



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

April 7, 2024

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

**Elders:**

Kendall Bear  
Dana Carter  
Don Chandler

**Deacons:**

Larry Brackett  
Aaron Evans  
Larry Hill  
Steve McCreary

**Minister:**

Dale Barger

**Service Times:**

**Sunday**

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

**Wednesday**

Bible Study 7 pm

**Email:**

rockwdcc@gmail.com

**Website:**

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

## The Weight of Water

A lecturer stood before an audience holding a glass of water in in his hand. *“How heavy is this glass of water?”* the lecturer asked.

Answers called out ranged from 20g to 500g.

The lecturer replied, *“The absolute weight doesn’t matter. It depends on how long you try to hold it. If I hold it for a minute, that’s not a problem. If I hold it for an hour, I’ll have an ache in my right arm. If I hold it for a day, you’ll have to call an ambulance. In each case, it’s the same weight, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes.”*

Sin is a burden—heavier than many realize. Heavy enough to cause the death of Christ on a cross. Heavy enough that many times even Christians begin to believe that they can bear the weight. A hymn asks: *“Would you be free from the burden of sin? There’s power in the blood, power in the blood.”*

Jesus provides a life without the weight of sin!

*“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30 NKJV).*

*“For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in his mouth; who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness – by whose stripes you were healed. For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls” (1 Peter 2:21-25 NKJV).*

Jonathan Burns  
Findlay church of Christ  
Sparta, TN

# Your Worst Sin

In no way would I ever claim to be a prophet, psychic, or prognosticator. But I can tell you what your worst sin is. Now, I know you're wondering how I know. Has someone told me that they saw you doing it? No. Have I been looking in your windows at night or following you with notebook in hand recording all that you do? Of course not. And yet I still know the very worst sin you have in your life at this very moment.

Your worst sin is the one for which you will not repent. Our worst sins can become our worst enemy in that they will keep us out of heaven (cf. **Luke 13:3**). John mentions that there is a sin that leads to death (**1 John 5:16**). This is any sin that one is living in that one is not willing to give up for Christ. By living unrepentantly in known sin, we crucify Christ all over again and, in that state, it is impossible for us to be saved (**Heb. 6:6; 10:26-27**).

But God wants us to come to repentance and be saved (**2 Pet 3:9**). He wants us to be sorrowful over our sins and to truly repent (have a change of heart) concerning them (**2 Cor. 7:10**). For in repenting and being baptized, all past sins are washed away (**Acts 2:38; 22:16**). Then, in faithfully walking the Christian life, and continually living a repentant lifestyle, Jesus' blood continues to cleanse us (**Acts 8:22; 1 John 1:7-9**).

Even though washed in the blood of the Lamb and even though having some noble qualities as followers of Christ, the Christians at the church at Ephesus still needed to repent. Jesus sent word to them "*Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works...*" (**Rev. 2:5**). The message rings true for us today: repent and do the first works.

Here's another important thing to note: Your best friend can take care of your worst sin. Jesus is your best friend (cf. **Pro. 18:24; John 15:13**), and He is the only one who can remove all your sins (**Eph. 1:7; 1 John 1:9**). Take a turn for the better by turning away from sin and turning your life over to Him, and He will turn your worst sin into something that is harmless and unreachable (**1 John 3:5; Micah 7:19**).

*"Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord"* (**Acts 3:19**).

Edd Sterchi  
Broadway church of Christ  
Campbellsville, KY