



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

November 13, 2011

P.O. Box 416  
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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

**Email:**

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**Website:**

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

## I STILL BELIEVE

A church member wrote to the editor of a Christian magazine and said, "In his sermon Sunday, my minister preached that Jesus did not really die on the cross but just swooned, fainted, and went into a coma. Then when the soldiers got Him off the cross into the tomb, the cool air revived Him and He got up and escaped. How do you think I should respond to such teaching?"

The Magazine editor replied, "Dear Church Member, In this modern age of "user friendly" theology, my friends, I make no apology that **I STILL BELIEVE** in the fundamentals of the Word of God!! **I STILL BELIEVE** that the miracles of the Bible are true. **I STILL BELIEVE** "In the Beginning, God!" **I STILL BELIEVE** that God created the heavens and the earth in six literal 24 hour days. **I STILL BELIEVE** that Jesus was born of a VIRGIN, that He literally bodily walked the shores of Galilee, that He healed the lame, raised the dead, and caused the blind to see. **I STILL BELIEVE** that He went to a hill called Golgotha and laid down His life willingly for the sins of man, and yes, I believe that He **DIED** on the cross. **I STILL BELIEVE** that in three days He literally, bodily walked out of the tomb before day-break, victorious over death, hell and the grave. **I STILL BELIEVE** that He ascended back to Heaven and sat down at the right hand of the Father, and **I STILL BELIEVE** that the same blood that was shed 2,000 years ago on that old rugged cross is still the payment for man's sins today. **AND I STILL BELIEVE** that one day soon He is going to literally, bodily step down from that throne and return to receive His bride, the Blood-Washed throng of Believers. Yes, my friend, the scoffers and doubters may turn up their noses in disgust at this old-time religion, but **I STILL BELIEVE!** "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first and also to the Greek." **Romans 1:16**

*Author Unknown*

## EXEMPLARY GAIUS

Many of us pray often that God will raise up godly men to preach and teach in the church...to be an example of Christ while here on earth. Men who will inspire and motivate us to truly grow, becoming greater servants for the Lord, **I Peter 2:2**. Gaius was such a man as the apostle John stated in **III John 1 and 4**, “*To the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth...I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.*” The description, “*the beloved,*” reveals the esteem in which Gaius was held by those who knew him. It brought much joy to the heart of the aged apostle to learn that Gaius’ children walked in truth. Oh, how our God desires His children to pattern themselves after the perfect example, Jesus Christ!

It would appear from the apostle’s petition in **verse 2** that Gaius’ health was not good and that he was also not a prosperous man. Perhaps the health of the soul was better than either his physical or financial health. The faithful Gaius put first things first, **Matthew 6:33**, a lesson sorely needed among us today.

The apostle John commended the attitude and conduct of Gaius and other beloved members concerning his support of and assistance to the missionaries, **verse 5-8**.

In contrast to Gaius was the wicked Diotrephes who loved importance and preeminence among men. He was an ambitious, unscrupulous, church boss, opposed alike to apostolic authority and missionary work, a servant of Satan and an agent of the devil. Apparently, John had written a brief letter to the church in which Gaius held membership; perhaps it had been sent along by the missionaries which had come their way; but it had been suppressed and destroyed by Diotrephes, a man of prominence and leadership in the congregation, perhaps an elder or preacher. His conduct was insubordination of the most advanced type and the apostle promised to deal with him when he arrived

The attitude of Gaius was such as was exhibited by Job, **Job 2:1-6**. In this shortest of all New Testament books, the great apostle John commended Gaius for his noble efforts in receiving faithful gospel preachers, furthering the cause of Christ, and encouraging him to continue in this great work.

How tragic that there are brethren who are more concerned about treasures on earth than treasures in Heaven, **Matthew 6:19-21; I Timothy 6:10**. Gaius is an outstanding example of what God desires of his children...his spiritual prosperity far outdistanced his desire for earthly possessions. What a great example to others as he walked in the light. “*...if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin,*” **I John 1:7**.

**Charles Beebe**