



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

April 20, 2014

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

WHY DID JESUS FOLD HIS NAPKIN

Why did Jesus fold the linen burial cloth after His resurrection?
I never noticed this...

The Gospel of John (20:7) tells us that the napkin, which was placed over the face of Jesus, was not just thrown aside like the grave clothes.

The Bible takes an entire verse to tell us that the napkin was neatly folded, and was placed at the head of that stony coffin.

Early Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, "They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and I don't know where they have put Him!"

Peter and the other disciple ran to the tomb to see. The other disciple outran Peter and got there first. He stooped and looked in and saw the linen cloth lying there, but he didn't go in. Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, while the cloth that had covered Jesus' face was folded up and lying to the side.

Is that important? Absolutely! Is it really significant? Yes! In order to understand the significance of the folded napkin, you have to understand a little bit about Hebrew tradition of that day. The folded napkin had to do with the Master and Servant, and every Jewish boy knew this tradition.

When the servant set the dinner table for the master, he made sure that it was exactly the way the master wanted it. The table was furnished perfectly, and then the servant would wait, just out of sight, until the master had finished eating, and the servant would not dare touch that table, until the master was finished.

Now if the master were done eating, he would rise from the table, wipe his fingers, his mouth, and clean his beard, and would wad up that napkin and toss it onto the table.

The servant would then know to clear the table. For in those days, the wadded napkin meant, "I'm done." But if the master got up from the table, and folded his napkin, and laid it beside his plate, the servant would not dare touch the table, because... The folded napkin meant, "I'm coming back."

He is coming back!

Author unknown

SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT EASTER

The word **Easter** is not a New Testament word. It is found only one time in the King James Version and should be translated "*Passover*" as it is in other translations. However, by the time the King James Version came in 1611, the translators substituted the word "*Easter*" to reflect man-made customs that had originated by that century rather than faithfully translate the word as it was in the original. "*The term Easter is not of Christian origin, and is a mistranslation of the word Pascha, which denotes the Passover, in Acts 12:4*" (**Vine's Dictionary**, page 354).

Easter was NOT observed in the first century during the lives of the apostles and the other inspired men who wrote the Bible. The New Testament DOES NOT teach us to elevate one Lord's Day (**Revelation 1:10**), which is the first day of the week, above another. Each first day of the week was, and is, equally significant. It was on the first day of the week that our Lord Jesus Christ was raised from the dead (**Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:2; Luke 24:1; John 20:1**). It was on the first day of the week that the church was established, because the day of Pentecost was on the first day of the week (**Acts 2**), fifty days after the Passover (**Leviticus 23:16**). It was on the first day of the week that Christians gave of their means (**I Corinthians 16:1-2**), and partook of the Lord's Supper (**Acts 20:7**).

The resurrection makes **every first day** of the week significant. Every Lord's Day we meet together to commemorate the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord as we partake of His Supper just as the church in the first century taught and practiced. Yet, many in the religious world considered services on "Easter Sunday" to be the most important.

We should be thankful for the Lord's birth, life, sacrifice for our sins in His death on the cross. His resurrection, ascension, His mediatorial reign now at God's right hand, and for every Lord's Day on the first day of the week by "not forsaking the assembling..." (**Hebrews 10:25**).

By Doug Smith