



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

August 5, 2018

P.O. Box 416
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Rockwood, TN 37854
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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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DUMB IDOLS & FOOLISH MEN

In **Psalm 115** the psalmist is rightly critical of those who put their trust in man-made idols. He says that men have created, by the works of their own hands, gods of silver & gold. They have mouths, but they do not speak. They have eyes, but they do not see. They have ears, but they do not hear. They have noses, but they do not smell. They have hands, but they cannot handle anything with them. They have feet, but they do not walk. He goes on to say that those who make them are like them; so is everyone who trusts in them. In other words, the idols are dumb gods and those who trust in them are foolish men.

Most people may not have a dumb idol, but they do put other idols first in their life. Many people do the same thing today with modern idolatry, be it television, sports, hobbies, work or wealth. There is nothing intrinsically wrong with these things but when we put them above the one true and living God we create an idol. When we do so we are as “dumb” as the idols we worship. Don’t think it’s true? What do you put first in your life? Where are your priorities? When the church meets to study, worship, fellowship, and serve where is your mouth, your eyes, your ears, your hands, and your feet? Be honest!

The one true and living God is a true shield in whom we can place all our trust. He speaks, sees, hears, smells, handles, and walks. And we can too when we bless Him, glorify Him, serve Him, worship Him, and put Him first in our lives. He then blesses us...nothing else can! Be faithful!

Tim Dooley

I KNOW WHAT LOVE IS....

You may have seen the recent commercial by the Ad Council that tells us love has no limits. It shows people behind an x-ray screen embracing only showing their skeletal outlines. The people emerge from behind to reveal they are a same sex couple, to a cheering crowd. The scene is redone with people of different races, religions and ages. Each one is accompanied by the text; love has no gender, love has no race, love has no religion, love has no disability, love has no labels. The ad campaign claims to combat what is seen as bias in our world today.

It got me to thinking about how the world is trying to redefine love. We hear the argument in our world today, “How can a person be against two people who love one another? To try to put limits on love is wrong.”

But how does the Bible label love?

“Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things” (I Corinthians 13:4-7).

Some things stick out to me in this passage are in conflict with the world’s definition of love. The world says you should cheer when someone is in sin, but Biblical love does not rejoice in unrighteousness. The world says love can act anyway it wants, but Biblical love never acts unbecomingly. The world says you should be proud of your lifestyle, but Biblical love does not brag. The world says you are offensive and should be shunned if you don’t accept what is accepted, but Biblical love does not take into account a wrong suffered. The world says you should accept any belief no matter if it is valid or not, but Biblical love rejoices with truth.

There is a saying, “He who controls the language, controls the masses.” When it comes to love, who makes the definition, God, who is love, or the world who does not know Him?

Barry Haynes