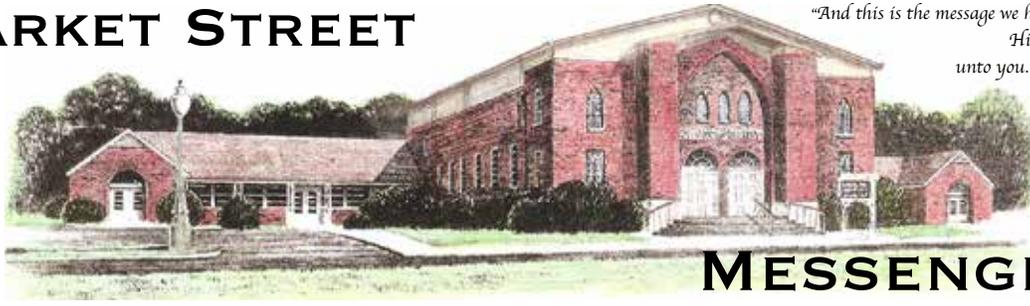


MARKET STREET



"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
*is published in the interest of New Testament
Christianity and to enhance the work of the
Market Street church.*

David A. Cox, Editor

Volume XIV

August 21, 2022

No. 34

Reasons To Rejoice As A Christian

David A. Cox

"Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing" — (Acts 8:39)

Luke records that after the eunuch obeyed the commands of God, "he went on his way rejoicing." The New Testament repeatedly gives instructions to rejoice in life as a Christian. Rejoicing does not mean the Christian's life will never have any difficulties. The fact is that being a faithful child of God we will face trials and tribulations (2 Timothy 3:12). Regardless of the problems in life, the Christian's life is still a life filled with joy, and there is much ever to rejoice. Let us consider three reasons why the Christian can rejoice.

The Joy of Knowing We Are Saved.

When Jesus was born, angels announced, "Do not be afraid, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people" (Luke 2:10). God wanted to bring mankind great joy, and He did this in sending His Son to come to live among men. The joy in Christ's coming is due to the salvation and forgiveness of sins that come through Him. Sin had entered the world, and the requirement to pay for the penalty of sin was something no man could do. God's love for man and His desire to see man saved are the reasons Jesus came to earth (John 3:16). In Acts 2, the men who were convicted of their sins as they heard Peter preach to them cried out to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "what shall we do?" (Acts 2:37). Without Christ, they were lost. They were in their sins and had no hope of salvation. But Peter told them, "Repent and be baptized for the remission of your sins" (Acts 2:38). After they obeyed the command of God and received the forgiveness of their sins, we have them described as being in one accord, eating together with gladness and praising God. Again, we see the joy of the Philippian jailor after he had obeyed God and forgiven of his sins (Acts 16:34). The joy of salvation and having sins forgiven are great reasons for Christians to rejoice.

The Joy of Knowing Brethren Are There For You.

The Christian is a part of the family of God, the body of Christ. There is great joy knowing that as we live this life, we are not alone, and others are there to help us, encourage us, and pray for us. Paul writes about the body to the Corinthians, “there should be no schism in the body, but the members should have the same care for one another. And if one member suffers, all members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it” (1 Corinthians 12:25-26). The joy of the child of God in knowing that you belong and everybody is there for you. What an excellent reason to rejoice as a Christian.

The Joy of Having the Peace of God Within You.

Paul is writing to the Christians at Philippi, telling them to pray with thanksgiving our requests, that the peace of God will guard our hearts and minds (Philippians 4:6-7). Peace is something that we must learn and must receive and see in practice in our lives and the lives of others. The peace described by Paul is the peace that comes from the joy of salvation and the joy of fellowship with others saints. To have this joy, we must let the peace of God rule in our hearts (Colossians 3:15). When the peace of God rules in our hearts, we will be people of mercy, longsuffering, and forgiving to others. Peace will control our lives because God is in control, ruling our hearts.

There is no greater joy than being a child of God. Despite the struggles, persecutions, and trials we will face in this life. Do you have this joy? If not, turn your life over to God and let Him rule, then you can have the joy of salvation and fellowship with God and His people.



