



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

June 3, 2018

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Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Kendall Bear
Larry Brackett
Roger Carter
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 7:30 pm

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CREATION and the BIBLE DECLARE HIS GREATNESS and LOVE

Read Psalm 19. Perhaps at some time in your life you stopped to admire a sunset – all the wonderful colors glossing into a farewell for the day; Venus begins shining brightly in the evening sky, almost calling to the other lesser lights. Or perhaps there was a time when you stood at the edge of a lake as morning was just beginning to break – there was a faint mist rising from the ground and water that gave everything a slightly ethereal look; the sound of birds beginning to sing and the odd animal moving through the underbrush or splashing in the water. In either of these scenarios a believer is awe-struck at the beauty given by God, and more so the fact that some people just cannot see the hand of God moving in this world.

Perhaps there was a time in your life when you knew there was going to be a difficult road ahead, something you knew had to be done but you didn't want to do it; but then, your mind went back to Jesus in the Garden and you read one of the accounts in the Gospels...your eyes lingering on the words, *"Not My will, but Thy will be done."* Maybe there was a time when you stood by an open grave and someone in a dark suit began to read a passage that was all too familiar at a time like this; your eyes beginning to burn with tears as the words mingle with the smell of flowers and fresh earth, *"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want..."*

The natural world screams in its beauty and complexity, "God made me! I am a witness to the greatness of the Lord!" The Scriptures witness to the awesome fact that God loves us enough to leave a message that would guide and enlighten all His children. God speaks to us every day, if we will only take a moment to listen.

What will you allow God to say to you today?

Scott D. Crawford

FAITH CHECK

It is always good for a person to do regular checkups on themselves and their lives. We know the importance of this physically, mentally, and even financially. But too often we neglect to do this spiritually – and this is the most important area of all.

In Micah's day, there were questions of how best to demonstrate one's faith in God. Was it simply just going through the motions of required sacrifices and offerings? No. Their faith was to be more than an outward ritual – it was to be proper outward actions based upon the proper inward attitude. The prophet summed it up with these words: "*He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?*" (**Micah 6:8**). In this verse are three areas that each of us must check up on regularly in regard to our faith.

Christian, Check Your Righteousness. The first check point was "*to do justly.*" Being just is being right with God and His will. It is living right, living morally, and living properly in our daily walk. It is always conducting oneself in an upright and upstanding manner. The internal attitude that creates this is a passion to please God. So, Christian, check your life – is it one that is admirable according to God's standard?

Christian, Check Your Respect for Others. The second bit of advice from **Micah 6:8** was "*to love mercy.*" Properly respecting others is treating them as God treats us – with kindness, love and forgiveness. It is selflessly giving to others what is needed in their lives. The internal attitude that brings this forth is a joy of the mercy and salvation that God has given us. So, Christian, check your life – is it one filled with eagerly helping others?

Christian, Check Your Relationship With God. The final part of our faith checkup is mentioned as "*to walk humbly with your God.*" Walking with God implies harmony and fellowship. This is attained through reading and studying the Scriptures, regular and fervent prayer, and heartfelt, proper worship. The internal attitude that strengthens this is a desire to grow closer to God.

So, Christian, check your life. Is it one that honors and involves God in every way?

Edd Sterchi