him is to keep His commandments (John 14:15); to serve Him is to serve others (Matthew 25). He must be the leaven of our lives; we must continually strive to conform to His image and be careful not to repeat the mistake of the Ephesian church by leaving our first love (Revelation 2:4).

Let us further see that healthy doctrine is the lifeblood of healthy churches. All members must know and love Bible truth. They don’t resent it being preached plainly and forcefully, they love it (1 Thessalonians 2:10); they desire it (1 Peter 2:2) because they hunger and thirst after righteousness (Matthew 5:6). But they not only love truth, they love each other as taught by

Jesus in that truth (John 15:12). When Christians are cemented together in a local work by love for the Lord, love for His truth, and love for each other, there will be a striving together to do and be all that God wants — and there will be a healthy church!

-via *The Auburn Beacon*; Auburn, Alabama.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

Mark Hargrove, Huntsville Hospital, ICU

At Home:

Lola Colwell	Yvonne Sherbert
Harold Hays	David Gardner
Gladys Johnson	Polly Davis
Irene Mitchell	Delmer Carter
Bobbie Adcock	Elmer Mitchell
Bayless Romine	Henrietta Word
Molly Weeks	Nancy Pierce
Jeff Waddell	Wayne Garner
Thomas Lovell	Marie Welden

Athens Convalescent Center:

Betty Bates, rm. 17

Limestone Health Facility:

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118	J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E
Katherine Stoffregen, rm. 98	Mary Smith, rm. 85
Irene Daniel, rm. 67	Rosella Pugh, rm. 83
Robert Allen Tinnon, rm. 100	

Limestone Manor:

Albert & Mary Norton, rm. 96

Limestone Lodge:

Ruth Owens, rm. 12W

Shut-In:

Sarah Halbrook, Glade Retirement, Memphis, Tenn.
Reba Adams, at home
Majorie Lambert, at daughter’s 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:

- Brandi Lawrence; Afghanistan
- Joel Smith; Iraq
- Whitney Smith; Japan

WORK GROUPS: Tonight Work Group 3 will meet. If this is your group, remember to meet tonight following our evening service.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Janet Berryhill* in the passing of her aunt, *Willene Wells*, this past Tuesday.

CHILDREN’S BIBLE DRILL: Remember 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 present this afternoon for it.

WEBSITE: The Market Street church’s website is up and being visited. The re-designed site at MarketStreet-church.com has only been up for a short time, but has been visited 500 times. Of those 500 visits 153 have occurred since the January 1st. The visits range in length from seconds to over an hour. However, 27% of the visits range from 5 minutes to over an hour. 13.5% of the visits are over an hour in length. We have had visitors from 4 countries and 11 states. What a great medium to teach the word both locally and abroad. Remember that the sermons preached here at Market Street are uploaded to the site; also the bulletin each week. There is information about the church and plans to increase the information and the material on the site as time comes. May the Lord bless our every effort to teach those here in Athens as well as those throughout the world.

PREACHERS SUPPORTED: Remember the men that the Market Street church supports in various places in this country as well as throughout the world. We received letters continually from these men expressing their appreciation for the support they receive. May the Lord bless them all in the work they are doing.

NURSERIES AVAILABLE: There are two nurseries available for those who will need them. One is in the west wing and the other in the east wing.

THE RECORD: *Attendance– Week of January 10th*

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 116
 Morning Worship 145
 Evening Worship..... 107

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 97

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, January 17th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
 Song Leader Frank Noblitt
 Prayer Dwaine Allfrey
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord’s Supper
 Presiding Larry Mitchell
 Assisting Wayne Vaughn
 Serving Marion Mitchell..... Marion Pepper
 Tyler Cox Russ Wulfekuhl
 Closing Prayer Lifford Smith

Evening Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
 Song Leader Frank Noblitt
 Prayer Landon Adams
 Preaching Joel Hamm
 Lord’s Supper Wayne Vaughn
 Closing Prayer Marion Mitchell

Other Assignments for Sunday, January 17th:

Usher Jerry McGlocklin
 Work Sound System Tim Craig

Wednesday, January 20th:

Song Leader Tyler Cox
 Bible Reading..... (Proverbs 28:15-28)
 Danny Johnson
 Prayer Rusty Brand
 Invitation Frank Noblitt
 Closing Prayer Marty Adams

Sunday, January 24th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Rusty Brand
 Song Leader Jerry McGlocklin
 Prayer Tyler Cox
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord’s Supper
 Presiding Stuart Wilson
 Assisting Marty Adams
 Serving Landon Adams..... Frank Noblitt
 Cory Nelson..... Gilbert Hardy
 Closing Prayer Marion Mitchell

Evening Worship

Announcements Rusty Brand
 Song Leader Jerry McGlocklin
 Prayer Joel Hamm
 Preaching Song Service
 Lord’s Supper Stuart Wilson
 Closing Prayer Dwaine Allfrey

Other Assignments for Sunday, January 24th:

Usher Larry Mitchell
 Work Sound System Tim Craig