

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 31, 2010

No. 5

Faith and Obedience Travel Together

Mark W. White

Faith and obedience are travel companions heading to the same "destination" - namely, to please and glorify the Lord. You cannot have one without the other. They grow simultaneously as they are practiced, but either one will wither if neglected.

Elijah was a man with both of these qualities. He believed God and consistently responded in obedience. When the Lord said to show himself to King Ahab (1 Kings 18:1-5) he didn't permit fear to stop him. He had learned through experience that the Father was faithful and trustworthy.

Fear short-circuits faith when we begin to doubt that God's way is really best. If we allow worry to gain a foothold in our minds, we'll respond by refusing to do what the Lord says, which is disobedience. The result will be a change in our "travel plans" - by rejecting the way of faith and obedience, we're actually choosing the path of unbelief and sin.

Satan loves our fear and disobedience because they hinder the journey that God has designed for us. We can't believe the Lord for great things in one area of our life if we are allowing sin in another. Self-examination is essential in the walk of faith. *Where have you compromised by allowing sin a foothold? Are you resisting anything that God says in His Word?* If so, you have neither the faith in the Lord you should, nor are you obeying Him as you ought.

Faith and obedience are like rowing a canoe. It takes both paddles in the water to go anywhere. If you are not going anywhere spiritually, could it be because you have not put both oars to work? If you do not "trust and obey" there is no way God can bless you as He wants to do.

Great faith begins with small steps. When you choose to follow God's Word, an ever-increasing cycle of faith and obedience will begin. Don't let fear of sin rob you of the great adventure you'll experience if you do

God's will. Who has a better track record for choosing the right path - you or God? Believe Him!

-via *College View Columns*, Florence, Alabama.



How Do You Know?

Phil Robertson

My dad has always enjoyed telling a joke about the thermos. It goes like this. Three men were arguing over what had to be the greatest accomplishment of mankind. One said it was the trips to the moon. Another said it was modern medicine and all the cures. However, a third guy said it had to be the thermos. Bewildered the first two men said, "Why the thermos? All it does is keep hot things hot and cold things cold." To which the third guy replied, "Yea, but how does it know?" Think about it. It's silly, I know.

However, how often do you hear people saying they know what God wants? A young fella walks into a church for the first time and immediately says, "I know this is where God wants me to be." A lady switches from one church to another because she likes the elaborate music and the "contemporary" worship service. When the emotion fills her heart, she says, "I knew this is where God was directing me." Another man looking for deeper love, leaves his wife and moves in with a girl friend. This new relationship is exciting and he thinks, "Doesn't God want me to be happy? Obviously, this is where God wants me to be."

Mankind has a long history of transforming personal opinion into God's will. He wants to make God in his own image. He assumes that what makes him feel good is what God wants.

God has always challenged these blind assumptions. "You thought that I was one just like yourself" (Psalm 50:21). He even challenged man's ability to reason at all without His guidance.

In the days of Hosea, the Israelites, who were "God's chosen people," were condemned for trusting

in their "own ways" (Hosea 11:13). They claimed to praise the Most High, but they never consulted Him (Hosea 11:7). God said, "My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge" (Hosea 4:6). They did not consult God; instead they sought counsel from their "wooden idols" (Hosea 4:12).

Jeremiah warned the nation of Judah about seeking any man's advice. He said, "O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself. It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps" (Jeremiah 10:23).

Even Solomon, the wisest man ever to live, repeatedly warned of the foolishness of following human wisdom:

- * "The way of the fool is right in his own eyes, but he who heeds counsel is wise" (Proverbs 12:15).
- * "There is a way that seems right unto a man, but its end is the way to death" (Proverbs 14:12).
- * "Every way of man is right in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the hearts" (Proverbs 21:2).
- * "The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouth of the fools feeds on foolishness" (Proverbs 15:14).

Instead of assuming we know what God wants, we should trust God knows what we need. "Seek Me and live," says the Lord (Amos 5:4). He will illuminate our path and direct us in the ways of righteousness (Psalms 116:165; Psalms 23:3).

Therefore, the only way we can really know what God wants is to study the Bible. It is His Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17). It is His will for our lives. If we cannot find it in His Book, then we do not have any reason to say, "I know this is what God wants for me."

-via *Hueytown Bulletin*; Hueytown, Alabama.

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Come and Join Us As We Study Together

God Shows No Partiality

David Hartsell

In the book of Romans, chapter one, Paul discusses the sins of the Gentiles. Their denial of God pushed them far away from Him into some of the most heinous sins (Romans 1:20-32). Many Jews, of course, detested the Gentiles and rejoiced in Paul's strong rebuke of them. But as the apostle begins chapter two of Romans, he quickly convicts the Jews of their sins. What could they say? They knew God and possessed His law. Yet, they did not keep it! Paul concludes "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). All men, Jews and Gentiles, must come to God in the same way, through Jesus Christ. "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality" (Acts 10:34). He still does not today.

