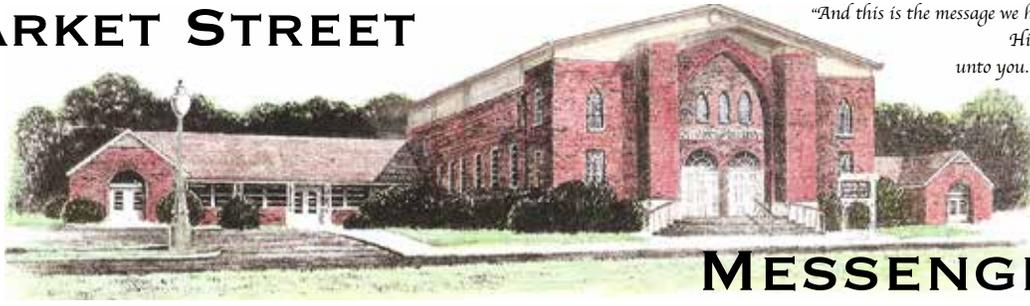


MARKET STREET



"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..... 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

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 XV

January 29, 2023

No. 5

Jesus, The Lamb of God

David A. Cox

"The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, 'Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world'" — (John 1:29).

The lamb has great historical significance to the Jewish people. The Jewish people can be divided into three phases: The family, the tribal, and the national. In the family stage, we find the story of Abraham and Issac going to offer a sacrifice to the Lord, and taking no lamb for Issac was to be the sacrifice (Genesis 22). In the tribal stage, the most impressive story of the Passover (Exodus 12). In the national phase, the chief attraction is the song of the lamb (Isaiah 53:4-7). Throughout the Old Testament, the thoughts were on the lamb, but the question remained, "Where is the lamb?" (Genesis 22:7). John, the Baptist, is the one who will point out the Lamb. The work of John was to prepare the way for the Lamb. As John is baptizing in Bethabara, one day sees Jesus and declares, "Behold, the Lamb of God." Let us consider "Jesus, the Lamb of God."

Jesus Was Innocent, Like a Lamb. Jesus was never stained with sin and was pure and white like the freshly fallen snow. Jesus lived among men and came to the Jews who should have recognized Him, but they did not accept Him. They rejected Him, falsely accusing Him of violating God's law. Still, time and time again, they were proven to be false charges. Even in the end, those who opposed Christ brought false witnesses to accuse Him and called for His life to be taken when the Romans tried to release Him. Judas, the betrayer of Jesus, referred to Jesus as "innocent blood" (Matthew 27:4). Pilate declared about Jesus, "I find no fault in this Man" (Luke 23:4). Pilate's wife called Jesus, "That righteous man" (Matthew 27:19). Peter writes in his epistle saying Jesus was "without blemish" (1 Peter 1:19, 22). Indeed, Jesus was innocent, like a lamb.

Jesus Was Gentle, Like a Lamb. Isaiah speaks of the Messiah, "He will not cry out, nor raise His voice, Nor cause His voice to be heard in the street. A bruised reed He will not break, and smoking flax He will not quench; He will bring forth justice for truth" (Isaiah 42:2-3). In the life of Jesus, we see

a life that exhibited such gentleness in every situation, regardless of how the ruling elite tried to trap Him. He was never guilty of losing His temper and letting off steam. He loved children and desired to have them brought to Him (Matthew 19:13-15). Even as Jesus is hanging on the cross and men are at the foot of the cross reviling Him, Jesus asks God to forgive them (Luke 23:34). Truly, in Jesus, we see the gentle Lamb of God.

Jesus was Meek, Like a Lamb. Even though Jesus had to endure greater hardships than any ordinary man, He never complained. Like a lamb that submits to shearing or slaughter without resistance, Jesus, the Lamb of God, submitted to the Father's will. (Isaiah 53:7; Matthew 26:39; 27:50).

