



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

July 15, 2012

P.O. Box 416
129 S. Chamberlain Ave.
Rockwood, TN 37854
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Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Bobby Bear
Kendall Bear
Larry Brackett
Roger Carter
Steve McCreary
Don Wicks

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

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DOING THE RIGHT THING

In the movie, "The Alamo," starring none other than John Wayne, the Duke's character was the great hero of Texas, Davy Crockett. Although from Tennessee, Crockett has been revered by Texans and they even named a county after him because of his heroic stand at the Alamo. In the movie, the Duke as Crockett said, "There's right and there's wrong. If you do right, you are really living; and if you do wrong, you are as dead as a beaver hat." Possible words to live by...don't you think?

Here's the way James, the half-brother of Jesus said basically the same thing: "*Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do, and does not do it, to him its sin*" (**James 4:17**). Of course, Satan is hard at work to influence us to do the wrong thing in every circumstance. Sometimes, he even attempts to get us to do the right thing, for the wrong reason. For example, Jesus warned in the Sermon on the Mount, "*Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven*" (**Matthew 6:1**). He mentioned the way we pray: "*And when you pray, you are not to be as the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners, in order to be seen by men*" (**vs. 5**).

Whether it is doing the wrong things for the wrong reasons or the right things for the wrong reasons...it is still wrong. In every situation, there is right, and there is wrong. We make the choice of which direction we go with our actions. Doing the right thing is what God expects of His children. So, let's do it!

Guy Orbison, Jr.

“GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU”

A Chinese farmer had one horse and one son. One day the horse broke out of the corral and fled to the hills. The neighbors said to him, “Your horse got out. That’s bad.” The old Chinese gentleman asked, “How do you know it’s bad?” The next night the horse returned to his familiar corral for his usual feeding and watering, leading 12 wild horses. The farmer’s son saw the thirteen horses in the corral, slipped outside and shut the gate.

The neighbors said, “Oh, you have 13 horses. That’s good.” The wise Chinese farmer responded, “How do you know it’s good?” A few days later his young son was thrown by one of the wild horses and broke his leg.

The neighbors’ take on it was, “Your son broke his leg. That’s bad?” Again the Chinese father replied, “How do you know it’s bad?” Not too long after that, a Chinese warlord came through town and took every able-bodied young man off to war, never to return again. The farmer’s son was left behind because of his broken leg.

The Bible teaches that God works providentially in the lives of Christians. The evidence for the Lord’s providential care over His children comes from passages like **Romans 8:28**: “*And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love Him, to those who are called according to His purpose.*” Like the Chinese farmer told his neighbors, we can’t always see how things that appear to be bad can be used for good purposes. But the Lord’s promise is that He will bring good out of the bad experiences of life if we will trust Him to do so.

Some have the mistaken idea that when God stopped working miracles, as He did in the Bible times, that He stopped working. How does God work in His providential way through the natural laws He has put in place? I don’t know. My responsibility is to take the Lord at His word and leave the “how” to Him. As **Proverbs 3:5-6** tells us “*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight.*”

The fact is that we don’t have to understand the mechanics of how the Lord works to know it’s true. I don’t understand how electricity is generated and transported, or how TV pictures can be transmitted through the air, or the amazing technology of computers and the internet. But, I’m not going to sit in the dark, stop watching TV and not use my computer and internet until I do. As Christians, we don’t live by explanations, we live by promises. If you are a Christian who loves and trusts God, you can take it to the bank – He will take care of you!

Mike Mays, Cordell OK