



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

May 26, 2019

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Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
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Deacons:

Kendall Bear
Larry Brackett
Steve McCreary

Minister:

Todd Houston

Secretary:

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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 ABOUT YOUR DENOMINATION

The Bible teaches in **Acts 2:41, 47** that the church of Christ (His church) was established on Pentecost, AD 33. If your denomination was not established on that date, it cannot be Christ's church.

The Bible teaches that penitent believers must be baptized to be saved and enter the church (**Acts 2:38, 47**). If your denomination teaches differently it disregards the Bible.

The Lord's church is called the church of Christ because it is His property, purchased with His blood (**Acts 20:28**). Why is your denomination called something different?

The members of His church are called Christians (**Acts 11:26**). Why do the members of your denomination call themselves anything other than just plain Christians?

The Bible teaches that a sinning Christian must repent and confess or be lost (**Acts 8:22; I John 1:9**). If your denomination teaches differently, it contradicts the word of God.

The Bible teaches that Jesus Christ is the head of the church and elders lead its independent congregations (**Colossians 1:18; Acts 14:23**). If your denomination does not follow the Biblical pattern of church organization, how can it be Christ's church? He built only one church (**Matthew 16:18**) – note that church is singular – and that the church (of Christ) does follow His Biblical pattern.

The Bible teaches that the penitent, confessing believer receives the Holy Spirit at baptism (**Acts 2:38**), and that those who do not have His Spirit are not His (**Romans 8:9**). If you have not been baptized as a penitent, confessing believer, you cannot have the Spirit and, hence, cannot belong to Christ. What has your denomination have to say about this?

The New Testament in the Bible specifies five elements of worship (**Colossians 3:16; I Corinthians 11:23-26; 16:12; I Timothy 2:1; 4:13**). We are also commanded not to go beyond what is written in Scripture (**I Corinthians 4:6**). Has your denomination subtracted from or added to God's instructions? If so, on what authority?

There is a church of Christ near you. Each congregation is so called (**Romans 16:16**). It's members are eagerly waiting to welcome you home. Come home!

By Al Sowins

MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States for remembering the people who died while serving in the country's armed forces. The holiday, which is observed every year on the last Monday of May, originated as Decoration Day after the American Civil War in 1868. Though the exact place and day of origin is up for debate, it was on May 26, 1966, that President Johnson signed a presidential proclamation naming Waterloo, New York as the birthplace of Memorial Day. Then on June 28, 1969, the Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which moved four holidays, including Memorial Day, from their traditional dates to a specified Monday in order to create a three-day weekend (wikipedia.org/wiki/Memorial_Day).

Perhaps you had not considered this, but God has used various memorial days as well. In the days of the Old Testament God instituted the Sabbath Day. In **Exodus 31**, the Lord instructed Moses to tell the children of Israel that the Sabbath was a sign between Him and the Israelites that He was the Lord who sanctified them (**Exodus 31:12-17**).

Other than the Sabbath, God also instituted several other special days and feasts that were to be memorials between Him and the Israelites. For instance the Feast of Unleavened Bread was supposed to last seven days and be a memorial that the Lord's law should be in their mouth for with a strong hand he had brought them out of Egypt (**Exodus 13:6-9**).

Another was the Feast of Booths or Tabernacles. It was to begin on the fifteenth day of the seventh month and it was to last for seven days. During this time they were to dwell in booths for seven days as a reminder that God made them dwell in booths when He brought them out of the land of Egypt (**Leviticus 23:39-43**).

There are several of these feasts that were instituted under the Old Law. However, when we come to the New Testament we find that Jesus has nailed to the cross the requirements of the Old Law. In fact, Paul specifically wrote to Colosse instructing them to let no one judge them in regard to food or drink, festival, new moon, or Sabbaths (**Colossians 2:13-16**).

Therefore, we must look to the New Testament to find out about the memorial that God has given to us. That memorial is the Lord's Supper that was instituted by Jesus (**Matthew 26:26-29**), and was later confirmed by Paul (**I Corinthians 11:23-26**). It was to be a reminder of Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf that we might have remission of sins. In fact this memorial was mentioned as the specific reason that the disciples came together to worship on the first day of the week (**Acts 20:7**).

I am certainly thankful this weekend that we can remember all those who sacrificed in the service of their fellow man. Though, it is interesting to consider that the greatest soldier died trying to save His enemies rather than kill them (**Romans 5:6-10**). I am thankful to serve a Lord that holds His people to a higher standard.

By Doug Tooley