



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

April 7, 2013

P.O. Box 416  
129 S. Chamberlain Ave.  
Rockwood, TN 37854  
865-354-0855

**Elders:**

Dana Carter  
Kenneth Carter  
Don Chandler

**Deacons:**

Bobby Bear  
Kendall Bear  
Larry Brackett  
Roger Carter  
Steve McCreary

**Minister:**

Kirby Hinds

**Secretary:**

Susan Chandler

**Service Times:**

**Sunday**

Bible Study 10 am  
Worship Service 10:45 am  
Worship Service 6 pm

**Wednesday**

Bible Study 7:30 pm

**Monday**

Ladies Class 10 am

**Email:**

rockwdcc@gmail.com

**Website:**

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

## BAPTISM SAVES

In spite of what the denominational world says, baptism saves. Read the Bible! *“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (I Peter 3:21).*

False teachers tell you that all you have to do is believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and pray the sinner’s prayer. However, they will also say that it is good if you are baptized. They teach that baptism “Is an outward expression of an inward change.” No! Baptism is obedience to the will of God for the remission of sins (**Acts 2:38**).

The blood of Jesus cleanses us from sin (**Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:13-14**). We are saved by the blood of Christ. *“Without shedding of blood is no remission” (Hebrews 9:22)*. Since the blood saves how do we come into contact with that blood? Can we literally sit at the foot of the cross and catch blood in a basin and then spread it over us. NO! So, how can we contact the blood? Let the Bible answer, *“But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, But ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered to you” (Romans 6:17)*. What is that form of doctrine? Paul tells us that it is the death, burial and resurrection of Christ (**Romans 6:1-4**). They were the servants of sin, but no more, because they obeyed the Gospel, which is the death, burial and resurrection (**I Corinthians 15:1-3**).

How do you obey the death, burial and resurrection? BAPTISM! You die to sin, then buried in water, and then raised to walk in newness of life (**Romans 6:4**). It is amazing at the lengths denominationalist will go to avoid a simple act of obedience such as baptism. When we are baptized into Christ we have the remission of our sins and we put on Christ (**Acts 2:38; Galatians 3:27**). **Do not delay! Be baptized today!** **Larry Acuff**

## WHO AT THE DOOR IS STANDING?

What a beautiful song and message this is! It stirs my soul when we sing this, and it makes me conscience of the Lord's tremendous love and patience. Think about these words from the second stanza:

*"All thro' the dark hours dreary, knocking again is He; Jesus art Thou not weary, waiting so long for me?"* Many people wait so long before submitting to Jesus and becoming Christians. Thank goodness He is so patient. We, as Christians, often procrastinate in our coming back to the Lord when we have sinned. Christians and non-Christians lay awake at night and our consciences prick us. That's what the song is talking about, during the dreary hours, Jesus is "knocking" on our hearts and hoping we will reconcile with Him. Listen to David as he expresses the same thought: **(Psalm 32:4)** *"For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer."* We've all felt that way at some point haven't we?

Here is the response the Lord wants in the third stanza: *"Door of my heart, I hasten! Thee will I open wide; tho' He rebuke and chasten, He shall with me abide."*

The Lord wants to abide with all people. Of course, He can't abide with all people as they won't submit their will and ways to Him. That is the thrust of the song. He is waiting so long. He is standing at the doorway of our heart, waiting for us to open it. The refrain of the song ends with this statement: *"If thou wilt heed My calling, I will abide with thee."* "If" is a big word and is going to keep people separated from the Lord. If we do His will, He will be with us forever. He will be with us through the good times and the times when we don't know how we can continue. He will be there on Judgment Day and tell God that we are His and to let us in.

Have you let Jesus in? Is He still patiently waiting outside the door of your heart? When will you let Him in or allow Him back into your life? Don't make Him wait long as we may not be here to answer the door tomorrow.

**Chris Moore**