

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

January 1, 2023

No. 1

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

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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



“Faith Is The Victory!”

MARKET STREET FOCUS – 2023

Faith Is The Victory!

David A. Cox

‘For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that overcomes the world — our faith’ – (1 John 5:4).

John writes, reminding us that faith is our victory. Faith in Jesus, who came to this life, lived a perfect life, and shed His blood on the cross to redeem me from the grasp of sin. We often sing an old favorite song that says, “O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever, He sought and bought me with His redeeming blood. He loved me e’er I knew Him, and all my love is due Him. He plunged me to victory, beneath the cleansing flood.” We love the song, the sentiment, the hope, and the joy it fills us with. We often face times in life when it does not look like victory. We seem to struggle with the headwinds of life. Yes, in this life we are faced with insurmountable odds, but we need not give up because our faith is the victory that overcomes the world. Let us consider the victory we have through faith.

What Do We Mean By Faith? The faith mentioned by John is not

a kind of wishful thinking. The faith in consideration here is grounded in Jesus, the Son of God. It is a belief in the character of Jesus, in the life Jesus lived, and in the death, He died to bring us the forgiveness of sin. It is the kind of faith the Hebrew writer speaks of that will be pleasing to God (Hebrews 11:6). It is the faith that will not allow us to die in our sins (John 8:24). It is a trust and confidence to do things that please God regardless of what things may appear to be in life.

Victory Is Real Because of Christ. Many things in life are not real; they are just a facade. They look good on the surface, but they fail to have lasting effects. Jesus offers us real strength to stand against the onslaught of the world's attacks on us. When faith is rooted and grounded in Jesus and the promises He has given to us, then we have an indestructible hope of the victory that is ours. We learn from Jesus how He faced many obstacles in life but continued to do God's will and defeated the world's greatest attack – death! Therefore, Jesus secured the victory and promised victory to all who serve Him.

This year the focus at Market Street will be *"Faith is the Victory."* Our desire will be to develop an unshakable faith that will not be destroyed. We will work to increase our faith, strengthening our hope and resolve to live for Christ.



"That Many Pastors Can't Be Wrong"

Jeff Smelser

So asserted an advertisement for a direct mail service used by more than 1,000 churches. One would think that even with a passing familiarity with the Bible, people would be reluctant to determine the validity of something based on the number of people who believe in it.

When the twelve spies returned to the camp of Israel to report what they had seen in Canaan, ten of them said, "We are not able to go up against the people for they are too strong for us" (Numbers 13:31) while only two said "We should by all means go up and take possession of it, for we shall surely overcome it" (Numbers 13:30). The people, evidently thinking that surely ten

spies couldn't be wrong when only two spies offered a contrary opinion, balked at trying to invade Canaan. The ten were wrong—the two were right.

Goliath was a giant who opposed the army of Israel in the days of King Saul. It was the prevailing opinion that Goliath could not be defeated. "When all the men of Israel saw the man, they fled from him and were greatly afraid" (I Samuel 17:24). It would have been easy for a youth such as David to assume that so many trained soldiers, could not be wrong. But you know the rest of the story.

The law of Moses warned against being swayed by a multitude: "You shall not follow a multitude in doing evil, nor shall you testify in a dispute so as to turn aside after a multitude in order to pervert justice" (Exodus 23:2).

And Jesus said, "Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide, and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter by it. For the gate is small, and the way is narrow that leads to life, and few are those who find it" (Mt. 7: 13-14) And yet the stumbling block for many in obeying the pure gospel of Jesus Christ is that doing so would be an implicit denunciation of Christendom, and it seems that "millions professing Christians can't be wrong!" They can be and they are. And the only way I can be right is to follow God's word without being swayed by the multitudes.

~via *Searching For Truth*; Iuka, Illinois.



Improving

Joshua Welch

I'm working on a sermon for Sunday based out of Psalm 11:3. When I was in college 20 years ago (wow, that was a long time ago), I probably preached a sermon based out of this passage 3 or 4 different places when I was doing a lot of appointment preaching. Back then, I thought it was really good and reused it.

Yet, now that I look back at it, there is no way I could re-preach it today. It is a mess. It needs tossed and rewritten. It would be like preaching from a sawed-off shotgun. I'm not proud of my past when it comes to a

lot of old sermons!

I say all that to say these things:

I am very thankful (and sorry) to those who gave me opportunities to preach when I was younger and patiently helped me develop. We cannot grow if we are not given the opportunity. Thanks for helping me through the growing pains and being encouraging to keep progressing.

Be careful of pride. You may realize someday you were not quite as good as you thought you were. Overconfidence often leads to self-satisfaction which gives birth to a lazy Bible student. I hardly finish a sermon where I do not think of some point, transition, explanation, illustration, etc. I could have improved. I try to be self-critical while being thankful God can use someone like me just as He has always used imperfect people to share His message.

If you don't look back at your old self and see you have improved, then you are either maintaining or declining. So, I rejoice that I can look back and see flaws and imperfections; it means I'm maturing. I imagine there will never be a day when I am finished growing.

So, whatever your goals (especially the spiritual ones), just start where you are and get to improving. I'm here to support you. Hopefully, we'll be able to look back at the old version of you (and me) and be glad it's in the past.

