

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 24, 2023

No. 52

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
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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

Martha's Need for An Attitude Adjustment

David A. Cox

"But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me" — (Luke 10:40).

Martha is a picture of so many, wanting to be a good hostess and wanting everything to be good for her guests. There was nothing wrong with what she was doing. However, amid the things pressing on her, sight was lost of the most important things. She becomes miffed and irritated by each moment. She finally has enough and, with a snippy attitude and self-pity, pleads for Jesus to reprimand her sister. Martha needs to have an attitude adjustment. Let us learn some things from this incident in the life of Jesus.

Negative Attitudes Are Unhealthy and Produce Ungodliness.

We see Martha serving, and yes, Mary should have seen the need to serve, but casting dispersions on Mary was not what she should do. How often someone may be serving doing things, even in the service of the Lord, and people will get a negative attitude about others that they see as not pulling their weight? An attitude like this will say, "I think I will just quit doing it, too." Does that make it right? Looking at others disparagingly will cause an attitude of superiority, arrogance, and smugness. These attitudes are not godly and will not promote godliness in others. Instead, it will build grudges, hyper-critical dispositions, and prejudice. We need an attitude adjustment when times like this occur in our lives.

Positive Attitudes Are Healthy and Produce Godliness.

The opposite of the negative attitudes are the positive attitudes. Think about the person who is not keeping records of what they are doing and what the others around them are doing. They are just working and serving with gladness. In describing such a person, we would think of someone like this as so positive and a joy to be with. Why would we believe that? It is because a person with such an attitude is displaying the characteristics the scriptures teach us we are to live within our lives.

Such a person shows love, benevolence, graciousness, mercy, hope, humility, and obedience. It is in all these characteristics we see the life of Jesus. We think of Jesus and what kind of attitude did He possess? Obviously, we must say, "A positive attitude." Was it because everyone around Him was treating Him with honor and respect? Absolutely not! It was because He was showing us the attitude of God.

Attitudes Matter.

We must conclude that attitudes matter. As the disciples of the Lord, we must let the attitude of Jesus be seen in our lives. Things in life will try to pull us away from the attitude we should have, but remember, attitudes matter. Why? Because attitudes determine our direction in life, affect our relationships, affect our feelings, and draw people in or crowd people out. We must see the value of our attitudes and make them abide in a way that pleases God because they matter.

So, where is our attitude? We are nearing the end of the year, and we are in the middle of the holiday season. What is our attitude now? Are we looking at others and what they have and are getting? Are we positively seeing the blessings God has given to us and thankful for the opportunities to serve? We may find ourselves like Martha; if so, let's make a change. May we remember the important things.



Satan's Techniques for Temptation

Allen Malone

We may not be ignorant of Satan's devices (2 Corinthians 2:11), but may still be overcome by him. The apostle Paul's inspired concerns for saints of his time remain valid. "I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ" (2 Corinthians 11:3 nkjv). Genesis 3 reveals some of the devil's most effective techniques for luring people to sin – especially people who know the Lord and His will.

He pointed to the forbidden (Genesis 3:1). "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'" God had highlighted what was allowed (Genesis 2:16). Satan spot-lighted what was forbidden.

He lied (Genesis 3:4). God had said, "When you eat of it you will surely die." The tempter said to the woman, "You will not surely die."

He misused the truth (Genesis 3:5). "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." This line, while true, (Genesis 3:7, 22), contained a false implication. He used words that were true to falsely imply that the opening of her eyes would be something beneficial, a blessing of which she was presently deprived.

He diverted Eve's focus from God's will (Genesis 3:6). "When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it." His diabolical scheme was successful because he effectively influenced Eve to cease reminding herself of what she knew to be God's will (Genesis 3:2-3), but instead to dwell upon the appealing characteristics of the forbidden fruit.

Satan's tactics then are Satan's tactics now. Genesis 3:6 reveals that his basic approach was to appeal to fleshly desires, visual attraction, and self-exalting pride. The New Testament reveals that these remain the basic appeals that lead people to turn from God's will. "All that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, ... but the one who does the will of God lives forever" (1 John 2:16-17 nasb).

Let's not miss this fact, though: Satan's primary means was deception. All of his devices were intended to accomplish that one end. Satan's temptation was effective because he was able to deceive. Eve admitted it (Genesis 3:13); God acknowledged it (Genesis 3:14); and the New Testament confirms it (2 Corinthians 11:3; cf., 1 Timothy 2:14). "...Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning...."

