



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

July 18, 2021

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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

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THE PURPOSE OF CHRIST'S DEATH

Jesus' death was no accident. It had been foretold by the prophets of old and even by Christ himself (**Isaiah 7:14; 53:1-12; Matthew 16:21**).

Hebrews Chapter two gives five reasons for the death of Jesus.

First, by His execution He became the substitute for our sins, He died so He could "*taste death*" for everyone (**Hebrews 2:9**). Peter explained it this way: Jesus bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. "*By his stripes ye were healed*" (**I Peter 2:24**).

The **second** purpose for Christ's death was so He could become the pioneer of our salvation (**Hebrews 2:10**). Jesus is the one who leads the way to the unknown and undeveloped land of life after death.

The **third** purpose of Jesus' death is that through the cross He sanctifies us (**Hebrews 2:11-13**). This means that Christ sets us apart to have a special relationship with the Heavenly Father. By the blood of Christ, we are "*made holy, without spot or blemish*" (**Ephesians 1:4; 5:27; Colossians. 1:22**).

The **fourth** reason for our Lord's death was to defeat Satan (**Hebrews 2:14-15**). Satan had the power of death, but by death itself, Christ delivered us from Satan's slavery.

The **fifth** reason is: By Christ's death He was able to become a merciful High Priest (**Hebrews 2:17-18**). He understands your short comings and feats.. .He's been there.. .He knows and He cares. "*For because he himself has suffered and been tempted, he is able to help those who are tempted*" (**Hebrews 2:18**).

Lany Fitzgerald,
Duke OK,
5-4-03

via Facebook/Church of Christ Information and Studies

AFTER BAPTISM, WHAT AM I TO DO?

I AM TO WALK IN NEWNESS OF LIFE. Being “*buried with him by baptism into death...even so we also should walk in newness of life*” (**Rom. 6: 4**). The man who has been born of God does not commit (continue living that old life of) sin characteristic of him before conversion (**1 John 3: 9; Rom. 6: 1, 2**). Such obtains on the basis of his genuine repentance (**2 Cor. 7: 10; Heb. 6:1**).

I AM TO DESIRE THE SINCERE MILK OF THE WORD. “*As new born babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby*” (**1 Peter 1: 22, 23**). This means I will (**1 Tim. 2: 15**), study (**2 Tim. 2: 15**) and meditate upon (**1 Tim. 4: 15**) God’s eternal Word.

I AM TO BRING GLORY TO THE NAME OF CHRIST. Though I may suffer as a Christian I am to glorify God in this name (**1 Pet. 4: 16**). I am to never so live as to bring shame upon this high and holy name. Alexander the great conquered the world and wept because there was no more to conquer. But, he had a coward, with his name, within his ranks. Alexander called this man into his presence one day and sternly said, “*You change your way of living or you change your name!*” We wear the name of Christ (*Christian*). We should live worthily of it. Otherwise, let us not hypocritically thus be identified!

I AM TO CONTINUE STEADFASTLY. Of those who were baptized on Pentecost it is written, “*And they continued steadfastly...*” (**Acts 2: 42**). I am to be “*steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord*” (**1 Cor. 15: 58**). I am not to be in and out, on and off, up and down, and hot and cold spasmodic, irregular, hit and miss in the Lord’s work. Inconsistent living will not get the job done.

I AM TO SEEK THOSE THINGS THAT ARE ABOVE. “*If ye then be risen* (referring back to having been risen from our burial with Christ in baptism, **Col. 2:12**) *with Christ seek those things which are above, not things on the earth*” (**Col. 3: 1, 2**). The Christian’s interest and affections are not only to run horizontal but vertical! Our Father is in Heaven (**Matt. 6: 9**). Our citizenship is in Heaven (**Phil. 3: 20**). Our inheritance is in Heaven (**1 Pet. 1: 4**). Our names are written in Heaven (**Heb. 12: 32**). Our treasures are in Heaven (**Mt. 6: 19-21**). Truly, then, we are to seek those things that are above, setting our affection on things above.

I AM TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT THE SAVIOR. Immediately upon his conversion Paul shared Christ with others (**Acts 9: 20**). Upon finding Christ Andrew and Phillip told Peter and Nathaniel (**Jn. 1: 40-51**). We have been won to win, saved to save, converted to convert, discipled to disciple. “*And things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also*” (**2 Tim. 2: 2**).

Wendell Winkler