Let us state clearly what this does not mean. It does not mean everyone lives in equality in the physical realm. Even in Jesus' day people differed greatly in their physical conditions. Some amassed great fortunes accompanied by high positions of honor while others barely could make ends meet (Mark 12:41-44). Some, even evil people, enjoyed good health while other faithful people faced tragedy (John 11:31-34). Also, God does not assure everyone will fulfill the same spiritual roles. Only one could be John the Baptist. Jesus, while on earth, appointed only twelve men apostles (Luke 6:12-16); later, He called another one "born out of due time" (1 Corinthians 15:7-9). Furthermore, not all people possess the same spiritual talents (Matthew 25:14-30). "No partiality" does not mean all have the same physical situations, the identical spiritual..., or the exact number of abilities.

The Lord showing no partiality does involve several wonderful, encouraging concepts. God makes no distinction in regard to wealth and poverty. Remember Mary, a poor carpenter's wife, birthed Jesus. Later, our Lord praised a poor widow for her generous gift to God (Mark 12:41-44). Even the poor have the gospel preached to them (Matthew 11:5). If God shows no partiality regarding rich and poor, we should not either (James 2:1-8). God sees all mankind regardless of nationality or race as equal. Philip received orders from The Lord to preach to the Ethiopian eunuch, probably a black man (Acts 8:26-40). Peter received a special vision from God to inform and persuade him to

preach to the Gentile, Cornelius (Acts 10.) Later, Jewish saints tried to bind circumcision on Gentile saints. The inspired apostles flatly rejected this idea (Acts 15:1-20). No outward physical condition makes any difference in the sight of God (Galatians 3:28-29).

There is no partiality with God. Yet, all must come through Jesus Christ (Acts 4:12) by the same gospel. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek." (Romans 1:16).

-via *Northwood Messenger*; Northport, Alabama.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

At Home:

Lola Colwell	Harold Hays
Sue Warren	Evelyn Hays
Martin Casteel	Rachel Grubbs
Bernice Thomas	David Gardner
Gladys Johnson	Polly Davis
Irene Mitchell	Katherine Stoffregen
Bobbie Adcock	Elmer Mitchell
Henrietta Word	Ruth Lawson
Molly Weeks	Jeff Waddell
Wayne Garner	Thomas Lovell
Marie Welden	Mark Hargrove
Irene Daniel	Bayless Romine

Athens Convalescent Center:

Betty Bates, rm. 17

Limestone Health Facility:

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118	J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E
Robert Tinnon, rm.100	Rosella Pugh, rm. 83
Mary Smith, rm. 85	

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
Mary Coggins, at home
Majorie Lambert

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

PLACED MEMBERSHIP: *Monroe and Yvonne Pressnell* have expressed their desire to place membership here with church here at Market Street. We want to extend to them a warm welcome and look forward to our working together with them.

MARKET STREET MESSENGER: The *Market Street Messenger* is e-mailed each week to about 325 different people. Some sent to people in Athens, some sent to people located throughout the United States and some are sent to people in eleven countries throughout the world. If you know of someone that would like to receive the bulletin each week, please give me their e-mail address.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Beasleys: Robert and Mot* have been in North Carolina this past week visiting their new grandson and his family... *The Noblitts: Frank and Ava* were in Knoxville, Tennessee due to Frank's work schedule.

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 24th

Sunday:

- Bible Classes..... 110
- Morning Worship 137
- Evening Worship..... 117

Wednesday:

- Bible Classes..... 87

Gospel Meeting

April 18-22, 2010

Buc Chumbley, Speaking

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street
Athens, Alabama

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, January 31st:

Morning Worship

- Announcements Kenneth Smith
- Song Leader Joel Hamm
- Prayer Jack Cannon
- Preaching David Cox
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding Stuart Wilson
- Assisting Marty Adams
- Serving Landon Adams..... Frank Noblitt
- Cory Nelson..... Gilbert Hardy
- Closing Prayer Jerry McGlocklin

Evening Worship

- Announcements Kenneth Smith
- Song Leader Joel Hamm
- Prayer Bonnie Sutton
- Preaching David Cox
- Lord's Supper Marty Adams
- Closing Prayer Hunter Cox

Other Assignments for Sunday, January 31st:

- Usher Danny Johnson
- Work Sound System Marty Adams

Wednesday, February 3rd:

- Song Leader Tommy Burns
- Bible Reading..... (Proverbs 29:15-27)
- Marion Mitchell
- Prayer Wayne Vaughn
- Invitation Marty Adams
- Closing Prayer Lifford Smith

Sunday, February 7th:

Morning Worship

- Announcements Jerry McGlocklin
- Song Leader Stuart Wilson
- Prayer Tyler Cox
- Preaching David Cox
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding Frank Noblitt
- Assisting Bonnie Sutton
- Serving Danny Johnson ... Nathaniel Adams
- Hunter Cox..... Marvin Putman
- Closing Prayer Wayne Vaughn

Evening Worship

- Announcements Jerry McGlocklin
- Song Leader Stuart Wilson
- Prayer Marion Mitchell
- Preaching Warren Glass
- Lord's Supper Bonnie Sutton
- Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, February 7th:

- Usher Russ Wulfekuhl
- Work Sound System Tim Craig