Jesus was a Sin Offering, Like a Lamb. Under the law of Moses, offerings were required for sin (Leviticus 22:17-24). The offering for sin was to be a lamb without blemish. Jesus, the Lamb of God, is the perfect sacrifice to take away the sins of the whole world. Another sacrifice is not needed. Under the law, sacrifices came year after year, but the Lamb of God removes sin forever.

May we come to know Jesus, the Lamb of God, and accept His sacrifice for our sins. May we put our lives in His hands and let Him direct our ways so that we may please God.



Eli's Family Failure

Jeff Himmel

Eli was the high priest of Israel. He was a good man, but his two sons were a different story: they were "worthless men" who "did not know the Lord" — that is, they did not respect God's authority (1 Samuel 2:12). Eli's sons abused their position as priests for selfish gain, showed disregard for the sacrifices they administered, and even used the women who served outside the tabernacle for their own sexual pleasure (verses 12-17, 22).

Eventually a word came from the Lord: "I am about to judge [Eli's] house forever for the iniquity which he

knew, because his sons brought a curse on themselves and he did not rebuke them" (3:13).

Notice that God condemned Eli's failure as a father...

Even though Eli was a moral man. As far as we can tell from the Biblical account, Eli wasn't a drunk, a thief, or a liar. He didn't cheat on his wife or beat on his wife. All indications are that he was a man of godly character. Yet he neglected the vital responsibility of training his sons in the fear of God. And for that, God held him accountable.

Even though Eli was very busy. Eli's role as high priest carried numerous responsibilities that would have kept him quite busy — responsibilities that were given by God Himself, let's remember. But Eli's many important duties as priest did not offset or excuse his failure to discipline his boys.

Even though Eli was a spiritual leader. As Israel's high priest, Eli mediated between the nation and God. He set the tone for the spiritual direction of the people. He would have been greatly respected. But Eli's role and reputation as priest did not absolve him of the duty to train and correct his children. This spiritual leader in Israel did not show the needed spiritual leadership in his own family.

But doesn't the Bible say that Eli objected to his sons' behavior? Yes, it does (1 Samuel 2:23-25). Yet the Lord's analysis was that "he did not rebuke them" (3:13, NASB) — or, as several translations read, "he did not restrain them." The point is that Eli did far less than he should have done to rein in his sons' blasphemous conduct.

Eli thus comes across as the kind of parent whose words of reproof are ineffective because there is no resolve behind them; the kind of parent whose child knows that wrongdoing may bring a verbal reprimand, but never any real consequences. Although the text doesn't say, it's hard not to think this was a lifelong pattern in Eli's parenting, something that helped to harden his sons in their hedonistic behavior. The picture of Eli in 1 Samuel is not of a man whose sons went rogue despite his best efforts, but of a man whose efforts toward them were neglected. God's words to Eli indicate that, by failing to discipline his sons, he had made himself complicit in their evil. Whether he realized it or not, his problem was one of mixed-up priorities; he honored his sons above God (1 Samuel 2:29).

I don't think any Christian looks at Eli's story and says, "That's the kind of parent I want to be." But the depressing truth is that more than a few end up imitating him. Some disciples who are moral people in every observable way still fail to do what they should to train their children in godliness. Some are so busy with so many things — even if they are good things — that they neglect the time, consistent effort, and self-sacrifice that are crucial to raising children. Sometimes elders, deacons, and preachers have failed in their duties as fathers because they gave so much time and energy to their roles in the church that they had none left to give to their equally important roles in their families. Like Eli, some Christian parents honor their children above God, valuing their kids' temporal "happiness" more than their souls.

"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6). "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4). Be warned: being morally good, being busy, even being a respected influence among God's people — none of these excuse us from the great responsibility that is laid on us when we become parents. Dads and moms, let's learn from Eli's failure, and let's resolve, with God's help, not to follow in his steps.

