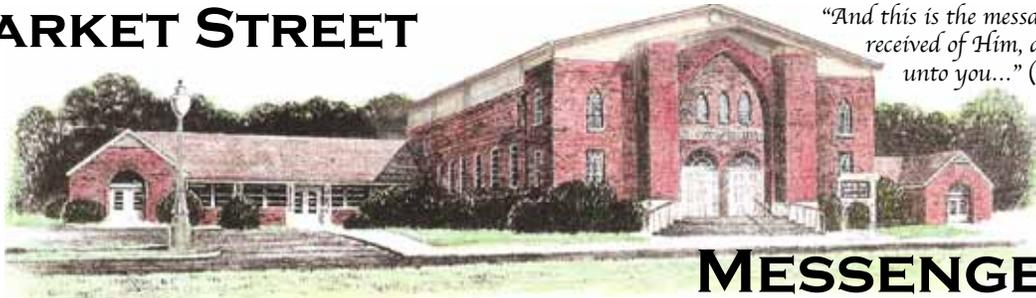


# MARKET STREET



*“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  
Phone (256) 232-1525

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## *Glimpses of Eternity*

**Paul Earnhart**

Jesus was not a soldier or a statesman or a merchant. He was a teacher, unique and incomparable, but a teacher (Matthew 4:23). Those who heard Him were “astonished at his teaching; because he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes” (Matthew 7:29). Even His enemies reported that they had never heard a man speak as He did. (John 7:46). And why not? He was heaven’s message incarnate – the Word become flesh (John 1:14). In Jesus men saw, as well as heard, the truth. Word and thought and deed were marvelously one in Him. And in His voice were the confident echoes of eternity. He both knew, and was, the Truth (John 14:6).

As a teacher, the mission of the Son of God was to reveal His father’s heart to men, to cause them to know and understand His gracious will for their lives. Such understanding could not be created by divine fiat. The wonders Jesus worked were remarkable, but they served only to confirm His message (John 3:1-2) which, as the true source of God's saving energy (Romans 1:16), had at last to be accepted and understood to be effective (John 6:44-45). For all their magnificent display of divine power, miracles could not force that understanding. It had to be achieved by patient and often laborious instruction which, even after long hours, days, and months, was subject to complete rejection.

But out of the persevering love of His heart Jesus sought to make all men understand, and chose approaches which were remarkable for their simplicity. He took men where they were and sought to lead them to where they needed to be. He used their knowledge of this world to teach them about the next. There is nothing in Jesus’ style as a teacher that is a greater expression of this than His parables and those who would understand Jesus must come at last to understand those powerful illustrative stories which became the characteristic vehicle of so many of His lessons. The parables of Jesus have passed into history and become an intrinsic part of our culture. He could have been immortalized in the annals of literatures for them alone. But for all their celebrity, they are as

### 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

Jerry McGlocklin..... (256) 232-7620  
Kenneth Smith..... (256) 777-6737  
Bonnie Sutton..... (256) 232-2081

### Deacons

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 233-5147  
Tommy Coblentz ..... (256) 232-3212  
Joel Hamm..... (256) 230-6223  
Larry Mitchell ..... (256) 230-0185  
Todd Williams..... (205) 541-8304  
Russ Wulfekuhl ..... (256) 683-9396

### Evangelists

David A. Cox ..... (256) 233-8910  
Cell: (256) 614-3757  
Jordan Lovell..... (256) 777-8998

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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*

little understood by this generation as by that one to which they were first addressed.

“Parable,” the anglicized form of the Greek word, *parabole* (para-bow-LAY), derives from a Greek verb which means “to place beside, to cast along side”. A parable is a story which places one thing beside another for the purpose of teaching. It is a comparison, putting the known beside the unknown. Memorably expressed, it is “an earthly story with a heavenly meaning.”

The Greek word for parable occurs some fifty times in the New Testament, only twice outside the gospels (Hebrews 9:9; 11:19), where it is translated “figure”, (KJV, ASV). In Mark 4:23 it is construed as “proverb” (KJV, NIV). It is characteristically understood of “a somewhat lengthy...narrative drawn from nature or human circumstances, the object of which is to set forth a spiritual lesson” but it is also “used of a short saying or proverb” (W.E. Vine, *Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*, p. 158).

Because of the uncertainty of what exactly constitutes a parable, the lists that have been compiled of Jesus’ parables vary in length with the judgment of the compiler. The longer lists include such illustrations as “the good shepherd” (John 10) and the “two builders” (Matthew 7:24-27). The shorter lists excludes them. Trench, in his now classic work, *Notes on the Parables of Jesus*, lists only thirty.

If we cannot determine with exact certitude whether some illustrations of Jesus deserve to be called parables, there are some things about parables that are beyond doubt.

