



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

November 4, 2018

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Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

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Larry Brackett
Roger Carter
Steve McCreary

Minister:

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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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IMPORTANCE OF BIBLE AUTHORITY

This modern generation should teach us some very important lessons. **First**, there is an urgent need for more teaching about the requirement of Bible authority for what we believe and practice. *“And whatsoever ye do, in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus.” (Colossians 3:17).* **Second**, we should recognize the lack of teaching will lead to softness and error. *“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.” (Hosea 4:6).* **Third**, reliance on human wisdom is gratifying to the individual, *“...but the end thereof are the ways of death.” (Proverbs 14:12).* **Fourth**, it is important to know why we believe as we do, *“but sanctify in your hearts Christ as Lord: and being ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason concerning the hope that is in you, yet with meekness and fear.” (I Peter 3:15).* **Fifth**, we must draw a clear line between truth and error. *“...preach the word...for time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine.” (II Timothy 4:2-4).*

It would be easy to rationalize numerous Bible admonitions and to disregard them as meaningless. If we rely on our own human reasoning as to what is and is not important, we could ridicule and demean those things that we do not want to follow. Nadab and Abihu could easily have reasoned, “God just wants fire in the censer. He does not care what kind.” (Leviticus 10:1-2) Noah was told to build an Ark and how. Moses was told to speak to the rock; he was not told to strike it. Our modern human reasoning might have said what difference does it make? It is so easy for us to minimize the commandments of the Lord and to make them seem unimportant, but obedience is never trivial to God.

Jim Wilsford

WHY I ATTEND ALL SERVICES OF THE CHURCH

I go to every service of the church because Jesus is there. *“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them” (Matthew 18:20).* Jesus has never forsaken an assembly, and I want to be like Him.

I go to every service of the church because I am made stronger. Power is given in worship to live a nobler life. There one is fortified against falling away. There is the sweetest fellowship on earth. There souls are made fit for heaven. There strength is given to bear the burdens of life. Why should I want to miss any service?

I go to every service of the church because God wants the church to grow. The church always grows when members put God first by loyal attendance. Since the church is the saved (**Acts 2:47**), the growth of the church means salvation of the lost. Here is a way all can help in the finest work on earth.

I go to every service of the church to set a good example. Many are looking my way and following in my steps. Influence is either good or bad – there is no middle ground. Any hour the church meets, my influence is with or against Christ. If I attend, it is for the Lord. When I neglect a service, my influence is for Satan.

I go to every service of the church to prove my love and gratitude. So boundless was the love of Jesus for the church, He gave His life for it. If I would be His disciple, I must prove my love. Since God has given me a multitude of blessings I do not deserve, it is indeed a small sacrifice to return a few hours in public worship. One who truly loves God does not ask if he must attend all services. His love compels him to! If I show love to God by attendance, I show lack of love by absence.

I go to every service of the church to obey God. The Bible says, *“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching” (Hebrews 10:25).* The first Christians met weekly and often daily (**see Acts 20:7; 2:45; 19:9**). Any service where the Bible is taught, prayer is made, and God is worshipped, is good. *“Therefore to him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin” (James 4:17).* If it is good to be present for all services, it is bad to be absent from any.

I go to every service of the church to put first things first. *“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you” (Matthew 6:33).* Jesus said the church must be first to the Christian, even before food, clothing, and drink. Nothing could be so important as being a faithful member of the Lord’s church!

I go to every service of the church because it is safe to do so. All who forsake an assembly wonder if they sin, but I know I am perfectly safe in attending every service. Yes, dangerous risks are taken in forsaking any assembly of the church; Christ may return in that hour, death may come, a life of neglect may begin, and others may be lost by a bad example.

I go to every service of the church to abound in the Lord’s work. A true Christian wants to do all he can and not as little as he can. Even after doing all possible I am still an unprofitable servant (**see Luke 17:10**). Since the assemblies of the church are vital in the Lord’s work, I must abound in attendance. *“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord” (I Corinthians 15:58).*

Mac Layton