

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
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Athens, Alabama 35612
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No. 5

“A Notable Miracle Has Been Done”

David A. Cox

“For indeed, that a notable miracle has been done through them” (Acts 4:16).

In Acts 3, Peter and John entered the temple at the hour of prayer, and they encountered a lame man (Acts 3). The lame man asked Peter and John for alms, but Peter gave him more than he had ever hoped. Peter healed him, and all the people saw the man who was lame, leaping and praising God, and they were all amazed. The Jewish leaders and the Sanhedrin council were very concerned at this point. Why? Because “a notable miracle has been done,” and they could not deny it (Acts 4:16).

Miracles Worked In New Testament Days

We must clearly understand that the scriptures state that Peter and John did “a notable miracle” on this occasion and on other occasions in the New Testament. We cannot deny them. In Acts 3, we have a man who was lame from his birth. A man who had never walked. All the Jews were familiar with this lame man who had regularly laid at the gate of the temple. There is no doubt his leg muscles were withered. Still, we read as Peter took him by the hand, “and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. So he, leaping up, stood and walked, and entered into the temple, walking, and leaping and praising God” (Acts 3:7-8). The power of God indeed worked this miracle. No power but divine miraculous power could have caused a man lame from his birth to walk and leap immediately. The miracles that Jesus performed were of the same type. The only one who could do this miracle must have the power of God. Matthew records that Jesus, during His earthly ministry, went about “healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of diseases among the people” (Matthew 4:23). One example of the many miracles Jesus performed is raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11:23-ff). How many people can be raised from the dead without divine power? None!

These two miracles show us that all would have to understand these are miracles done by the power of God, and there was no need to try and deny them (Acts 4:16; John 11:47). The evidence is plain and straightforward that Jesus and His disciples performed miracles in the first century. When

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
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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

the question is asked, “Do you believe in miracles?” We must reply, “Yes!”

The Purpose of Miracles

In thinking of miracles, we may think of what many often referred to in this day and age as miracles. But the modern-day claims of miracles are clouded in mystery and suspicion. The miracles claimed to be performed are shadowed in obscurity and unobservable healings such as arthritis, headaches, etc. They are not notable miracles that cannot be denied. The express purpose of modern-day “miracles” are for the easing of pain and suffering. Those who claim to work “miracles” say God does not want his people to suffer; therefore, they claim to perform these “miracles” for this purpose.

What do the scriptures teach about the purpose of miracles? The scriptures’ purpose for miracles is quite different than modern-day reasoning. In Mark 16, we have recorded the great commission that Jesus gave to His disciples to go out and preach the word of God. “And they went out, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word through the accompanying signs” (Mark 16:20). Mark records that they went forth preaching, and the signs confirmed the word they preached. Why were signs or miracles worked? To verify that what the apostles were teaching was from God. The purpose of miracles was to confirm the word and then produce faith in the hearers (John 20:30-31). If these signs had not accompanied those who spoke the truth (the word of God), then how would one be convicted to accept what they taught as being the word of God? The hearers could not have done so. They would have been accepting something blindly and without faith (Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:6).

The need to confirm the word with miracles is no longer needed because the word of God has been completely revealed to us through the work of the apostles (Ephesians 3:3-5). After His death, Jesus told His disciples, they would receive the Comforter to guide them into all truth (John 16:13). Jude said that the “faith was once delivered” (Jude 3), meaning that it was delivered once for all time. There would be no more revelations.

As we think about the miracles performed in the first century, they were indeed notable miracles. Upon these miracles, we profess our faith in Jesus Christ is the Son of God. The miracles testified the preached message, being the truth, confirmed the word of God. Let us not look for signs and miracles to lead us today, but to God’s word that was confirmed by the power of God.

