



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

February 23, 2020

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Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Kendall Bear
Larry Brackett
Larry Hill
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 7:00 pm

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WHY THE SHIP IS SINKING

In 1628 the Swedish warship *Vasa* was set to take its maiden voyage. The ship was built upon completion was one of the most powerfully armed vessels in the world. However, the maiden voyage didn't go that well. Less than a mile offshore the ship encountered what was described as a slight breeze that capsized and sank it.

How could such a powerful war ship go to the depths so easily? It was generally considered to have been built asymmetrically. This caused the center of gravity to be off and therefore it took very little force to tip the ship. How could that happen?

Well, archaeologists have found four rulers used by the workers; two turned out to be based on Swedish feet with 12 inches, the other two used Amsterdam feet, with 11 inches. One group worked on one side of the ship with their ruler the other on the other side with their ruler. The finished ship may have looked impressive, but it sank the minute it was faced with difficulty.

The same thing I think is happening in our religious world today. People think we can have unity with different doctrine, different rules, and different measures. It might look impressive, but that boat won't float. There must be one standard (**I Corinthians 1:10**).

You can't build a seaworthy ship with two different rulers. You can't make a structurally sound house with two different blueprints. You can't have a church that is truly His, if you ignore how He told us to build it.

Barry Haynes

What We Believe

Jesus said, *“I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father but by Me”* (**John 14:6**). On another occasion the apostle Peter stated, *“There is salvation in none other. For there is none other name under heaven given among men, wherein we must be saved”* (**Acts 4:12**). Here the Bible teaches that for one to be saved they must come to the Father through the Son. There is no other way to be saved. One cannot circumvent Jesus and get to heaven. These two passages are troubling to liberal theologians. The reason why is because they do not like this exclusive claim to Christianity. They don’t appreciate that Jesus is the only way to the Father. They want to preach that people can be saved in other religions as well, even when those religions deny Jesus is the Son of God. They want to argue that you can live and die in the religion of your choice—Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, or not any religion at all and still go to heaven when this life is over. Ironically, in doing this they have rejected the Jesus of the Bible. Therefore, they have repudiated the only means by which they or anyone else can ever be saved.

One of the ways these liberal theologians try to get around this exclusive claim of Christianity is by teaching that all people will have a second chance to accept Jesus after death. One preacher in San Augustine teaches this. He claims that those who die lost will receive a second chance to be saved following their death, He says that anyone who does not accept Jesus in this life will get a second chance after they die. The idea is that if one dies in an unsaved condition that person will have another opportunity to embrace the Savior and be saved after this life is over. The problem with this theology is that it cannot be substantiated by the Bible. Nowhere does God give any hope to anyone that following death they will have another chance to be saved. This so-called “second chance theology” does not come from God’s word. It is un-Biblical. Further, it is amazing that those denominational church members who attend where this “Father” preaches can tolerate such heretical theology. Will they continue to tolerate these unscriptural views without any disciplinary action? My plea is that none within the community will be deceived by this error. Just remember that any religious message which is not taught by the Bible is a false doctrine. Don’t believe it. Reject it as error.

Stephen Wiggins