



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

February 2, 2020

P.O. Box 416
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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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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE HOME

Today the sanctity of the home is not even a consideration of most. One of Jesus' main purposes was to exalt and to protect the home – not to destroy it. Many today claim that if the plain teaching of the Bible on divorce and remarriage was preached and enforced, it would destroy the home. But we know the truth of the matter is: the teaching of the Scripture is absolutely necessary in order to protect the home.

The origin of marriage is from God (**Genesis 2:18-25**). “*God made them male and female, to cleave to each other,*” as long as they live, not divorce! The law of Moses concerning divorce is given in **Deuteronomy 24:1-4**, to try to put legislation on divorce. Men were putting away their wives for every cause. Jesus teaches about marriage and divorce in **Matthew 19:1-9** and refers back to the beginning: “*from the beginning it (divorce) was not so.*” **Malachi 2:10-16** says that God hates divorce!

It always seems to be the tendency of man to rebel against God by rejecting His instructions. Divorce is destroying the home, the nation, and the church. The only way to uphold the sanctity of the home as God intended for it to be, is to follow His instructions. God intended for the home to be one man for one woman for life! The one exception short of death is fornication (**Matthew 19:9**).

I pray that we teaching our young people what the Bible says on this vital subject, so the home can once again be as God intended for it to be.

Tommy Stacks

Be Dependable!

One of the hamstrings of most every church is a lack of dependable Christians. When Christians do show themselves undependable, they contribute so much to a church: much frustration, disappointment, and friction. We should all be dependable. You probably know little about Shelemiah, Zadok, Pedaiah and Hanon. Little is said about them. But listen to what is said. They were placed in charge of the storehouses because *“they were considered reliable”* (**Neh. 13:13**). What a glowing epitaph!

On the other hand, David wrote of some wicked individuals, of whom he said, *“There is nothing reliable in what they say”* (**Psa. 5:9**). Too many otherwise good people are leaving such a reputation for themselves. In frustration, sometimes elders may join Solomon in asking, *“Who can find a trustworthy man?”* (**Prov. 20:6**). But, good news! We can all be dependable. Why?

First, we are ABLE. God blesses us with talents, time, and treasure. With them, we can (as good stewards) use our resources to God’s glory. If something hinders us from doing our duty, we can let others know and cover for us. But, whenever and wherever and however we can, we use ourselves as workers in the kingdom (**Matthew 9:37**).

Second, we are DEPENDENT. God pours blessings into our lives (**Eph. 1:3; Js. 1:17**). Without Him, we are nobody! Except God provided all our needs, we would be nowhere and have nothing. We are obligated, and our best efforts could never earn or repay God’s graciousness (**Lk. 17:10**). But, surely, appreciating His grace, we will be workmen (**Eph. 2:8-10**). When needs are made known by our elders or other church members—food or teachers or folks to visit or calls to make or new Christians to aid or missions to encourage or elderly, shut-ins to help—let us remember our dependence upon God and be dependable for those dependent folks around us.

Finally, you are thereby DEEPENED. When we do what we can in the kingdom, giving it our best, we are enriched and strengthened thereby. Our relationship with Christ is deepened, for we are imitating Him. Our appreciation for God’s blessings is deepened when we sacrifice and extend ourselves. Our faith is deepened by our interaction with those in need and by our participation in what needs doing. Our joy is deepened by being active and involved in the Lord’s work.

One song in our song book asks, “Can he depend on you?” If He has no hands but our hands to do His work today, shall we allow our hands to sit idle? Christianity is a commitment. It’s a wonderful commitment, but commitment nonetheless. Let us take it seriously and be a brother or sister upon whom our brethren and our God can rely!