

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

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
Cell: (256) 614-3757

Visit Us On The Web

MarketStreet-church.com

MARKET STREET MESSENGER

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David A. Cox, Editor

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No. 52

The Newness of the New Life

David A. Cox

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" —

(2 Corinthians 5:17)

Paul reminds the Corinthians about the newness of life each one in Christ possesses. Interestingly, Paul is not referencing those who have recently become Christians; he says "if anyone is in Christ." It needs to be understood that everyone in Christ is new. We often consider something being new only if it is of recent origin. Paul declares that the Christian's life is always new. But sometimes, Christians allow life's experiences to tarnish the newness of the new life that is in Christ. Let's consider three ways that we keep the newness in the new life.

Let Go of the Past.

We need to remember that regardless of how miserably we have failed in our life, God's desire is for us to be saved. The people of Israel were constantly failing to please God in their life and service to Him. God says to them, "Do not remember the former things, Nor consider the things of old" (Isaiah 43:18). God will forgive us when we fail and turn to Him and ask for forgiveness. Jeremiah speaking of the day when Christ would be reigning says, "I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more" (Jeremiah 31:34). God's desire is for us to receive His forgiveness and move on. Too often, we may be in the right place at the right time, but our focus on the past causes us to miss out on the new things God has put before us. May we let go of the past and see the new things we can do.

Hungering and Thirsting for Righteousness.

In giving the Beatitudes, Jesus said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled" (Matthew 5:6). Righteousness comes from the commandments of God (Psalm 119:172). To hunger and thirst for the commandments of God requires that we go to the word of God to study to learn the will of God. We know the will of God by

diligent study of the scriptures. Paul told Timothy, “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15). “All Scripture is given by the inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness” (2 Timothy 3:16). When we hunger and thirst after righteousness, we will be reading, studying, and meditating on the word of God. In doing this, we will keep our focus fresh and new, and the newness of the new life will be in our focus.

Be Renewed in the Spirit.

As Paul writes to the Ephesians about the new man in Christ, he tells them to put away the former life “and be renewed in the spirit of your mind” (Ephesians 4:23). I am convinced that many people fail to find happiness, joy, and peace in the new life because they still want to hold on to the identity of the former life. God wants your identity to be transformed into His image. God wants our hearts to be molded into a heart like His. To mold our hearts, Paul says, to “put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts....Put on the new man which was created according to God in true righteousness and holiness.” (Ephesians 4:22,24). As we transform our hearts and lives to the image God desires for us, then we will be in the proper position to see the new things God is doing in us and for us.

Let us see the greatness of the newness of the new life. May we put off the things of life that will bring us down. May we look into the word of God and put it on in every aspect of our lives. In doing so, we will experience the love, joy, and peace in being new.



The Scapegoat

Jeff Himmel

In modern terms, a scapegoat is a person who gets all the blame for whatever goes wrong, even though it's not all his fault. People are made scapegoats so that others can escape blame.

Did you know that the concept of the scapegoat comes from the Bible?

In Leviticus 16, God gave the Israelites instructions concerning the Day of Atonement. The sacrifices and rites described in that chapter were carried out year after year as the means of atoning for the sins of the people. Among other things done on the Day of Atonement, the high priest selected two male goats. One goat was sacrificed as a sin offering for the people and its blood sprinkled on the mercy seat of the ark in the tabernacle. The other goat was presented alive before the Lord. The high priest laid his hands on its head and confessed the sins of the people, then the goat was led out into the wilderness and released. In this way the sins of the people were symbolically laid on the head of the goat and carried out of their midst. So this goat was called the “goat of removal” or the “scapegoat.” “And the goat shall bear on itself all their iniquities to a solitary land” (Leviticus 16:22).

The commands of the Mosaic Law were only “a shadow of the good things to come” (Hebrews 10:1; Colossians 2:17). As with so many other features of the Law, the role of the scapegoat is truly fulfilled under the New Testament in the person of Christ. In His sacrificial death Jesus took our sins upon Himself and became our “scapegoat.” As Paul said, “He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf” (2 Corinthians 5:21). Jesus’ blood was “poured out for many for forgiveness of sins” (Matthew 26:28). It’s striking that the word “forgiveness” or “remission” in that verse comes from a word that means “to send away.” When an obedient believer comes to Christ, his sins are removed from his life’s record just as the scapegoat was removed from the camp of Israel.

“As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us” (Psalm 103:12).

~via *The Plant City Planter*; Plant City, Florida.

Beacon of Truth

Radio Program

Sunday Mornings

on WVNN 770AM – 92.5 FM

8:30a.m. - 9:00a.m.

**MARKET STREET
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Christ and His Cross

Sean Cavender

Immediately after Peter testified of the identity of Jesus of Nazareth and the truth that Jesus was the Christ, Jesus began to teach of His death (Matthew 16:16-21). Jesus understood that His whole purpose in being sent to earth involved His death. Death was certain, yet it was not something that He ran away from. In fact, His death on the cross was the ultimate display of obedience to God the Father (Philippians 2:8; Hebrews 5:8).

It is at the cross of Jesus that great blessings came for mankind. The sacrifice that the Lord made continues to make an impact upon folks today. The Hebrew writer stated, "...that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man" (Hebrews 2:9). It was through the death upon the cross that grace and salvation were brought into effect.

Justification, redemption, and the remission of sins were made possible through the death of the Lord Jesus. "Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God," (Romans 3:24, 25).

