



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

October 21, 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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PREACHING ANOTHER GOSPEL THAT WILL NOT SAVE

Joel Osteen, senior pastor of the Lakewood church in Houston, Texas, has a ministry that broadcasts to 7 million viewers a week in over 100 nations around the world. And Joel Osteen says that all you have to do to be saved from your sins is pray, "Lord Jesus, I repent of my sins, come into heart, I make you my Lord and Savior." He continues, "Friends, if you prayed that simple prayer, we believe you get born again."

But what Joel Osteen has falsely proclaimed to millions is found nowhere in the Bible, and "...by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple" (**Romans 16:18**). Friends, no one in the Bible was told to pray to become born again/God's child and neither did anyone ever pray to become born again/God's child (**John 3:3-6, 22-23**). The Bible plainly says, "Then Peter said unto them, **REPENT, AND BE BAPTIZED** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" (**Acts 2:38; 8:35-39**). The Lord explicitly commanded baptism (**Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16**).

And friends, God is only going to honor His Word, not the words of mere men, no matter how large a following they have (**Matthew 15:9; Titus 1:14; Colossians 2:22**). Listen to Paul's admonition, "But though we, or an angel form Heaven, **PREACH ANY OTHER GOSPEL** unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed" (**Galatians 1:8-9**). Friends, are you going to entrust your eternal soul to a popular man, or to the Word of inspiration through men (**II Peter 1:21; Galatians 1:11-12; I Thessalonians 2:13; Ephesians 3:3-4**)? Will you obey God (**Hebrews 5:9**), or a man? **Bulletin Digest**

BEHOLD, I THOUGHT...

Naaman was captain over the army of Syria. He had a high position of prominence and respect. He was also a mighty man of valor. However, he had one big problem, he was a leper.

Fortunately for Naaman, God was willing to cure him of his leprosy, and Naaman had been told that if he would go to God's prophet Elisha he could be healed of this horrible disease. That Naaman came to the door of Elisha's house with great hope and desire of being healed there can be no doubt. Naaman had great expectations, but something happened that caused Naaman to be angry and disappointed. Instead of Elisha coming to meet him, a messenger was sent out of the house who told Naaman to go and wash in the Jordan River seven times and he would be healed. The Bible says in **II Kings 5:11-12**, *"But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper. Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? May I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage."*

Now, consider Naaman in the state he is in at this point. He has a cure for his dreaded disease of leprosy, but because it is not what he expected, he is choosing to continue to suffer instead of being cured. The Bible reveals that later Naaman changed his mind, but suppose he had stayed in this mindset? He would have continued suffering by allowing what he thought to overrule what God instructed, and leprosy would most likely have caused his death.

How often is this repeated in our day? When it comes to discussions about God's instructions many often say, "Well, I think," or "I believe...", or worst of all "I know the Bible says that, but..." Those with this mindset refuse to be swayed by God's instructions and following their own beliefs will continue suffering from spiritual leprosy – sin. If they do not change their minds, it will ultimately cause death (**Romans 6:23**). Let us strive to not give what we think or feel but what God says. *"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God..."* (**I Peter 4:11**).

Mark Day