

# 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

Volume XV

December 31, 2023

No. 53

## *The New Year and the Potential of It*

**David A. Cox**

*"For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" — (Esther 4:14).*

We have come to a new year and can make a fresh start. This is a clean slate in front of us with endless potential. What you do today, you will look back in the months ahead and see a difference you have made. Mordecai makes this point to Esther. Many times, we may not realize it, but we may often find ourselves on a path to accomplish much good in our lives and those around us. It is just a matter of doing, saying, or serving in a way to help bring about the good. Let us consider what we can gain from this.

### **You Are In A Unique Position.**

Only you are going to experience all the things that you will experience. Only you will have contact with all the different individuals you will have contact with. You are unique in the fact when and where you were born, grew up, and developed all the skills that you uniquely have. There are many people in the world and many different cultures, but you are the only one who is you. Esther did not see herself as unique or important to God's plan, but who else was in her place, at that time, with the unique position to do something. Esther saw herself just like other Jews, living every day and doing her best to survive. However, the distinct possibilities of who she was, where she was, where she was from, the time and place of her influence on others, and the wisdom of God's will made her invaluable at this time.

### **Look At Yourself and What You Have.**

It is without question that God has made us so different, and each one has been given skills, talents, influence, etc., that are special to each of us. Most people will not be famous, but we can serve where we are and be what God wants us to be. Moses is another example of a man who led God's people out of Egyptian bondage, but he did not see himself as the

### **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 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](http://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*

leader (Exodus 3:1-11). Esther did not see herself in the position to lead either. Still, both could do different things in different ways to effectively bring God's will about. Consider ways you can help the cause of Christ in your unique position at this time. Many excuses are often given for why we cannot do things, but let us stop the excuse-making and look at the possibilities before us.

At midnight tonight, a new year will ring in. Will we look at ways to serve in the place we are in for the new year? We have a new year. We can start with a fresh slate. Take the new slate and use opportunities before us to bring glory to God and help others come to know Him.



## *Three Persons of the Godhead*

**Paul Earnhart**

*Many People Are Puzzled By The Thought of One God Being In Three Persons.* Many efforts have been made to explain this difficulty. Some have concluded that there is only one person who is God. They say that the Father and the Son and the Holy spirit are all the same person. They tell us that Jesus was all three of these.

At the baptism of Jesus, there were three distinct divine persons present. Jesus was in the water. At the same time the Holy spirit was seen descending as a dove. And at the same time, God the Father spoke from heaven saying, "This is My beloved Son" (Matthew 3:16-17). If there were not three persons involved, the whole scene was a deception, and God does not deceive us.

When the Bible says there is one God, it is saying that there is one divine Godhead or Godhood. There is one human manhood, composed of billions of people now living, and there is one Godhood, composed of three persons. Anyone who is the son of a human is human. In the same way, the Son of God is God. The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are the one God.

From the baptism of Jesus onward we see the Holy Spirit working in Jesus and accomplishing mighty

works. We also see evidence that Jesus was in constant communication with the Father, saying exactly what the Father wanted said and doing exactly what He wanted done. God the Father is a Spirit who cannot be seen, but because of the perfect union between Him and Jesus, we see in Jesus everything that can be seen of the Father. That is the reason Jesus could later say, "He who has seen Me has seen the Father...Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority: but the Father who dwells in Me does the works." (John 14:9-10). If you would know God, you must know Him through Jesus Christ, His Son. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6)

~via *Family News & Notes*; Cypress, Texas.



## *The Power To Follow*

**Shawn Bain**

*"Peter said to Him, 'Lord, why can I not follow You now?'"* — (John 13:37).

There are times when you cannot understand why you cannot do what you want to do, especially when you are told you cannot do it. At times our impatience gives in to impulse and presumption, and we appear to be running ahead of God rather than with God. Peter is such an example.

Peter was not willing to wait for God. He predicted in his own mind where and what he would do. Regardless of where the test came from, he knew he could overcome, even if it meant "I will lay down my life for Your sake." Undoubtedly, Peter was honest but ignorant. "Jesus answered him, '...the rooster shall not crow till you have denied Me three times'" (John 13:38). Jesus said this with a deeper knowledge of Peter than Peter had of himself.

Peter could not wait until later to follow Jesus. It was 'now or never', but Jesus told Peter, "...you cannot

follow Me now, but you shall follow Me afterward” (John 13:36). After Jesus’ resurrection, He approached Peter with two powerful words “Follow Me” (John 21:19). About three years earlier Jesus said, “Follow Me” (Matthew 4:19), and Peter followed with no hesitation. Peter did not need a powerful jolt from the Holy Spirit to cause him to follow Jesus. He did it of his own free will. Later he came to the place where his heart faltered and denied Jesus. After the resurrection, no one is in front of Peter except the Lord Jesus Christ. The first “Follow Me” was nothing mysterious. It was an external following. Jesus was asking for an internal sacrifice and yielding (John 21:18).

After Peter’s denial of the Lord with oaths and curses (Matthew 26:69–75), he comes to a complete end of himself and all of his self-sufficiency. There was no part of himself he would ever rely on again. In his state of need, sorrow, and guilt, he was finally ready to receive all that the risen Lord had for him. “...He breathed on them, and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit’” (John 20:22). Peter was then prepared to teach, heal, lead, help, love, and die for the Lord.

All the promises and vows we make may end in denial, because we have no power to accomplish them. When we come to the end of ourselves (Matthew 16:24), in need, in sorrow, and at our rock bottom, we are able to “receive the Holy Spirit.” To let the Holy Spirit guide you is to allow an invasion into your life – totally. At that point, there will be only One who directs the course of your life – the Lord Jesus Christ.

