



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

February 10, 2019

P.O. Box 416
129 S. Chamberlain Ave.
Rockwood, TN 37854
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Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Kendall Bear
Larry Brackett
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

Email:

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Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

The Bible is first and foremost the inspired, inerrant word of God. It is the message delivered from Heaven through the spirit-breathed words of inspired men. It is historically, scientifically, and geographically as perfect as its original author. It contains no errors or contradictions as it has been protected by the very hand of God since its creation.

The Bible is a weapon of mass destruction. It is the living, active sword of God. It destroys sin in our lives, ignorance of God's Law, and doubts that arise to attack our faith. It is an offensive weapon meant to be used to defeat Satan and his workers. It has conquered more lands than any other weapon and continues to stand on the precipice of victory each time someone new obeys the Gospel.

The Bible is the light of the world. It shines brightly as a beacon for all to see. It draws men to God and creates an open door to Heaven. It cannot be overcome by the darkness of the world. It lights the path for all of us to follow and calls into the darkness to offer hope to the hopeless.

The Bible is the leash of God. It creates a system in which God is in control of our lives, pulling and pushing us to the very heights of humanity. Through this control, God uses His Word to create a personal connection with us. Without this leash, no connection with God will ever be possible.

The Bible is the power of God on display. By faith we read its history with open acceptance of the things taught therein. We read of God's power to create our world and all that is in it, to still the sun in the sky, to raise the dead from the grave, and to save the souls of those destined for hell. It is this last testament that is most powerful to us. For in it, we can know that we are saved if we are faithful to its call.

The Bible is all these things and so much more. Let us not neglect this great and wonderful gift from God.

Walter Rayburn

YOUR OBITUARY HAS NOT YET BEEN WRITTEN!

Toward the end of the nineteenth century, Swedish chemist Alfred Nobel awoke one morning to read his own obituary in the local newspaper:

“Alfred Nobel, the inventor of dynamite, who died yesterday, devised a way for more people to be killed in a war than ever before, and he died a very rich man.”

Actually, it was Alfred’s older brother who had died; a newspaper reporter had bungled the epitaph. But the account had a profound effect on Nobel. He decided he wanted to be known for something other than developing the means to kill people efficiently and for amassing a fortune in the process. So he initiated the Nobel Prize, the award for scientists and writers who foster peace. Today he is more widely known for the Nobel Peace Prize than he is for inventing dynamite. Nobel is quoted as saying, “Every man ought to have a chance to correct his epitaph in midstream and write a new one.”

As I read this quote, I was hit with a very arresting thought: My obituary has not yet been written. Whatever it is that men think of me, I still have the opportunity to make it better. Whatever mistakes I have made in the past, the possibility still exists for me to correct them. Whatever it is that I have yet not done, but should have, I still have time. As long as God gives me life and liberty, I can make of it something meaningful and lasting. As long as I have breath and desire, I can do my part to improve myself, my family, my neighborhood, the church, even the world.

Everyone still has the opportunity to correct his epitaph, up until the day he dies. Of course, the best thing that could ever be written in our obituary is that we were a faithful Christian. And certainly there are many wonderful things we can add to that. And if you awoke this morning and are able to read this, there’s still time to make sure that is the case.

“Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.” (Ephesians 5:15-17, ESV).

Edd Sterchi