By the grace of God and through our faith in Christ and His death upon the cross at Calvary we are made to live. The apostle Paul once wrote, "I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me," (Galatians 2:20).

Jesus knew the importance of His death and that is why He went to the cross willingly and obediently. It was based upon His understanding of the atonement and forgiveness of sins that He carried His cross, suffered, and died. He went to the cross to become the sacrifice for our sins.

~via *Armor of Light*; Wichita, Kansas.

Remember Our Study Period

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Come Join Us As We Study Together

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Jennifer Threet
James Adams
Betty Pepper
Shirley Miller
Diane Kilpatrick

Tena Wells
Donna Wright
JoAnn Gilbert
Doris Lovell

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Tommy Burns
Peggy Pepper
Freddie Mae Elmore
Anita Wheeler
Judy Vaughn
Lloyd Adams
Cornelia Pepper
Cindy Walker
Barry DeFoor
Matt Bassford

Priscilla Tucker
Vicki Stringer
Nikki Ogles
Lona Jackson
Jeanette Weir
Phillip Harwell
Charles Burns
Kenneth Fisher
Al Pollard
Jeannie Felker

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
Connie Brock, rm. 62

Elease Barksdale, rm. 23B
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Janice Moody, rm. 93

Limestone Health Facility:

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 38
Alice Roberson, rm. 49

Bobby Ogles, rm. 13
Ann Bush, rm. 75

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Nell Barksdale; at home
Marci Bassett; Limestone Manor
Deanie Britton; Limestone Lodge
Gwen Bullock; at granddaughter's in Huntsville
Barbara Carter; Traditions
Unaking Currier; Riverside Sr. Living, Decatur
Irene Inman; at home
Stan Stanford; at home
Jimmy Stroud; Valley View, Madison
William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison
Alan Thornton; Limestone Lodge
Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Teresa Mitchell; Maury Regional – Columbia, Tennessee

Updates:

Jennifer Threet is not able to be out at services. Keep Jennifer in your prayers... *James Adams* continues to not be doing well and is unable to be at services... *Donna*

Wright has hospice coming in to assist her at this time. Keep Donna in your prayers . . . *Angie Hinkle* was at the ER Wednesday evening due to colon issues. She was given medicine and released. She is doing better now. . . *Tommy Burns* continues being treated for his cancer and has two more treatments remaining. . . Remember our expecting mothers *Lynsey Adams*, and *Laura Adams*, in your prayers.

CARD WRITING: The card writing group will meet Monday morning, January 10th, to write and mail out cards. If you would like to participate in this, please join them on Monday morning, January 10th at 10:30.

FRANCES BOWERS (1932–2021): It is with sorrow that we note the passing of sister Frances Bowers. Sister Bowers passed away just after midnight on Monday morning. Sister Bowers has been a part of the Market Street church all her life. She was a wife to *Albert “Mutt” Bowers*, who served as a deacon and then as an elder for several years. Frances was an excellent example of a Christian lady. She adorned herself with a meek and quiet spirit as Peter describes a Christian should have. She was a great encouragement to all who were around her. Sister Bowers faithfully attended all the church’s services until her health did not allow her to be out. We have missed sister Bowers presence among us for the last nearly four years, and we will miss her but have great hope for her.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES CLASS: The Tuesday morning Ladies’ Bible class meets each Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. We begin a new study this first Tuesday in January. The class will be studying the “*The Christian in a Secular Age.*” The class meets in the West Auditorium.

SONG SERVICE: This evening will be the time for our regular scheduled song service. I hope everyone will be able to be present.

PICTURES MADE: Pictures are continuing to be made after services. If you need to get your picture made, go to room 22 in the east wing.

OUT OF TOWN: *Nicki Ogles* has been in Orlando, Florida, with her family this week. . . *Joe Hinkle* is in Port St. Lucie, Florida, visiting with family. . . *Leah Richardson* is in Lakeland, Florida, with her family during the holidays . . . *Christian Usery* is in Nashville working.

THE RECORD: Attendance for week of December 19th:

Sunday:	Bible Classes	115
	Morning Worship	141
	Evening Worship	108
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	101

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, December 26th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Terry Andrews
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord’s Supper	
Presiding.....	Harold Ash
Assisting	Albert Haraway
Serving	Kenneth Adams..... Sam Gregory
.....	Charles Vaughn
Closing Prayer	Keenon Currier

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Larry Holt
Prayer.....	Frank Melton
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord’s Supper	Harold Ash
Closing Prayer	Nathaniel Adams
Other Assignments for the week of December 26 th :	
Ushers.....	Tommy Coblenz/Larry Mitchell
Work Sound System.....	Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, December 29th:

Song Leader	Hunter Cox
.....	(John 7:10-24)
Prayer.....	Harvey Nixon
Invitation.....	Hayden Pierce
Closing Prayer	Bob Broadus

Sunday, January 2nd:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Holt
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Albert Haraway
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord’s Supper	
Presiding.....	Terry Andrews
Assisting	Stephen Lynn
Serving	Clayton Hamm
.....	Danny Holt
.....	Heath Dollar
Closing Prayer	Keenon Currier
.....	Tommy Burns

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Holt
Song Leader	Bob Broadus
Prayer.....	Kenneth Smith
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord’s Supper	Terry Andrews
Closing Prayer	Harold Ash
Other Assignments for the week of January 2 nd :	
Ushers.....	Russ Wulfekuhl/Tommy Coblenz
Work Sound System.....	Nathaniel Adams