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

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Jared Smith Family	Jennifer Threet
Pat Nixon	Paul Adcock
Dale Adcock	Steve Stringer
Helen Blankenship	James Adams
Shirley Miller	Betty Lovell
Doris Lovell	Keith Holt
Buzz Lovell	

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
Jerry Lawrence	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; Goldtron at Athens
 William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison
 Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Dan Lovell; Encompass Rehabilitation – Huntsville
Michael Vaughn; Maury Regional — Columbia, Tenn.
Tim McGuire; UAB Hospital — Birmingham
Kimberly Pressnell; Huntsville Hospital, rm.

Updates:

The Smith Family: *Jared, Jennifer, Owen, Wyatt & Henry* have continued to be sick and unable to be out... **Dale Adcock** will go back in next week to be put in a walking boot ... **Paul Adcock** will have a MRI done February 3rd... **Doris McGuire's son, Tim McGuire**, had surgery in Birmingham to remove his stomach and lymph nodes... **Bonnie Sutton's daughter, Kimberly Pressnell**, had surgery Thursday evening to remove a mass in her neck... **Mitzi Carruth** is scheduled to have back surgery on February 27th ... **Michael Vaughn** continues in the Maury Regional Medical Center in Columbia, Tennessee... **Jackie Cox' niece, Sadrica Wilson**, is in Tijuana, Mexico to take treatments for her cancer ... **Buzz Lovell** had bladder surgery for a mass. He has not received any word yet ... Remember our expecting mothers, **Heather Cox, and Laura Adams** in your prayers.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE DRILL: Remember the

Children's Bible Drill this afternoon 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.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Ashes:* Harold & Barb are in Fort Walton Beach, Florida this week. . *Jonathan Traylor* is in San Antonio, Texas this weekend.

PLACED MEMBERSHIP: We rejoice that *Louise Melvin* and *Larry Snell* have both expressed their desires to be a part of the Market Street church. Let us all extend to them a warm welcome to the work here.

WORSHIP LEADER TRAINING: On Saturday and Sunday February 25th-26th, *Tim Stevens* will be with the church here following the Annual Singing on Friday night. Tim will be working with our Song Leaders as they will be focusing on directing our worship to God. There will be sessions on Saturday morning and afternoon. Mark your calendars for this weekend.

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.

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.

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

THE RECORD: *Attendance for the week of Jan. 22nd:*

Sunday:	Bible Classes	126
	Morning Worship	152
	Evening Worship	124
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	90

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 29th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams	
Song Leader	Joel Hamm	
Prayer.....	Bob Broadus	
Preaching.....	David Cox	
Lord's Supper		
Presiding.....	Keith Hinkle	
Assisting	Jerry Baker	
Serving	Christian Usery	Landon Adams
.....	Heath Dollar	Matthew Usery
Closing Prayer	Marcus Morris	

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Clayton Hamm
Prayer.....	Stephen Lynn
Preaching.....	Young Men
Lord's Supper	Keith Hinkle
Closing Prayer	Hayden Pierce
Other Assignments for the week of January 29 th :	
Ushers.....	Marvin Putman/Tommy Coblentz
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews

Wednesday, February 1st:

Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Bible Reading.....	Danny Johnson
.....	(Acts 4:13-22)
Prayer.....	Hayden Pierce
Invitation.....	Stephen Lynn
Closing Prayer	Nathaniel Adams

Sunday, February 5th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Stephen Lynn	
Song Leader	Larry Holt	
Prayer.....	Marty Adams	
Preaching.....	David Cox	
Lord's Supper		
Presiding.....	Tommy Coblentz	
Assisting	Marcus Morris	
Serving	Charles Vaughn	Ronnie Locke
.....	Sam Gregory	Matthew Vaughn
Closing Prayer	Nathaniel Adams	

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Stephen Lynn
Song Leader	Clayton Hamm
Prayer.....	Kenneth Smith
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer	Dan Reed
Other Assignments for the week of February 5 th :	
Ushers.....	Marvin Putman/Heath Dollar
Work Sound System.....	Russ Wulfekuhl