

# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

February 28, 2021

P.O. Box 416 129 S. Chamberlain Ave. Rockwood, TN 37854 865-354-0855

#### Elders:

Kendall Bear Dana Carter Don Chandler

#### Deacons:

Larry Brackett Aaron Evans Larry Hill Steve McCreary

#### **Minister:**

Dale Barger

#### Service Times: Sunday

Bible Study 10 am Worship Service 10:45 am Worship Service 6 pm

#### Wednesday

Bible Study 7 pm

#### Email:

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#### Website:

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

### **Jesus Never Quit!**

Jesus did not quit meeting with His disciples because Judas was a thief, nor because Peter was fickle at times. He didn't quit preaching and living right because some of His brethren were unforgiving and unkind. He did not quit His post of leadership because He had in His presence the adulterous woman, a gang of Pharisees, or narrow-minded demon-worshipers. Jesus did not quit.

Have you quit? What is the reason for it? Any reason you might name, Jesus could have given the same. He had every reason to be discouraged. His own disciples were so slow to learn. His enemies were bent on His destruction. But He did not quit. He said: "Know ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" (Luke 2:49). And when the end of His earthly life was in sight, Jesus said to His Father, "I have finished the work which Thou gavest me to do" (John 17:4). He did not quit. He finished His task.

When you come to the end of life will you say, "I finished the work God has given me to do?" Or, will you be compelled to say: "I started, but quit!" Will you stand before the judgment bar of God and admit that you were a quitter? Eternal life is promised to those who endure to the end (Matt. 10:22). There will be no consolation in the judgment day to point back to your baptism unless you can also point back to a life of faithful endurance.

Quit wasn't in Jesus' vocabulary; neither should it be in ours. We need to be like Paul who, in his imitation of Christ (1 Cor. 11:1), said: "Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil 3:12-14).

Raymond C. Kelcy (1916-1986) via Harrisburg church of Christ Harrisburg, IL

## **Details**

I am a "detail" oriented person. As a music director, I spent much time paying attention to the smallest of details. At least, that is what most of my students thought. They always questioned the need to repeat a section of music, or the need to do a marching formation "one more time." Even when it comes to painting a room or a house, some would suggest just slapping paint on a wall and be done. I will spend extra time taping off areas I don't want painted and then be very careful not to drip any paint anywhere. Details!

Spend time reading the Bible and you will find whole sections dealing with "details." Exodus chapters 25 through 30 give "in detail" the pattern of the tabernacle, courtyard and items in the tabernacle. God "details" the clothing for the priests and the dedication of the priests for working in the tabernacle. The last few chapters of Exodus "detail" the construction of the tabernacle, courtyard and items in the tabernacle. Leviticus records "in detail" the sacrifices to be offered to God and preparation of those sacrifices. The first book of Kings records "in detail" the construction of the temple; and the last chapters of Ezekiel (40-48) give "in detail" the vision of the new temple, its walls, rooms and sacrificial implements. These are just a few of the many examples of "detail" God gives in His Word.

In the religious world today, it seems we are more concerned on just getting things done and moving on to the next challenge or requirement. And in so doing, are we missing the details which will bring greater meaning to our service, worship and Christian lives? Has worship become so constrained by time that it is just something we do so we can say we've "worshiped God?" Are we worshiping the Lord in "spirit and truth" (John 4:24)? Or, are we worshiping God according to our own personal desires (Mt. 15:7-9)? In living for Christ, are we following Him with total commitment (Luke 9:23)? Or, do we take it upon ourselves to determine what is really necessary in following Christ (Mt. 7:21-23)?

Details! It is often heard, "Don't sweat the small things!" But when the small things (details) are ignored, they frequently turn into big things which are far more difficult to correct. When we begin to search out the "details" in God's Word, then we will understand the important lessons to be found to help in our walk with the Lord and look forward with anticipation to the words, "Enter in good and faithful servant."

Paul Mowrer Monticello church of Christ Monticello, AR