



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

March 1, 2020

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Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Kendall Bear
Larry Brackett
Larry Hill
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 7:00 pm

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What Would You Be Remembered For?

*“In those days there was no king in Israel.
Everyone did what was right in his own eyes” (Judges
21:25).*

God would be a terrible obituary writer. You know, no matter how the person lived his or her life, the blurb in the newspaper always says glowing things about the person ... but God tells it how it is! They were a chosen race, but they had chosen sin. They were a royal priesthood, but they had bowed down to idols of their own making. They were a holy nation, but they had fashioned the Creator in their own image. They were a people for His own possession, but possessions had been gathered for their own selfish pleasures. They were all this so they could *“proclaim the excellencies of Him who called [them] out of darkness into His marvelous light” (1 Peter 2:9-10)*. Oh, but wait, how did my Bible get flipped open to the New Testament? We were talking about the Israelites, after all! There are so many similarities between God’s people in the time of Judges and now that the lessons not learned by them then should be taken to heart today. What would God change in the obituary of His church if the last verse of this book were written today? What would you be remembered for?

Doug Kashorek

We Become What We Worship

Have you ever noticed the affect culture and trends have on our lives? Think about it. Doesn't almost every person you know own an iPhone or smart phone of some sort? Things like movies, sports, clothing, and music have great influence over people. But do you ever wonder why we're so heavily influenced by the culture around us? Well, it's simple—whatever you're consumed with, you're going to reflect in your life. In other words, we become what we worship.

If you look up synonyms for worship in your thesaurus, you come across words like revere, adoration and idolize. I want to spend a little time focusing on that last word idolize. When God gave the children of Israel the Ten Commandments, He started out the list by saying: *“You must not have any other god but me. You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods.”*

The fact is, in this day and age, everything around you is constantly clamoring for your undivided attention. The world is begging for your adoration. It's harder than ever to focus with all the distractions offered every moment of every day. But all those distractions are rooted in idolatry and self when they get you to take your eyes off of your heavenly Father and His great plan for your life.

Ask yourself these questions: “How much time do I spend flipping through magazines or googling the latest celebrity gossip? How important is it that I fit in, look the part or am successful? Do I measure my success based on the opinions of other people?” Now ask yourself this: “How much time do I spend reading the Word of God and allowing Him to speak to me? Do I respond to the things around me by first seeking God's wisdom?” Our aim should be to approach earthly things with a heavenly mindset. But as we all know, this can be very difficult.

So how do we guard ourselves from creating idols? I think **Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)** says it best: *“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”* So, before anything else, seek first the Lord!

Michael Meredith