Furthermore, it is important that those of us who know God and His will notice the nature of Satan's deception. The Bible shows us that Eve was not deceived about God's instructions (Genesis 3:2-3) and may not have been deceived about the consequences of eating (3:4), but rather Satan successfully deceived her about

God Himself (Genesis 3:5).

Satan’s most effective ploy is to convince us that God is something other than a loving, wise, powerful Father who has our best interests at heart.

Let’s not be deceived, but believe! Meditating with joy on God’s sure care for us which He proved by providing us a Savior who was tempted in every way that Eve was and we are, “yet without sin,” is key (Luke 4:1-13; Hebrews 4:15-16). “If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all...” (Romans 8:31-32). “Take heed that you be not deceived!”

~via *Millersville church of Christ*; Goodlettsville, Tennessee,



“Faith Is The Victory!”

MARKET STREET FOCUS – 2023

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Jennifer Threet | Larry Tucker |
| Theresa Tucker | Danny Holt |
| Sherry Hasting | Debra Holt |
| Bonnie Morris | Jewel Dean Kennemer |
| Brenda Eden | Anita Wheeler |
| Joel Hamm | Sharma Hamm |
| Harvey Nixon | Hunter Cox |
| Tony Thomas | Kenia Adams |
| Ali Wulfekuhl | Ann McLemore |
| 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 at Tommy & Susan’s after spending a few days in the Madison Hospital with pneumonia ... *Penny Bates* is scheduled to go to the doctor at Vanderbilt on Tuesday concerning the surgery for the growth below the right and the growth on the left side of the thyroid...*Sherry Hasting* is sick with the virus... *Sherry Davis* went to the doctor on Friday concerning her upcoming heart surgery ...*Jewel Dean Kennemer* has been diagnosed with the virus ...*William Thomas* was diagnosed with the virus after having pneumonia last week ...*Sue Thomas’ daughter, Amy Gill*, is at Tony and Sue’s home recovering from her surgery and has been diagnosed with the virus... *Taylor Gregory’s aunt, Monica Nelson*, has surgery planned for her cancer to be followed by radiation...*Kim Pressnell, Bonnie & Beverly Sutton’s daughter*, is not doing well. She had 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... *Joe Hinkle* left Thursday to go to Florida to be with his family for the holidays ... *The Farris:* Larry & Courtney are in Nashville, Tennessee with Courtney's family... *Frank Melton* is in Scottsboro today visiting, with his sister ... *The Parks:* Charles, Meredith, Aabron, Harper & Carson are in Missouri with Meredith's family.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES CLASS: The Tuesday morning Ladies' Bible class will not be meeting this Tuesday, December 26th, but will resume meeting on January 2nd. Remember, this class meets on Tuesday morning 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 8th at 10:30 a.m. If you want to be a part of this group, meet with them on January 8th.

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 on January 9th.

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. 17th:

Sunday:	Bible Classes	125
	Morning Worship	150
	Evening Worship	102
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	78



Communion Preparation for December

Communion Bread — Mary Cecile Keenon
 Communion Cups — Russ Wulfekuhl

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, December 24th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....Keith Hinkle
 Song Leader Larry Holt
 Prayer.....Nathaniel Adams
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Albert Haraway
 Assisting Marcus Morris
 Serving Danny Johnson..... Heath Dollar
 Sam Gregory Matthew Vaughn
 Closing Prayer Danny Holt

Evening Worship

Announcements.....Keith Hinkle
 Song Leader Bob Broadus
 Prayer..... Larry Mitchell
 Preaching..... Song Service
 Lord's Supper Albert Haraway
 Closing Prayer Harold Ash
 Other Assignments for the week of December 24th:
 Usher Hunter Cox/Joel Hamm
 Work Sound System..... Russ Wulfekuhl

Wednesday, December 27th:

Song Leader Albert Haraway
 Bible Reading..... Hayden Pierce
 (Acts 21:15-25)
 Prayer..... Larry Holt
 Invitation..... Hayden Pierce
 Closing Prayer Dan Reed

Sunday, December 31st:

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.....
 Lord's Supper Stephen Lynn
 Closing Prayer Harvey Nixon
 Other Assignments for the week of December 31st:
 Usher Marcus Morris/Roger Hammonds
 Work Sound System..... Terry Andrews