



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

October 21, 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:
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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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I WILL SING WITH UNDERSTANDING!

Some of the songs we sing may be difficult for us to understand if we are unfamiliar with the “poetic license” employed by the authors. The Friendly Visitor bulletin from a church of Christ in Oklahoma City gives the following information about songs which might help you better understand some difficult wording.

EBON PINION speaks of the confinement of darkness. The dark of night held Jesus when He prayed in Gethsemane.

BEULAH LAND was Palestine to the Jews. They longed to be free again, go back home from Babylonian captivity and be “married” to the Lord once more.

EBENEZER means memorial to divine aid. The Jews raised memorials in places when God had given them great success. We hold in solemn remembrance places dear to us because of special blessings from the Lord.

LOWER LIGHTS are the lives of Christians shining forth in this dark world of sin. They are sending forth the gospel to those who are in danger of drowning in iniquity. Brightly beams our Fathers’ mercy but the lower lights are needed to bring the lost ones safely home.

THOUGH YOUR SINS BE AS SCARLET is from **Isaiah 1:18**. Scarlet was the color of a deep-red permanent dye and its deep stain was virtually impossible to remove from clothing. The stain of sin seems equally permanently soiled. Only God can remove sins stain.

KING OF OUR LIVES BY HIS GRACE WE WILL BE. Following Him, we will rule ourselves wisely and well.

BREAD OF LIFE refers to food that sustains spiritual life (i.e. being given instruction about Christ, being taught the Bible, etc.)

THE FIERY CLOUDY PILLAR speaks of God’s leadership by night and day as when leading the Israelites from Egypt to Canaan.

“All the earth shall worship You and sing praises to You”
Psalm 66:4.

Via Tipton church of Christ, Tipton, OK

DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS?

Is each person entitled to their own interpretation of the Bible even though their interpretations are different? Many religious people believe they are, but, is this true? Does God allow all men to differ on the Bible?

First, where in the Bible are we taught that God allows different interpretations? Find the passage(s) that teach, “Men can believe the Bible differently and please God” – if you can. Prepare for a long and fruitless search.

Second, if everyone can have different interpretations then what is the purpose of having the Bible? You might as well discard the Bible and make up your own religious rules. David Karesh made his, the pope makes his, most every television evangelist makes up his and so does every religious conference, council and convention. If they want women to preach publicly, they just make up an interpretation which explains away **I Timothy 2:11-12**. However, this approach will not please God and those who do it will be lost (**Matthew 15:8-9; Galatians 1:6-9; Revelation 22:18-19**).

Third, notice the emphatic statement of **I Corinthians 1:10**. If every Christian must “*speak the same thing*” then interpretations may not differ. If Christians must be “*perfectly joined together*” then division over interpretations is not allowed. This passage requires believers to have the same mind and the same judgment. This verse will not allow different thinking and conflicting viewpoints on doctrinal matters. God’s word is clearly refuting the idea that different interpretations can be held.

Fourth, Peter, Paul, James and John did not go around teaching different interpretations of God’s word. Thus neither should any man living today. Where there are differences between two views of the Bible either one of them is wrong or both are wrong. But both cannot be right. Of course, God is ultimately right. Every man must endeavor to bring his thinking in line with God’s. All of us will be held personally accountable (**II Corinthians 5:10**).

By Richard Massey