



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

February 5, 2023

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:

rockwdcc@gmail.com

Website:

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

Stop Worrying and Hurrying

In Lewis Carrol's classic *Alice's Adventures In Wonderland* we see Alice confronting the white rabbit. The rabbit scurries quickly by proclaiming, "*Oh dear! Oh dear! I shall be too late!*" In this statement we have two of the greatest problems of people today: worry and hurry.

We live in a world of uncertainty and most people's reaction is to excessively worry. We also live in a fast-paced world in which most think they must always be in a hurry just to keep up. But living in these ways makes our lives unsettled and miserable.

When Korah wrote the **46th Psalm**, he addressed the solution to both of these problems. He opened by stating, "*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear...*" (**v.1-2**, and may I add "*nor worry*"). The more we trust in God and that He is strong and in control, we will fear and worry less.

He ends the Psalm by saying, "*Be still, and know that I am God...God...is our refuge*" (**v.10-11**). It is important to stop from time to time and reflect upon God. Take some time to meditate upon the Scriptures, contemplate God's awesomeness, and soak in His love. It is then that we will appreciate God more and more and not see the need to be in such a frantic pace.

With God we can properly balance our mind and life. It is then that we will see that we do not need to worry or hurry so much – maybe even at all!

Edd Sterchi
Broadway church of Christ
Campbellsville, KY

If the Doors Are Blocked

Mark chapter **2** (as well as **Mathew 9** and **Luke 5**) records the time that Jesus Christ healed a paralyzed man—one who had to be carried by his friends.

The report begins by telling us Jesus was wildly popular at this particular time: “*And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door...they could not get near Him because of the crowd*” (**Mark 2:2,4**).

Surely the main point of the event is about Jesus. As the Son of God, Jesus Christ has the power on earth to both heal physical maladies and spiritual sickness. He healed a man physically to prove that He could heal spiritually (**Mark 21:10**).

Additionally, another key point in all of this is the faith of the paralyzed man’s friends. “*And when Jesus saw their faith. He said to the paralytic, ‘Son, your sins are forgiven’*” (**Mark 2:5**).

The door was blocked, so they headed to the roof.

A living and active faith does not give up! Faith does not give in!

There will be times where it seems as if we have no place to turn...nowhere to go...nobody to listen. We may get discouraged and our faith may be seriously challenged.

Do not give up!

“*And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up*” (**Gal 6:9; cf. 2 Thess. 3:13; Heb. 12:3**).

There is always an alternative to sin. (*The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure.* **1 Cor. 10:13**).

There is always a path to the feet of the Savior (**Matt. 11:28; John 7:27; Rev. 22:17**).

Those that are desperately seeking will find what they need (**Matt. 7:7-8**).

In spite of the obstacles you face, please do not give up and do not give in.

Remember: If the doors are blocked, try the roof!

Bart Warren(adapted)
South Green Street church of Christ
Glasgow, KY