Why The Bible Still Matters

Edwin L. Crozier

Sometime back, I read a blog post by Michael Hyatt entitled “Why Books Still Matter.” He interviewed Dr. Ben Carson, “world-renowned Professor of Neurosurgery, Oncology, Plastic Surgery, and Pediatrics at Johns Hopkins University.” According to the post, Dr. Carson was raised in Detroit in poverty by a single mother who had divorced her husband when she found out he was a bigamist. As a youngster, Dr. Carson was the worst in his class. He described himself as being the safety net for the other children because they all knew they would never get a worse grade than him. This bothered his mother who was a domestic helper in the homes of some very wealthy people. She began to notice that these wealthy people didn’t watch much television, but they seemed to read a lot. So, she got rid of their TV and required her sons to read two library books every week and do a book report on them. That decision changed Dr. Carson’s life. As he developed his reading, he began to believe he was smart and could learn anything. Within two years, he had moved from the bottom of his class to the top. Now he is a renowned author, speaker, doctor, and professor.

Mr. Hyatt’s conclusion from this is that books still matter. He says, “Books do for people what movies, television, magazines, newspapers, blogs, and social media will never do—fundamentally alter their worldview and inspire them to greatness. I rarely meet a person who says, ‘that movie changed my life.’ Or, ‘your blog post transformed me.’ I’m not diminishing either of these.

Both have their place in inspiring, educating, and entertaining others. But there is just something about a book that changes everything. I have met thousands of people through the years who have reported, “That book changed my life.” I can certainly point to the books that have shaped my own life. In fact, we can point to specific books throughout history that have changed entire civilizations.”

I think Hyatt is right. And what I can’t help but think is God gave us a book. And not just any book. He gave us the ultimate of books, the book of books, THE BOOK. He did not give us a video. He didn’t write out a blog. He didn’t provide us with tweets or posts. He did not publish a magazine. He gave us a book. He gave us the one thing throughout history that has changed more lives than anything else.

According to Paul, "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17). No wonder he also told Timothy to "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15). We've got to do our best to be in God's Word and rightly handle it. This book can change our lives like no other book does. We must not let it sit on our book shelves collecting dust or simply allow it to be an arm decoration on our way into the church building.

The psalmist shows that God's book is a life-saver, a soul saver. "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you" (Psalm 119:11). Jesus' memory of it saved Him from the tempter in Matthew 4:1-11. Examine more closely the armor of God in Ephesians 6:14-17 and learn that every piece of the armor is connected to God's book in one way or another.

When Paul was talking to the Ephesian elders for what he thought was going to be the last time, he said, "And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified" (Acts 20:32). I understand that when he said this they didn't have the Scriptures in book form as we do and much of it was still to be written. But that doesn't take away from my point at all. Rather, it demonstrates how fortunate we are. God has taken that Word of His Grace and handed it to us in a book. How powerful. How amazing.

With such a powerhouse handed to us in one volume, what should we do with it? We should read it. Keep reading it. Start reading it, if you must. But read it. The more you read it, the more you will be amazed at how much you learn and can learn. Don't let the preacher or Bible class teacher read it for you. Read it. I'm not saying you have to sell your television as Ms. Carson did. But, wealthy people don't watch as much TV as they read books. I imagine people who are spiritually rich in the Lord don't watch as much TV as they read God's book. Let's remember what can truly change our lives for the better and let's spend more time in it, letting it change us.

~via *Clermont Weekly Bulletin*; Clermont, Indiana.