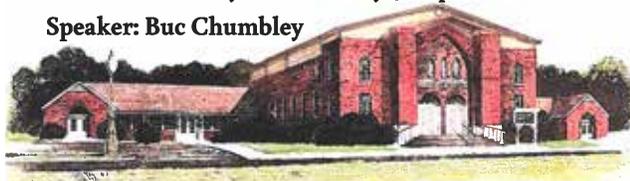
Gospel Meeting

September 11-14, 2022

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Monday — Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Speaker: Buc Chumbley



MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

**514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA**

Open Doors

Clay Gentry

Over the years, I've heard brethren pray for God to “open doors” for the spreading of the gospel. This is a noble request, but I wonder if we're cognizant of the ramifications of such “open doors”. Rather than being occasions of ease, where the masses flock to our church buildings, eager to hear the word, “open doors” are often coupled with adversity, persecution, and suffering. Just ask the apostle Paul...

After returning from his first missionary journey, he reported to the church at Antioch, “all that God had done with [him], and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles” (Acts 14:27). This “open door” came at the price of confrontation (13:8-12), persecution (13:50, 14:5), and stoning (14:19).

While in Ephesus, Paul wrote to the Corinthians advising them, “But I will stay in Ephesus until Pentecost, for a wide door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries” (1 Corinthians 16:8-9). Earlier in the epistle, Paul described the price he paid to walk through the “open door” — I have “fought with beasts” he said (1 Corinthians 15:32). It was a riot against the gospel that finally persuaded Paul to move on (Acts 19:21-41).

Later in Troas, the Lord opened another door for Paul to preach the gospel (2 Corinthians 2:12). Yet again, the apostle went through the open door that the Lord provided and was once again confronted with troubles. While in the port city he stated, “my spirit was not at rest because I did not find my brother Titus there. So, I took leave of them and went on to Macedonia” (1 Corinthians 2:13). Not even in Macedonia could he find relief from his trials, “even when we came into Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were afflicted at every turn—fighting without and fear within” (1 Corinthians 7:5).

Lastly, in his epistle to the Colossians, Paul implored the faithful to “Pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison - that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak” (Colossians 4:3-4). Even in chains, Paul was praying for an “open door” for the gospel. He knew well that “open doors”

and adversity went hand in hand.

From this survey I am not suggesting that we shouldn't pray for God to "open doors" for the gospel. Rather, I am advocating that we must couple those prayers with a plea for God to fortify our faith so that we will walk through "open doors for the gospel" regardless of what adversity lies on the other side.

~via *Jackson Heights church of Christ*; Columbia, Tennessee.



What God Wants

Scott Beyer

"So then it does not depend on the man who wills or the man who runs, but on God who has mercy."
(Romans 9:16)

This verse when wrestled from its context has led to all sorts of troublesome doctrines leading men to believe that our personal conduct has no bearing on our salvation and that God has simply chosen who He will and will not save without regard to their obedience or will. There are numerous passages which clearly teach the opposite of this nefarious doctrine, and I need not cite them all here – suffice it to say, the very existence of the Bible as God's instructions to mankind disproves the doctrine. Why instruct if our choices don't matter?

However, Romans 9 is the conclusion to an entirely different matter. Paul is explaining that God's plan for the salvation of mankind came about through the counsel of God's will and not any human's. God chose Jacob to be the progenitor of the nation of Israel, not Esau, before either boy had done good or bad. God used wicked men like Pharaoh to further His plans even as Pharaoh hated God.

The promises and path to Jesus were created solely because God wanted to and without the help or guidance of any human mind. Salvation in Jesus is God's plan, not ours. You may decide whether or not to follow Jesus, but Jesus is King because of the will of God, and God's will stands. The plan is for us, but it is from Him.

