



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

August 13, 2017

P.O. Box 416
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Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Kendall Bear
Larry Brackett
Roger Carter
Steve McCreary

Minister:

Todd Houston

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

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"DID YOU EAT TODAY?"

The disciples of Jesus had gone into the city of Samaria to find something to eat, while Jesus conversed with a woman about eternal truths (**John 4:8**). When they returned with the sustenance and encouraged the Lord to eat, He replied, *"I have food to eat that you do not know about...My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me..."* (**4:32, 34**).

There is not a person of any age that does not daily think about food. God created us with the need to eat in order to physically survive. Yet the Bible indicates that, as important as our physical health is, our spiritual health is infinitely more important.

"Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life..." (**John 6:27**). *"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God"* (**Matthew 4:4**).

From these facts comes a sobering question: if my spiritual health is more important than my physical health, and I feed my physical body daily, then how much should I be feeding my soul?

Jesus pronounced a great blessing upon those who *"hunger and thirst for righteousness"* (**Matthew 5:6**). Far too many Christians are living beneath their privileges and suffering from spiritual malnutrition because they have filled their lives with so many insignificant matters they have no time to feed the only part of them that will live beyond this life. Tragic, indeed.

Did you feed your soul today?

Eddie Parrish

WHAT HAPPENS AT DEATH?

One of the most intriguing topics within God's word pertains to physical death. What happens when a person dies? Where does that person go? Unless we know what a human being is we are not in position to know what happens when one dies. A human is a composite being. He is a dual being, composed of both body and spirit. The physical body is derived from the dust of the ground and back to the dust it shall ultimately return (**Genesis 2:7; 3:19**). The spirit or soul is that imperishable aspect of the human being that was created in the very image of God (**Genesis 1:26; Matthew 10:28**).

Death is defined in the Bible as that which happens when the body and soul are separated. James states that "*the body apart from the spirit is dead*" (**James 2:26**). The basic meaning of death, then, is "separation." Never does the Bible use death in the sense of extinction, annihilation, or cessation of one's existence. It is simply and solely separation – separation of the body (the flesh) and the spirit (the immortal entity). Thus, physical death is the condition subsisting when the spirit is no longer in the body. It must be further appreciated that it is the physical "body" that is said to be "dead" and not the soul of man.

According to the atheist when one dies as far as anyone ever goes is the cemetery. The end of all things is the grave. For the one who believes the Bible as God's word, however, death is merely a transition from this earthly realm to one that is wholly spiritual in nature. At death the spirit departs the body and goes back to God who gave it (**Ecclesiastes 12:7**). Eventually the soul will be reunited with a resurrected "incorruptible" body and every person will be assigned their eternal abode – heaven or hell (**John 5:28-29**). It is too late to alter one's destiny after death. The time to be a dedicated, devoted child of God is now while you are still among the living. One apostle says, "*Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life*" (**Revelation 2:10**). Every person now living on earth will eventually die, unless the Lord returns first. What one must do, then, is live faithfully as a Christian by doing daily God's divine will. This will determine whether we die "*in the Lord*" or "*in your sins*" (**John 8:24; Revelation 14:13**).

Stephen Wiggins