~via *Sound Doctrine*; Las Vegas, Nevada.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Bonnie Sutton	Steve Stringer
Helen Blankenship	Pat Nixon
Dale Adcock	Shirley Miller
James Adams	Betty Lovell
Doris Lovell	Keith Holt
Preston Howard	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Sharon Nave	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
Wynell Romine	Anthony Sutton
Tim McGuire	Barbara Piper
Henry Fusch	Liz Fusch

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

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

Limestone Health Facility:

Marie Nave, rm. 84a	Alice Roberson, rm. 49
Ann Bush, rm. 75	

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Nell Barksdale; at home
Deanie Britton; Limestone Lodge
Gwen Bullock; at granddaughter's in Huntsville
Barbara Carter; Goldton at Athens
Unaking Currier; Summerford Health, Falkville
Irene Inman; at home
Bobby Ogles; Story Point West, Knoxville, Tennessee
Stan Stanford; at home
William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison
Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

JoAnn Gilbert; Athens--Limestone Hosp. - rm. 222
Dan Lovell; Huntsville Hosp. - rm. 1749

Updates:

JoAnn Gilbert is in the Athens-Limestone Hospital and is not well at all...*Dan Lovell* is in the Huntsville Hospital, and they started another medication this week to help his platelet count to increase...*Dale Adcock* continues her recovery at home. She will go back to doctor next Monday...*Bonnie Sutton* is doing some better but still has not been able to be out...*Vicki Stringer* had a series of treatments this week...Remember our expecting mother, *Heather Cox*, in your prayers.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Hayden Pierce*, in the passing of his grandmother, *Bobbie Higginbotham*, on Wednesday night. Her visitation and funeral were at Limestone Chapel on Saturday. She was last to rest in Roselawn Cemetery. May the Lord bless Hayden and all the family at this time... We want to express our deepest sympathy to all the family of *Shelia Stanford*. Shelia passed away on Thursday at her home. Shelia and her husband, Stan,

attended here several years ago. May the Lord bless this family at this time.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES' CLASS: The Ladies' Bible class will meet on Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. They are studying "The Parables of Jesus."

OUT OF TOWN: The Parks: Charles, Meredith, Aahron, Harper & Carson have been in Missouri visiting family... **Joe Hinkle** has been in West Palm Beach, Florida with his son. He will also spend time with his daughter in Port St. Lucie, Florida.

RICKEY LANE CHANEY (1953 – 2022): It is with deep sadness that we note the passing of brother **Rickey Chaney**. Rickey passed away this past week at his home. Rickey had been a member of the Market Street church for many years. He loved the church and was faithful to attend when he was able. Rickey had not been able to be with us the last 6 weeks or so, due to a kidney infection. We will miss Rickey's presence among us. May the Lord bless all of his family at this time. The vistration will be Monday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., the funeral will be at 12:00 p.m. at the Morrison Funeral Home in Tuscumbia. May the Lord bless Rickey's family at this time.

BIBLE DRILL: Next Sunday January 8th, we will begin to have a Bible Drill at 4:45 before our evening service. I hope that all of our children will be able to come and participate in this time of instruction and learning.

CARD WRITING: The card writing group will meet next Monday morning, January 9th, at 10:30 to write and mail out cards. If you would like to do this, join them next Monday morning.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of Dec. 25th:
 Sunday: Bible Classes 120
 Morning Worship 141
 Evening Worship 129
 Wednesday: Bible Classes 89

Eleventh Annual Singing

February 24, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

Song Leaders: Jim Deason, Johnny Felker & Tim Stevens



MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST
 514 WEST MARKET STREET
 ATHENS, ALABAMA

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, January 1st:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....Tommy Coblentz
 Song Leader Stephen Lynn
 Prayer..... Harold Ash
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Albert Haraway
 Assisting Larry Tucker
 Serving Ronnie Locke Danny Johnson
 Sam Gregory Nathaniel Adams
 Closing Prayer Dan Reed

Evening Worship

Announcements.....Tommy Coblentz
 Song Leader Clayton Hamm
 Prayer..... Terry Andrews
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper Albert Haraway
 Closing Prayer Landon Adams
 Other Assignments for the week of January 1st:
 Ushers..... Marvin Putman/Heath Dollar
 Work Sound System..... Larry Holt

Wednesday, January 4th:

Song Leader Griffin Holt
 Bible Reading Heath Dollar
 (Acts 2:40-47)
 Prayer..... Jerry Baker
 Invitation..... David Cox
 Closing Prayer Hayden Pierce

Sunday, January 8th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....Keith Hinkle
 Song Leader Tommy Burns
 Prayer..... Larry Mitchell
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Joel Hamm
 Assisting Larry Holt
 Serving Charles Vaughn Griffin Holt
 Luke Vaughn Harold Davis
 Closing Prayer Roger Hammonds

Evening Worship

Announcements.....Keith Hinkle
 Song Leader Hunter Cox
 Prayer..... Marcus Morris
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper Joel Hamm
 Closing Prayer Dan Reed
 Other Assignments for the week of January 8th:
 Ushers..... Danny Johnson/Tommy Coblentz
 Work Sound System..... Terry Andrews