Parables are not fables or myths. there are no unreal elements or impossible situations in them. In fact their strength lies in the absolute conceivability and likelihood of the circumstances which they describe. they speak of familiar, real life situations.

Parables are more than proverbs, though at times similar in design. In the gospels proverbs are sometimes referred to as “parables” - “Physician, heal yourself” (Luke 4:23); “If the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch” (Matthew 15:14-15); “No man tears a patch from a new garment and sews it on an old one”; “And no one pours new wine into old wineskins...” (Luke 5:36-37). But a proverb is characteristically a short, pithy saying whose meaning is evident. A parable tends to be longer, more involved, and the meaning not

so easily seen.

Jesus, so far as we know, did not begin to teach in parables until near the end of the second year of His public ministry (there is a lone exception, Luke 7:41-42). It was in the presence of an immense multitude near the Sea of Galilee, and His illustrative comparisons came with a rush that started His disciples (Matthew 13). In marvelously concrete and simple stories, Jesus unfolded for His followers the mysteries of the kingdom of Heaven. It was to be only the beginning. This is an invitation to study those wonderful narratives which invite us to look into the very heart of God.

-via *The Sonagate Standard*, Port Arthur, Texas.

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## *Where The Soul Never Dies*

**Randy Harshbarger**

The Bible teaches that when a person dies the body returns to the dust of the ground from which it came (Ecclesiastes 12:7). James 2:26 says “For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” The body dies; our physical existence on this earth will come to an end (Hebrews 9:27). Yet, it is the body without the spirit that is dead. It is not the spirit that is dead. The spirit (and remember, the word soul is sometimes used to refer to the same thing) lives on even after the body is dead, buried, and returns to dust. Jesus told the thief on the cross: “Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.” Did Jesus die? Physically, He did die. His body was taken from the cross and placed in a new tomb. Yet, Jesus told the thief that he (the thief) would be with Him (Christ) in Paradise. Obviously, Jesus was alive, even though He had died physically. And so it is for each of us. The rich man Lazarus in Luke 16 died. Clearly, though they existed consciously on the other side. The rich man was in torments; Lazarus was in Abraham’s bosom – a place of comfort and rest.

Jehovah’s Witnesses teach that man is a combination of two things: the dust of the ground and the breath of life, basing this on Genesis 2:7. They deny that man has

a soul or spirit that is immortal, everlasting, eternal, or deathless. Man doesn't have a soul, he is a soul. They also deny the Bible teaching of eternal torment for those who will not repent. According to them the "second death" is annihilation. Those who are the faithful ones will be given some kind of immortality (including Christ, since He was be a created being and was faithful while on earth). These certain ones are sometimes defined as the 144,000 mentioned in the book of Revelation.

The Bible teaches that when a person dies, he or she will see corruption. At death the body returns to the dust of the ground. The spirit (soul) of man lives on, consciously, awaiting the final judgment (John 5:28-29). At death a person goes either to Paradise (Abrahams bosom) or torments (tartarus cf. 2 Peter 2:4 translated "hell"). At that last great day those who have obeyed the Lord will be given a new resurrected body which unites again with the departed spirit. The faithful are then ushered home to glory. The wicked depart from the Lord forever. To deny the spiritual nature of man is to rob him of any hope. Materialists try to take away our Savior.

-via *Search*, Sikeston, Missouri.



## *Hard Knocks*

**Phillip E. Staggs**

During the great depression, a good man lost his job, exhausted his savings, and forfeited his home. His grief was multiplied by the sudden death of his precious wife. the only thing he had left was his faith, and it was weakening.

One day he was combing the neighborhood looking for work. He stopped to watch some men who were doing the stonework on a church building. One of those men was skillfully chiseling a triangular piece of rock. not seeing the spot where it would fit, the onlooker asked, "Where are you going to put that?" The man pointed toward the top of the building and said, "See that little opening up there near the spire? That's where it goes. I'm shaping it down here so it will fit up there".

Tears filled this good man's eyes as he walked away. God had spoken to him through these words. "Shaping it down here so it will fit up there". He found new meaning in his difficult situation.

Some of you are going through some terribly troublesome times. You may be experiencing some heart-breaking sorrow. Or perhaps you are enduring some painful physical illness. Or, it may be something else – maybe even too excruciating to talk to anyone else about. The blows of the hammer and chisel hurt!

But hold to your faith! These difficulties will not get you down. they are only temporary. Glory is coming! It is the harsh blows to the outward man that often bring the greatest strength to the inner man. Keep praying - Keep believing! The Master has to do some shaping of us down here so we will fit up there!

-via *Words of Life*, Dectaur, Alabama.

## *News & Notes*

### **THE SICK:**

Judy Vaughn	Gwen Bullock
Betty Hastings	Wynell Casteel
Abby Gilbert	Morgan Barksdale
Jerry Taylor	Charles Burns
Ava Brooke Cambell	Barbara Piper
Matt Poff	Una King Currier
Morgan Barksdale	David Hartsell
Phillip Harwell	

### *In The Hospital:*

*Charles White*, Park Ridge Medical Ctr.; – Chattanooga  
*Elizabeth Kate Miller*, St. Jude's Hospital; – Memphis  
*Eddie Simmons*, HealthSouth Rehab; – Huntsville

### *Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:*

Beulah Pope, rm. 100	Mattye Murray, rm. 60
Harvey Pope, rm. 107	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Dyral Allfrey, rm. 80	

### *Limestone Health Facility:*

Janet Berryhill, rm. 75-B	Albert Bowers, rm. 115-B
Albert Norton, rm. 36	J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E
Rosella Pugh, rm. 74	

**Limestone Lodge:**

Yvonne Sherbert, rm. 29-E

**Limestone Manor:**

Jack Cannon, rm. 91

**Brookshire Healthcare - Huntsville:**

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 112-C

**Shut-In:**

Reba Adams, at home

Lola Colwell, at home

Mary Ruth Gardner, at home

David & Martha Rice, Mobile, Alabama

Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

**OUT OF TOWN: The Burns:** Tommy and Susan have been away this week on vacation... **The Smiths:** Kenneth and Peggy are out of town this weekend with their family... **The Wulfekuhls:** Russ, Lisa, and Ali are in Chattanooga, Tennessee this weekend.

**GRADUATES:** This past week has been graduation week the schools in the area. We want to congratulate all the graduates of 2013. Among the graduates is our own **Nathaniel Adams**. He graduated on Thursday night at *West Limestone High School*. There will be a reception in the coming weeks to honor him. It will be announced later.

**LADIES BIBLE CLASS:** The Ladies' Bible class meets on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 in the west wing auditorium. They are studying the books of "Proverbs". All the ladies that can are invited to be a part of this class.

**MILITARY SERVICE:** Remember **Mitzi Carruth's** son-in-law, **Joel Smith**, who is in Afghanistan serving the U. S. military. Keep him in your prayers.

**SONG SERVICE:** Remember tonight will be the time for our regular scheduled song service. I hope that everyone will be able to be present as we lift our voices in praise to God.

**WORK GROUPS:** Work Group two will be meeting this evening after our evening service. If you are in group one, remember to meet with your group tonight.

**THE RECORD: Attendance for Week of May 119th**

**Sunday:**

Bible Classes.....	134
Morning Worship .....	181
Evening Worship.....	110

**Wednesday:**

Bible Classes.....	94
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**Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.**

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, May 26th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements .....	Marcus Morris	
Song Leader .....	Hunter Cox	
Prayer .....	Ronnie Locke	
Preaching .....	David Cox	
Lord's Supper		
Presiding .....	Keith Hinkle	
Assisting .....	Bonnie Sutton	
Serving .....	Landon Adams .....	Stefan Fudge
.....	David Terry .....	Marvin Putman
Closing Prayer .....	Mot Dollar	

*Evening Worship*

Announcements .....	Marcus Morris
Song Leader .....	Tommy Burns
Prayer .....	Dan Reed
Preaching .....	Song Service
Lord's Supper .....	Keith Hinkle
Closing Prayer .....	Jonathan Keenon

Other Assignments for Sunday, May 26th:

Usher .....	Danny Johnson
Work Sound System .....	Marty Adams

**Wednesday, May 29th:**

Song Leader .....	Todd Williams
Bible Reading.....	Mark 1:16-28
.....	Russ Wulfekuhl
Prayer .....	Nathaniel Adams
Invitation .....	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer .....	Marion Mitchell

**Sunday, June 2nd:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements .....	Marty Adams	
Song Leader .....	Stefan Fudge	
Prayer .....	Bonnie Sutton	
Preaching .....	David Cox	
Lord's Supper		
Presiding .....	Jerry McGlocklin	
Assisting .....	Marcus Morris	
Serving .....	Paul Hasting.....	Marion Mitchell
.....	Danny Johnson .....	Harold Davis
Closing Prayer .....	Terry Andrews	

*Evening Worship*

Announcements .....	Marty Adams
Song Leader .....	Hunter Cox
Prayer .....	Todd Williams
Preaching .....	David Cox
Lord's Supper .....	Jerry McGlocklin
Closing Prayer .....	Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for Sunday, June 2nd:

Usher .....	Larry Mitchell
Work Sound System .....	Nathaniel Adams