



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

June 8, 2014

P.O. Box 416
129 S. Chamberlain Ave.
Rockwood, TN 37854
865-354-0855

Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Bobby Bear
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 am

Email:

rockwdcc@gmail.com

Website:

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

A LITTLE NAIL

As the story goes, a congregation built a new church building, and people came from far and wide to see it. They admired its beauty! Up on the roof, a little nail heard the people praising everything about the lovely structure – except the nail! No one even knew he was there, and he became angry and jealous.

“If I am that insignificant, nobody will miss me if I quit!” So the nail then released its hold, slid down the roof, and fell in the mud.

That night it rained and rained. Soon, the shingle that had no nail blew away, and the roof began to leak. The water streaked the walls and the beautiful murals. The plaster began to fall, the carpet was stained, and the pulpit Bible was ruined by water. All this because a little nail decided to quit!

But what of the nail? While holding the shingle, it was obscure but it was also useful. Buried in the mud it was just as obscure, but now it was useless and would soon be eaten up by rust!

The moral of the story – every member is important to the church! Like the nail, you may feel obscure at times, but just like the nail, your absence is felt. When you are not present for worship, in some way the body of Christ hurts. We are all a part of the Lord’s church.

“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.” (Hebrews 10:24-25). “Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life” (Revelation 2:10).

Author Unknown

WHY DID HE GO THROUGH WITH IT?

Why did He do it? Why was Jesus willing to undergo such violent rejection by His own people and die like a common criminal, after being insulted, spat upon, and savagely flogged? How was He able to endure it all with such dignity and restraint? He had His reasons.

Jesus did it to fulfill Old Testament prophecies. When Peter struck out at those who came to arrest his Master, Jesus ordered him to put his sword away. *“But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?”* (**Matthew 26:54**) Jesus knew exactly what the prophets had said He would do (**Matthew 26:24, 31, 56; Mark 9:12; Luke 24:25-27, 46**). These prophecies must be fulfilled.

Jesus did it because it was His Father’s will. Naturally, He shrank from the horrors of what he knew lay ahead. He did not want to go through with it. And yet He yielded His own will to His Father’s (**Matthew 26:36-46; see John 12:27**).

Jesus did it because He loved us. *“By this we know love, that He laid down His life for us...”* (**I John 3:16; see John 15:13; Ephesians 5:2**). What a love that was!

Jesus did it because we so desperately needed a Savior. Unwilling to see us die in our sin, He took the punishment we deserved, leaving us free from sin’s eternal penalty (**Isaiah 53:4-8; I Peter 3:18**).

Jesus did it because of what we could become. *“He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised”* (**II Corinthians 5:15; see Titus 2:14; I Peter 2:24-25**).

Jesus did it to set an example for us. He wanted to show us how to endure unjust treatment patiently, without retaliating, trusting God to do right by us (**I Peter 2:18-23**).

Jesus did it for the reward. *“...who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God”* (**Hebrews 12:2**). What was *“the joy that was set before Him?”* Was it being exalted to God’s right hand? Was it the anticipation of our salvation? Whatever the joy was, it sustained Him when all was against Him.

He had His reasons.

David Gibson