



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

March 25, 2018

P.O. Box 416
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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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GOD'S GRACE

“And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work” (II Corinthians 9:8).

After these forty-two years of ministry, I have learned two important things. First, God's servants are totally dependent upon the grace of God. God's grace or favor provides far more than forgiveness. God shapes and molds us into the kind of people that He wishes us to be.

In **Philippians 1:6** Paul wrote, *“And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”* Yes, God expects us to use the talents and abilities He gives us, but we should never forget that every good gift comes from Him (**James 1:17**). Paul urges us, *“Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to will for His good pleasure.” (Philippians 2:12-13).*

Second, we are wholly dependent upon the kindness of God to provide for our needs and the needs of this ministry. God does not send us into His vineyard empty-handed and ill-equipped. God's grace abounds so that we have all sufficiency in all things at all times for every good deed. When faithful Christians ask, God answers; when they seek, He helps them find; and when they knock, the Lord opens the door. God truly answers prayer (**Matthew 7:7-9**).

Phil Sanders

BEING SECURE IN AN UNSAFE WORLD

How can we be secure living in an unsafe world? The Psalmist tells us through their own experiences: *“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble” (Psalm 46)*. That’s where we can find true security and peace. In **Psalm 46**, we are reminded of three things:

Our Security is in God, not in this world. We have only one source of security – God. When hurricanes or wildfires or earthquakes occur, when wars break out or governments fail, health deteriorates, or friends betray, God is our only security. Despite all of our advances, our world is no safer today than it was when **Psalms 46** was written. We need to turn to God, to find rest for our souls. The psalmist wrote, *“Be still, and know that I am God” (Psalms 46:10)*. The Bible also says, *“Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God. They are brought to their knees and fall, but we rise up and stand firm” (Psalms 20:7-8)*.

Our Security comes from our Faith, not from our circumstances. The writers of **Psalms 46** were able to feel secure, not because of circumstances but because God was with them. God is within the city, and therefore it will not fall (**Psalms 20:5**). And, *“The Lord Almighty is with us...” (Psalms 20:7)*. Our faith in the presence of God gives us hope and security. There are those who live in great prosperity with lots of money and possessions (good circumstances). Yet, their lives are consumed with worry and fear. *“Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but endures forever.” (Psalm 125:1)*.

Our Security is in Eternity, not in the Present. *“Come and see the works of the Lord” (Psalms 46:8a)*. The fact is...ultimately, God wins. *“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28)*. God works in all the situations of our lives to bring about His good.

As Christians, we understand that there is evil in the world. But we also know that God is in the world and He is much stronger than evil. With God by our sides, we can overcome the worst of circumstances, and we are assured of a home beyond this present reality.

Larry Fitzgerald