



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

July 19, 2015

P.O. Box 416
129 S. Chamberlain Ave.
Rockwood, TN 37854
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Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Kendall Bear
Larry Brackett
Roger Carter
Steve McCreary

Minister:

Kirby Hinds

Secretary:

Susan Chandler

Service Times:

Sunday

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

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:30 pm

Monday

Ladies class 10:00 a.m.

Email:

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LACK OF KNOWLEDGE

Benjamin Franklin once said "Being ignorant is not so much a shame, as being unwilling to learn." There is no question that God places a high value on knowledge and particularly knowledge of His word. Hosea recorded the words of God when He wrote, "*My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priests for Me; because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children*" **(Hosea 4:6).**

It has never been acceptable for God's people to reject the words of God. We now live in a time where the Bible is very easily accessible. One can purchase a copy of the Holy Scriptures for less than the price of a happy meal. Yet, it's obvious that many have rejected the Bible. Sadly, there are even members of His church who go long periods of time without examining the Scriptures and many who have never read it.

We, as Christians, should be the most knowledgeable people when it comes to the Bible. There is no excuse for us to be ignorant of God's word. The only reason we can be ignorant of God's precepts today is if we simply are unwilling to learn, and that is a great shame. Let it never be said of those who are children of God that we have rejected knowledge. Let it never be that we, like the children of Israel, be destroyed for a lack of knowledge.

Garrett Bookout

THE COMING DISASTER

The internet buzzes with sensational predictions of looming disaster. Titles read, “Collapse of the Dollar,” “Food Shortages Ahead,” “Polar Icecaps Melting,” “Hyperinflation on the Horizon,” “Terrorism on the Rise” and so on. YouTube especially has numerous videos telling how to prepare for the imminent and abrupt end to life as we know it in America.

Could such prophecies of doom come about? Well, yes.

Ponder these questions. Are there any Divine guarantees that these things cannot happen? Have such catastrophes occurred in the past? Has money, education and government ever rescued a culture such as ours from bleak tomorrows?

You are as aware of the correct answer to these questions as anyone. There are no promises for the future.

Oh, it would be safe to say however that while there are no guarantees, there are possibilities. The chance of hyperinflation is probably greater than, say, a gigantic meteor striking the earth. I admit to personally having a greater concern that the stock market will crash than that global warming is going to decimate the earth.

In **Luke 13:1**, Jesus was given a news report about some fellow Galileans of their day who apparently incurred the wrath of Pilate’s soldiers who fell upon them with swords and mixed their blood with the blood of their own sacrifices. The aim of this report was probably the same as similar examples of “bad” news today; they are given to stir fear.

However, Jesus’ response was quite different. He did not deny the fact that such tragedies might befall anyone. He did not urge His audience to prepare themselves physically for whatever the report might mean for them in the future. He did not tell them to begin stockpiling food and water. He did not tell them to arm themselves or invest in gold.

What Jesus said to His audience, I imagine, was done in a non-excited, matter-of-fact fashion. He said about possible disasters, *“I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all like wise perish”* (**Luke 13:3**).

Jesus was not a fear monger. He did not teach for sensational aims. He was simply providing all men with an understanding of what is REALLY important. He was telling us of preparation that REALLY matters.

My friend, unless one turns from sin, disaster is inevitable. The greatest threat to anyone’s future is his own unrighteousness.

Floyd Kaiser