



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

May 19, 2019

P.O. Box 416
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Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Kendall Bear
Larry Brackett
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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STEADFASTNESS & STABILITY

*“Then Job arose, and rent his mantle and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground and worshipped, and said, naked came I out of my mother’s womb, and naked, shall I return thither; The LORD gave, and the LORD taketh away; blessed be the name of the LORD. In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly” **Job 1:20-22.***

The character of great men exhibits a stability in the face of all kinds of circumstances. Look at Noah and you see a man who took one hundred and twenty years to obey God’s command to build an ark. Abram made a journey of a lifetime to receive an inheritance that would only be realized by his distant descendants. Moses’ life had only one flaw that we know about. He said “*must we*” and smote the rock. We feel the man’s greatness even more when we consider his mistake. Job, in the scripture above, surely exemplifies stability in the face of every calamity that could befall him. The loss of children, his wealth, and his health is more than many can stand, but he maintained his integrity and is declared to be a perfect and upright man. Joshua, Caleb, and on and on we could go. Most of us have room for improvement in the area of stability toward God or Jesus in our lives. I would like for the following verse to be our motto when it comes to steadfastness:

*“Therefore, my beloved brother, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain” **(I Corinthians 15:58).***

When the doors are open, I’ll be there if possible is my commitment about attendance. Whatever is to be done, I want to do all my ability allows. My financial support will be as dependable as possible. I know that I have been bought with an unspeakable price and I am not my own. I am a volunteer. I am a willing servant. My standard is the second mile. My God deserves better than I am or what I can do, but I shall do the best I can. Nothing less can satisfy my own heart.

Roger Dill

GOD AND REALITY

One of the wisest phrases I have ever heard goes as follows, “What it is, is; and what it ain’t, ain’t.” Simple, basic, and to the point. In other words, whatever exists, whatever is true, and whatever has happened, well, is. At the same time, whatever does not exist, whatever is not true, and whatever has not happened is not. Society, culture, and human thinking is ever shifting in our ways of determining that which is true from that which is false. Philosophy professors at our ‘Ivy League’ universities teach that reality is subjective. You are who you say you are. Truth is what you want it to be and no one has the right to impose their truth on you. Suddenly, with this way of thinking, also comes the questioning of foundations America has always stood on like God and family. At one time, in this great nation, every person belonged to a family and every family belonged to God.

Perhaps the most significant shift we, as Christians, have noticed has happened right in our own back yards. Satan has gotten the world to believe that anything and everything should be tolerated. The only thing that is not tolerated is intolerance. We see examples such as students who are no longer allowed to lead public prayers in schools or at sporting events and Christian social clubs are no longer permitted to assemble on university campuses (although other faiths are allowed to).

There has even been a wide shift by those who profess to be Christians in their basic beliefs about God. Many will say that their God is too loving to condemn others or too loving to create a place of torment like hell. This way of thinking is just not right and it is not scriptural. There is no doubt, *God is love*; **I John 4:8** tells us so. But do you also believe that God is a consuming fire and a jealous God? You should because that’s written in **Hebrews 12:29** and **Exodus 20:5**. The fact is, it really doesn’t matter how the world wants to define truth, manipulate Christianity, and define God. That doesn’t change the fact that what it is, is; and what it ain’t, ain’t.

Fight the good fight (I Timothy 6:12).

Jason Wilder