



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

December 9, 2018

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Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

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Larry Brackett
Roger Carter
Steve McCreary

Minister:

Todd Houston

Secretary:

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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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SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT THAT DAY

“Upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight” (Acts 20:7).

Note the time: the first day of the week. Note the purpose: to break bread (the Lord’s Supper, **I Corinthians 10:16-17; 11:17-34**).

Sunday was quickly established as a meeting day for Christians, a day in which they partook of the Lord’s Supper. And is it any wonder? This was the day of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead! The day when Jesus was declared to be the Son of God (**Romans 1:4**). The day when He met with His disciples. John not only tells about the Sunday resurrection day, but also another such meeting with His disciples on the very next Sunday (**John 20: 1, 19, 26**). Sunday came to have such special significance that John referred to it as “the Lord’s day” (**Revelation 1:10**).

That is not to say that Christians did not meet together at other times. They did. Even daily (**Acts 2:46**). But the first day of the week was special – a day when they “gathered together to break bread” (to keep the Lord’s Supper).

Some contend, based on **Acts 2:46** (“*They, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart*”) that early Christians partook of communion every day. Read another translation: “*Day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they partook of food with gladness and generous hearts*” does that sound like the Lord’s Supper to you? In this context it hardly seems like the same kind of “breaking bread” we read about in **Acts 2:42**.

Scripture and history combine in teaching that Christians met on Sunday to partake of the Lord’s Supper.

Will you be present this Lord’s day to break bread with the saints?

John Gipson

SECURING YOUR FUTURE?

“My family will never go hungry.”

A famous athlete was talking about the millions of dollars he had made in his career. In one way we can appreciate his concern for his children and the way he had managed his money. He hadn't neglected his family or squandered his wealth. But it was tragic that he used frequent profanity in the same interview that had to be edited. Instead of being humble and thankful before God he was arrogant and irreverent.

How do people like this become so wealthy? Indirectly, it is because God has made this country so prosperous. But the public directly empowers them. Actors, singers, and athletes entertain us and we are eager to pay them. Then we wonder why they act like they do.

Wealth gives people a false feeling of security. One country singer said he had more money than his grandchildren could ever spend. Even financial planners can be too confident. One advisor says you should save your money and “live like nobody else so you can live like nobody else.” It is good to be wise with your income, but where is the humility and fear of God in all this?

Jesus told about a rich man who made a good profit. That man planned to live many years off what he had accumulated. He said to himself, “*You have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry*” (**Luke 12:19**). He had his retirement all laid out before him. But God told this successful businessman he was a fool (**Luke 12:20**). That very night he died. He was not a fool because he waited too long to enjoy his money. He was a fool because he assumed his things were really his, and he was an even bigger fool because he waited too long to prepare to meet God.

It is not wise to get our hopes up too high because life can change quickly, drastically, and permanently. There were women in Israel that were so high class that they wouldn't walk barefoot outside. Moses said those same women would get so hungry one day that they would eat their own children (**Deuteronomy 28:56-57**). That happened when the Babylonians attacked Jerusalem. War can bring a country with all its pride and wealth to its knees.

One of the frustrations we must bear is seeing people who think “*their houses shall continue forever*” (**Psalms 49:11**). This is even harder when people pride themselves in the control they think they have over their very small part of the world. But God tells us not to fret. The Lord will “*bring down high looks*” (**Psalms 18:27**). Meanwhile, let us humbly say, “*If the Lord will, we will live, and do this, or that*” (**James 4:15**).

Kerry Duke