~via *Eastland church of Christ-Bible Bites*; Louisville, Kentucky.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Dale Adcock	Sharon Nave
Margaret Carter	Ruby Dean Ezell
Taylor Gregory	James Adams
Steve Stringer	Dan Lovell
Brad Brown	Shirley Miller
Betty Lovell	JoAnn Gilbert
Doris Lovell	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Tommy Burns	Priscilla Tucker
Peggy Pepper	Vicki Stringer
Freddie Mae Elmore	Nikki Ogles
Anita Wheeler	Lona Jackson
Judy Vaughn	Jeanette Weir
Doris Reid	Lloyd Adams
Charles Burns	Cindy Walker
Kenneth Fisher	Al Pollard
Matt Bassford	Sadricia Wilson
Leigh Ellen Elliott	Wynell Romine
Elmina McLemore	Anthony Sutton
Charlotte Adams	Charlotte Griffin
Anthony Sutton	

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Connie Brock, rm. 62
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Brenda Wilson, rm. 77
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	

Limestone Health Facility:

Marie Nave, rm. 79a	Bobby Ogles, rm. 113
Ann Bush, rm. 75	Betty Christopher, rm. 109
Alice Roberson, rm. 49	

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Bobbie Adcock; at her son's home
Nell Barksdale; at home
Deanie Britton; Limestone Lodge
Gwen Bullock; at granddaughter's in Huntsville
Barbara Carter; Traditions
Unaking Currier; Summerford Health, Falkville
Irene Inman; at home
Stan Stanford; at home
Jimmy Stroud; Valley View, Madison
William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison
Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Linda Meeker; Huntsville Hospital –
Keith Holt; St. Thomas Hospital; Nashville; ICU

Updates:

Taylor Gregory had injections in her lower back on Thursday and is doing better ... **Dale Adcock** is making progress as she recovers from her surgery ... **Sbaron Nave** is recovering from her surgery last week ... **Doris McGuire's son, Tim McGuire**, had a PET scan done on Friday in preparation for surgery to remove his tumor in his stomach on Monday in Birmingham... **Debra Holt's aunt, Charlotte Adams**, is not doing well at all, someone sitting with her around the clock ... **Harold Davis's sister, Linda Meeker**, is improving as she is taking therapy ... **Roger & Wendy Hammonds' niece, Brooklyn Berthiaume**, had a PET scan and received a good report that her cancer hasn't spread any more and the treatments seem to be working... **Keith Holt, the oldest son of Danny and Larry's brother, Mike**, continues in the hospital following his surgery and has been having difficulty in his recovery. He was able to take a few steps on Friday and pull himself up with a little more ease. Keep him in your prayers.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES CLASS: The Ladies' Bible class meets on Tuesday morning at 10:30. The class is studying "The Christian in a Secular Age."

DEATH: My uncle and **Jackie Cox's brother, Howard Morris**, passed away early Saturday morning in Florence at the North Alabama Medical Center. His funeral arrangements are incomplete at this time.

UKRAINE: Continue to remember the people suffering in Ukraine as they deal with the terrible atrocities being inflicted upon them. Remember to pray for the people in Ukraine, especially our brethren there.

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

AWAY FROM US: **Kenneth Adams** is in Auburn for school... **Keenon Currier** is in Monterey, California, where he is stationed. Keenon and Kenneth's addresses are on the bulletin board in the vestibule.

PICTURES: Have you had your picture made? We are continuing to make and update pictures of everyone for the Market Street directory. Please plan to get your picture made in the next few weeks.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of August 14th:

Sunday:	Bible Classes	122
	Morning Worship	150
	Evening Worship	105
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	86

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, August 21st:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Keith Hinkle
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Hunter Cox
Assisting	Terry Andrews
Serving	Sam Gregory
	Hayden Pierce
	Jonathan Traylor
	Matthew Usery
Closing Prayer	Larry Mitchell

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Larry Holt
Prayer.....	Harold Ash
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Hunter Cox
Closing Prayer	Clayton Hamm
Other Assignments for the week of August 21 st :	
Ushers.....	Marcus Morris/Marvin Putman
Work Sound System.....	Russ Wulfekuhl

Wednesday, August 24th:

Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Bible Reading	Terry Andrews
	(John 17:20-26)
Prayer.....	Marty Adams
Invitation.....	Albert Haraway
Closing Prayer	Tommy Burns

Sunday, August 28th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Bonnie Sutton
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Tommy Coblenz
Assisting	Joel Hamm
Serving	Landon Adams
	Danny Holt
	Griffin Holt
	Marvin Putman
Closing Prayer	Stephen Lynn

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Albert Haraway
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Tommy Coblenz
Closing Prayer	Nathaniel Adams
Other Assignments for the week of August 28 th :	
Ushers.....	Larry Mitchell/Tommy Coblenz
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt