

Volume V

Market Street

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Deacons

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Tommy Coblentz	(256) 232-3212
Joel Hamm	(256) 230-6223
Larry Mitchell	(256) 230-0185
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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 June 9, 2013

No. 23

This Week at Market Street



June 10 - 13, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Sunday, June 9^{th} - 9:45 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. \& 5:00 p.m.} \\ \mbox{Wednesday June 12^{th} - 7:00 p.m.} \\ \mbox{June 10^{th} - 13^{th} - $10:00 a.m.} \\ \mbox{Ed Harrell, Speaking} \end{array}$

MARKET STREET

CHURCH OF CHRIST

514 WEST MARKET STREET ATHENS, ALABAMA

Overconfidence

Ed Harrell

I like being around young people because of their fresh exuberance for life. Living is a challenge that surrounds them, a sea of possibilities engulfing them. Everything seems possible.

I frequently play golf with my son, Robert. To him, every putt is makeable, every miss inexcusable. When a ball finds its way deep into the woods, finding some dark recess where I would never venture, Robert will trace it down. His intent is not to chip it safely out to the fairway, but to thrash it through some tiny hole in the leaves onto the green. Does it work? Sometimes.

I could tell countless tales of my other children, and I expect that you could tell me stories of your own. For the young, the future holds few threats (once they get around to looking it squarely in the face). Every college course is a snap (all you have to do is read the book) until final exam time ("That guy expected you to know everything"). It's easy to live on the minimum wage until you get your first paycheck ("Do you know how much they take out of these checks for taxes and stuff?"). Paying bills is no problem until the first ones arrive ("Do you know how much it costs to get auto insurance?").

Yeah, I know. And I told you. Ten thousand times. Some of my children are blessed with remarkably hard heads (I did not mention any name, Lee). At the same time, there are limits to parental discouragement of dreams. You finally have to settle for a resigned, "I really don't think that will work." There are some golf shots that all of us just must try quite a few times before we become convinced that they don't make sense.

Now, let me say a word commending young people's enthusiasm before I issue to my children one more public warning (and I can envision this article being thrust under the noses of hundreds of unsuspecting young folks around the country). Sometimes Robert pulls off those golf shots, and it thrills me when he does. Young people do some fantastic things, and I hope my children never lose their sense of adventure and willingness to try. All of us need to be called back to our youth occasionally. If I pay attention to Robert's attitude, it helps my golf. Christians need to be called back to the exuberance of our spiritual youth: "But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions" (Hebrews 10:32). The brand new child of God is likely to think that the road ahead is clear, that living for the Lord will be a snap, and that everybody else will respond to the truth as soon as he tells them the good news. Of course, none of that is true. But the enthusiasm is refreshing. We must keep that flame burning. It will keep us from becoming cynics; it will keep us trying. If you don't always succeed in life, neither do you always fail.

Now my advice to the young - one more time. Be careful. Don't be overconfident; don't be foolhardy. Life is filled with pitfalls and perils; one should approach it with respect and care.

I give the same advice to Christians. Think of how many ways the Lord instructs us to be "sober," "circumspect," "watchful." "Lead us not into temptation" (Luke 11:4). "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (1Corinthians 10:12). Be careful, children.

-via Christianity Magazine, Vol 14 No. 3/4; March-April 1997.

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Where The Soul Never Dies

Dan S. Shipley

"Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much" (James 5:16).

Sin is bad, but covering sin is even worse. If deliberate sin is like putting oneself in jail, then covering such sin is like throwing away the key.

The covered sin - the one a man attempts to hide and refuses to confess – shuts one off from spiritual prosperity and divine mercy. "Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy" (Proverbs 28:13). There can be no trading on God's mercy because it does not ignore sin. It is not a question of whether His mercy saves the sinner – but whether the sinner will allow it by confessing and forsaking his sins.

In covering sins the sinner spurns the mercy through which forgiveness and salvation are possible. If a merciful God provides the feast, sets the table, and invites all to partake, then how can He be faulted by those who choose to starve themselves? No, "the Lord's hand is not shortened that it cannot save," neither can limitations be placed on his mercy – except by the rebellious sinner who refuses it. What sin could be more pernicious than the one a man will not acknowledge nor repent of? Little wonder God says such a one "shall not prosper."

But not only does the covering of sin preclude forgiveness, it easily becomes the launching-pad for yet other sins. Nothing encourages sin like sin. Lies and deceitfulness are popular camouflage for hiding evil. This in turn leads to the development of a compromising attitude toward all sin, both in self and others. The unwholesome attitude that permits one sin will soon permit another. Why? Because it involves more than one's disposition toward a certain unlawful act; it involves his attitude toward God Himself - the One whose law is violated!

When tempted by Potiphar's wife, Joseph reminds her of his obligation to his master then asks, "How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" (Genesis 39:9). To wrong his master was bad; to wrong God was worse. How men need Joseph's perspective of sin and regard for God. Ungodliness is essentially a wrong attitude toward God, the expression of which is lawlessness which is sin (see 1 John 3:4).

No sin can be considered as isolated or insignificant. Notice carefully James 2:10-11 in this connection, especially "For He who said" in verse eleven. For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all. For He who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

One might just as well talk about the size of God as to make distinctions in "sizes" of sins – for the deliberate practice of any sin constitutes a rejection of him and His law. "Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit" (1Thessalonians 4:8). It is not difficult to understand why no man can prosper while perpetuating disrespect for God in the covering of sins.

Finally, and logically, the practice of covering sins has the effect of hardening the heart (see Hebrews 3:13). How could it be otherwise when one persists in violating a truth-trained conscience? Who could court such ungodliness without a corresponding adverse effect on the inner man? "Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?" (Proverbs 6:27). Surely anything that can harden a man's heart while causing him to dishonor God and shun His mercy is a dangerous sin. It may be that the worst sin is to hide.

-via The Cornerstone, Richmond, Virginia



THE SICK:

Robert Beasley Gwen Bullock Wynell Casteel Charles White Robin Legg Barbara Piper Matt Poff David Hartsell Eddie Simmons Judy Vaughn Betty Hastings Abby Gilbert Richard Wulfekuhl Ava Brooke Cambell Charles Burns Una King Currier Phillip Harwell Jerry Taylor

In The Hospital:

Marvin Wales, Huntsville Hospital, rm. 627 Elizabeth Kate Miller, St. Jude'sHospital; – Memphis

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. 11

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 Rice, Mobile, Alabama Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *David Rice* in the passing of his wife, *Martha*. She passed away on Wednesday and her funeral was Saturday morning at Limestone Chapel. She was laid to rest in the Roselawn Cemetery.

GOSPEL MEETINGS/VBS: The Eastside church is beginning a gospel meeting this week with David Maxson preaching. The meeting will coninue through Friday...The **Oneal church** will be conducting their VBS this week each evening at 7:00 through Friday. The adult class speakers are as follows: Monday - Jeb Reaves; Tuesday - David Cox; Wednesday - Gary Patton; Thursday: John Gibson, Friday - Frank Richey... The *Elgin Hills church* in Elgin is begining a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with Jospeh Casimier preaching...The College View church in Florence is having its annual lectureship this week. The spackers in the lectures will be: Paul Earnhart, Sewell Hall, Richie Jenkins & Gerry Sandusky. The details are on the bulletin board...The Lacey's Spring church is beginning a gospel meeting this week with Bill Hall preaching. The meeting will continue through Friday.

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.

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

Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, June 9th:

Morning Worship

	Terry Andrews Joel Hamm
Prayer	Dan Reed
Preaching Lord's Supper	Ed Harrell
Presiding	Dwaine Allfrey
Assisting	Tommy Coblentz . Keenon Currier Delmer Carter
	. Dan LovellNathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer	Jonathan Keenon

Evening Worship

Announcements	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Stefan Fudge
	Keith Hinkle
Preaching	Ed Harrell
Lord's Supper	
Closing Prayer	Norman Brown

Other Assignments for Sunday, June 9th:

Usher	Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System	

Wednesday, June 12th:

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Song Leader Bible Reading	Hunter Cox
Bible Reading	Mark 1:40-45
	Will Chumbley
Prayer Invitation	Kenneth Smith
Invitation	Ed Harrell
Closing Prayer	Marty Adams

Sunday, June 16th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Joel Hamm
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
	Larry Mitchell
	Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper	2
Presiding	Steve Bradley
	Marty Adams
Serving	. Brandon Griswold David Terry
	. Russ Wulfekuhl Kenneth Adams
Closing Prayer	Tommy Coblentz

Evening Worship

Announcements	Joel Hamm
Song Leader	Todd Williams
Prayer	Dwaine Allfrey
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Closing Prayer	Ronnie Locke

Other Assignments for Sunday, June 16th: UsherJerry McGlocklin Work Sound SystemTerry Andrews