~via *Eastside church of Christ*; Bowling Green, Kentucky

## News & Notes

### THE SICK:

Jennifer Threet	Sue Thomas
Harvey Nixon	James Adams
Weston Gregory	Jewel Dean Kennemer
Taylor Gregory	Kenia Adams
William Thomas	Margaret Carter
Shelby Kirkland	Pat Nixon
Shirley Miller	Wayne Faulk
Amy Gill	

### *Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:*

Danny Johnson	Doris Lovell
Priscilla Tucker	Peggy Pepper
Vicki Stringer	Anita Wheeler
Nikki Ogles	Wynell Romine
Judy Vaughn	Jeanette Weir
Lloyd Adams	Charles Burns
Cindy Walker	Al Pollard
Anthony Sutton	Jerry Lawrence
Henry Fusch	Liz Fusch
Kimberly Pressnell	Tim McGuire
Monica Nelson	Mary Cox

### *Updates:*

*Anita Wheeler* is doing better at home after her bout with pneumonia ... *Penny Bates* went to the doctor at Vanderbilt on Tuesday. The doctor plans remove all three growths at the same time and will be scheduling the surgery... *Sherry Hasting* is better and was able to be at Bible study Wednesday... *Sherry Davis* had three of the heart tests done on Thursday in Huntsville. They will schedule the fourth test before her appointment on January 12<sup>th</sup>... *Harvey Nixon* has been dealing with congestion and coughing for the last couple of weeks. He has been tested for the flu, RSV, and the virus, and all the tests are negative ... *Jewel Dean Kennemer* has been sick with the virus ... *William Thomas* was diagnosed with the virus after having pneumonia last week ... *Rita Smith’s son, Stephen Smith* had colon surgery on Wednesday in Tuscaloosa to remove a portion of his colon. The surgery was more extensive than originally planned. He is to be released today from Druid City Hospital... *Kim Pressnell, Bonnie & Beverly Sutton’s daughter*, is not doing well. She has had to have fluid drained from her lungs the last two weeks and the melanoma is in the fluid... Remember our expectant mother, *Lynsey Adams*, in your prayers.

### *Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:*

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Brenda Wilson, rm. 38
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 2	Janice Moody, rm. 99
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Connie Brock, rm. 62
Betty Howard, rm. 109	

### *Limestone Health Facility:*

Marie Nave, rm. 84a	Ann Bush, rm. 75
---------------------	------------------

### *Shut-In or Away From Home:*

Nell Barksdale; at home  
 Gwen Bullock; at granddaughter’s in Huntsville  
 Barbara Carter; Limestone Lodge  
 Unaking Currier; Summerford Health, Falkville  
 Irene Inman; at home

Lona Jackson; Vitality Living, Huntsville  
 Bobby Ogles; Story Point West, Knoxville, Tennessee  
 Stan Stanford; Goldton at Athens  
 William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison  
 Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

**OUT OF TOWN:** *The Bradleys: Steve & Marilyn* are in Texas for the holidays, visiting with family... *The Holts: Larry, Shelia & Griffin* have been out of town this week... *Joe Hinkle* is in Florida to be with his family... *The Parks: Charles, Meredith, Aabron, Harper & Carson* are back home after being in St. Louis, Missouri last week.

**TUESDAY MORNING LADIES CLASS:** The Tuesday morning Ladies' Bible class meets on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 in the West Auditorium. All ladies who are able to come are invited to be a part of this class.

**CARDWRITING:** The card writing group that meets regularly to write and mail cards to people for appreciation and encouragement will not be meeting to do cards this week. The group will resume their regular schedule on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. If you want to be a part of this group, meet with them on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

**NURSING HOME SINGING:** The singing on Tuesday evening at the *Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care* has been suspended temporarily. The plan is to resume the singing next Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>.

**THE FLOWER FUND:** There is a flower fund maintained by the members of the Market Street church for the sending of flowers and plants to families during periods of bereavement. If you would like to participate in this work, please contribute your money to *Ida Nell Griffin*, who looks after this fund.

**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.

**THE RECORD:** *Attendance for the week of Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>:*

Sunday:	Bible Classes .....	141
	Morning Worship .....	165
	Evening Worship .....	124
Wednesday:	Bible Classes .....	99



### Communion Preparation for January

Communion Bread — Lisa Wulfekuhl  
 Communion Cups — Marcus Morris

### Men Privileged To Serve:

#### Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>:

##### Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader .....	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Larry Snell
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harvey Nixon
Assisting .....	Stephen Lynn
Serving .....	Nathaniel Adams..... Hunter Cox
.....	Joel Hamm .....
.....	Luke Vaughn
Closing Prayer .....	Bob Broadus

##### Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader .....	Griffin Holt
Prayer.....	Larry Tucker
Preaching.....	Young Men
Lord's Supper .....	Stephen Lynn
Closing Prayer .....	Harvey Nixon
Other Assignments for the week of December 31 <sup>st</sup> :	
Usher .....	Marcus Morris/Roger Hammonds
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews

#### Wednesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>:

Song Leader .....	Bob Broadus
Bible Reading.....	Clayton Hamm
.....	(Acts 21:26-40)
Prayer.....	Tony Thomas
Invitation.....	David Cox
Closing Prayer .....	Larry Mitchell

#### Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>:

##### Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader .....	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Harvey Nixon
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Larry Tucker
Assisting .....	Terry Andrews
Serving .....	Harold Davis .....
.....	Ronnie Locke
.....	Christian Usery ...
.....	Matthew Vaughn
Closing Prayer .....	Hayden Pierce

##### Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader .....	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Jerry Baker
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper .....	Larry Tucker
Closing Prayer .....	Tommy Burns
Other Assignments for the week of January 7 <sup>th</sup> :	
Usher .....	Larry Mitchell /Tommy Coblentz
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt