



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

October 4, 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 pm

Email:

rockwdcc@gmail.com

Website:

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

Does God Hear Prayers?

Most of us have prayed and asked God for help with some burden or problem, but it seemed there was no answer. Have you ever wondered if God really hears your prayers? Does an unanswered prayer mean that God doesn't listen to us?

God's word assures us that He does hear the prayers of those who obey Him. Solomon wrote, "*The Lord is far from the wicked: but He hears the prayer of the righteous*" (**Proverbs 15:29**). James said, "*The effective fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much*" (**James 5:16**). Peter quoted from the Psalms, "*For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are open to their prayers*" (**1 Peter 3:12**).

Why then does God often not give us those requests for which we ask? Did you know that God did not give Jesus the answer for which He prayed in the garden of Gethsemane? (**Matt. 26:39**). Nor did Paul get his thorn in his flesh removed, even though he asked three times for God to do that (**2 Cor. 12:7-9**). Thus, even though God hears our petitions, He has not promised to say "yes" to all for which we ask.

May we never doubt God nor doubt that He hears the prayers of the righteous. But let us remember the responsibility we have to hear and obey His Word. Let us also *always* pray as Jesus did, "*nevertheless not as I will, but as You (Father) will*" (**Matt 26:39**).

John K. Wills

How To Destroy A Country

“One university after another is bowing before the violent demands of a small minority of radicals who intend to overthrow the existing government...The radicals fully intend to overthrow the national government and replace it according to their own fuzzy, undefined lines which they cannot explain. They have decided to seek as many confrontations with the police and university officials as they possibly can. They are using terror tactics in some parts of the country now.” This was written fifty years ago in the July 1970 issue of the *Voice of Freedom*.

Following these observations was a short article entitled “How to Destroy a Country”: “Affirm man’s animal origin, nature and functions to the exclusion of everything else, and ridicule all reference to his spiritual qualities.

Inculcate general disrespect for any kind of authority by urging people to obey their own impulses in the name of freedom.

Hamper the enforcement of the criminal code with decisions that slow down the judicial process and make it difficult to arrest, convict and sentence a culprit for an offense against society.

Import vast supplies of hallucinogenic drugs and make them available to the youth of the land; then provide the youth with plenty of money with which to buy them.

Loosen all restraint on the entertainment media so that sexual license may be presented to the public in its rawest form.

Corrupt the youth of the land by permitting pornography, obscenity, and general immorality to be indulged in freely without fear of arrest or persecution.

Soft-pedal all discussion of loyalty, responsibility, patriotism, duty and sacrifice in order that freedom of dissent may be established.

Split the older and younger generations by encouraging them to distrust each other and to condemn each other’s institutions.

Pollute the air, the streams, and lakes, and erode the land until the environment is so poisoned that life can no longer be enjoyed.

Indoctrinate the public into believing that God is dead, Jesus Christ is a myth, Christianity, a byword for an ancient superstition, and the church an institution that mankind has outgrown.” *“The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God” (Psalm 9:17).*

Kerry Duke