Remember Our Study Period

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Shirley Miller	Tony Thomas
Harold Davis	Tommy Coblentz
Allison Usery	Frank Melton
Bobbie Adcock	JoAnn Gilbert
Jimmy Johnson	Doris Lovell
Justice Gentry	Glynda Walker
Bobby Ogles	Ann Bush
Marsha Young	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Donna Wright	Loretta Warner
Vicki Stringer	Freddie Mae Elmore
Nikki Ogles	Anita Wheeler
Lona Jackson	Judy Vaughn
Jeanette Weir	Janice Cagle
Cornelia Pepper	Ella Melvin
Wayne Wooldridge	Carrie Warner
Cindy Walker	Kenneth Fisher
Al Pollard	Charles Burns
David Collier	Phillip Harwell
Una King Currier	Lloyd Adams
Gene Carpenter	Wade Williams

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Peggy Pepper, Valley View Rehabilitation

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Elease Barksdale, rm. 22A
Betty Pepper, rm.	Connie Brock, rm. 62
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Brenda Wilson, rm. 77

Limestone Health Facility:

Bettye Harrison, rm. 59	Frances Bowers, rm. 67
Alice Roberson, rm. 49	Mary Ruth Gardner, rm.

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Marci Bassett, Limestone Manor
 Deanie Britton, Limestone Lodge
 Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
 Barbara Carter, Traditions
 Irene Inman, at home
 Stan Stanford, at home
 William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison
 Alan Thornton, Limestone Lodge
 Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Betty Pepper moved to the Restore Rehabilitation this past Tuesday ... **Sam Gregory** had gall bladder surgery this past week ... **Tommy Coblentz** continues to improve from the skin graft he had done on his head last week

...**Margaret Carter** is scheduled to have out-patient surgery on Monday for some skin cancer at Crestwood Hospital in Huntsville ... **Tony Thomas** is scheduled for back surgery on Thursday at Crestwood Hospital in Huntsville... **Frank Melton** eyes are improving slightly. He was approved to be able to drive during the daylight hours ... **Albert & Brenda Haraway's grandson, Justice Gentry**, is recovering from his surgery at Children's Hospital this past Tuesday... **Marci Bassett** has declined and will be moving from Limestone Manor in the coming weeks... **Lona Jackson** fell again this past Thursday at her house, but was not seriously hurt... **Nancy Abernathy's brother, Frank Thornton**, had surgery this past Wednesday for a broken hip he suffered in a fall... **Wade Williams, David Barnett's son-in-law**, has completed his treatments for lymphoma.

CALL MESSAGES FROM MARKET STREET:

From time to time the church at Market Street uses an automated calling system to inform the members of the information that needs to be disseminated quickly. The phone number of the church for these calls is 256-297-2307. If you receive a call from this number, it will be the Market Street church message system. The message system is voice activated, so this will require you to say something and then the message should follow. There may be a slight delay in the start up of the message.

OUT OF TOWN: The Stiles: *Chuck and Benita* are in Vicksburg, Mississippi... **Christian Usery** continues working in Birmingham.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for week of January 24th:*

Sunday:	Bible Classes	95
	Morning Worship	115
	Evening Worship	78
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	66



Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, January 31st:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Harvey Nixon
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Larry Tucker
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Larry Holt
Assisting	Joel Hamm
Serving	Marvin Putman Kenneth Adams
.....	Clayton Hamm Keenon Currier
Closing Prayer	Nathaniel Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Harvey Nixon
Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Prayer.....	Landon Adams
Preaching.....	
Lord's Supper	Larry Holt
Closing Prayer	Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for the week of January 31st:

Ushers.....	Heath Dollar/Larry Mitchell
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews

Wednesday, February 3rd:

Song Leader	Bob Broadus
Bible Reading	Keenon Currier
.....	(1 Peter 4:1-10)
Prayer.....	Stephen Lynn
Invitation	Marty R. Adams
Closing Prayer	Clayton Hamm

Sunday, February 7th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Larry Mitchell
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Larry Tucker
Assisting	Stephen Lynn
Serving	Griffin Holt Roger Hammonds
.....	Danny Johnson Russ Wulfekuhl
Closing Prayer	Dan Reed

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Harvey Nixon
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Larry Tucker
Closing Prayer	Larry Holt

Other Assignments for the week of February 7th:

Ushers.....	Keenon Currier/Marvin Putman
Work Sound System.....	Nathaniel Adams