



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

May 17, 2020

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

**Elders:**

Kendall Bear  
Dana Carter  
Don Chandler

**Deacons:**

Larry Brackett  
Aaron Evans  
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

**Email:**

rockwdcc@gmail.com

**Website:**

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

## BLESS YOU

**Blessed are you** when you come to worship, even when you are not feeling the best in the world – your dedication is helping to inspire many in this congregation.

**Blessed are you** when you leave your contribution, even when you cannot physically be here – you have helped this church to meet its financial obligations and branch out in new endeavors in the name of the Lord.

**Blessed are you** when you smile and greet others and sing from the heart, even when you've had a bad week – you help to spark the enthusiasm and zeal this church so needs.

**Blessed are you** when you help with our teaching program, even when you already have a full slate in your life – you are helping to educate the brethren and their children and mold the future of this church.

**Blessed are you** when you invite and bring people to church services, even when it sometimes makes you uncomfortable to approach them – you are helping this congregation to fulfill the Great Commission.

**Blessed are you** when you leave our gatherings with the intent of improving your life and benefitting and encouraging the lives of others – you are helping this church's influence in spreading the light and love of Christ to one and all.

**Blessed are you indeed**, for the Lord has definitely blessed you and by doing these (and more), you are recognizing Him for that fact and blessing many others in the process.

*“Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city”*  
**(Rev. 22:14).**

**Edd Sterchi**

# The Day Jesus Cleaned House

Why did Jesus have to cleanse the temple? Why was He not content to just let things go on business as usual? In **John 2**, Jesus “cleans house” literally because those Jews had made the temple a “*house of merchandise*” (**John 2:16**). There were things, behaviors, and attitudes that didn’t belong in a house dedicated to the Lord.

**1 Corinthians** talks about the temple of the Lord being both the individual human body and the collective body of the church (**see 1 Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19-20**). Can Christians look with the eyes of Jesus and see the point when there are things which wholly don’t belong and ought to be “driven out?” Consider some principles about cleansing the “temple:”

**Cleansing starts with seeing the things that are out of place.** Jesus knew those moneychangers didn’t belong there. He knew God’s view of those things in His house. What was “normal” to everyone else was offensive to God. Can we look and see things in our lives and in the church which are wholly displeasing to the Lord (**2 Cor. 13:5**)?

**Cleansing is about removal of filth and impurity.** All that was associated with God’s house was holy. The people had a responsibility to approach in holiness and to treat Him with reverence and respect (**Lev. 10:1-3**). Sin is a serious thing to God (**Rom. 6:23; Is. 59:1-2**). He wants us to be about the business of purity (**Matt. 5:8**).

**Cleansing the temple is something of which others will take note.** **John 2** details some reactions of the individuals who witnessed this. **John 2:17** says His disciples remembered scripture when He did it. Cleansing must be based on Scripture. The Jews whose livelihood was interrupted were indignant and requested a sign of His authority (**2:18-19**). When holiness and concern for purity are emphasized, people will take note (**John 12:32**). God’s dwelling place ought to be clean! The Savior understood it. Do we?