



# THE EXHORTER

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***“And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.” Acts 2:40***

The Palmer Road church of Christ, Westland, Mi. ([prchurchofchrist.org](http://prchurchofchrist.org))

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## JUMP START #529

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**Romans 10:11 *“For the Scripture says, “WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED”***

There is no disappointment in Christ. How can there be? He's perfect. He's the best. He's never let us down. He has always believed in us, wanted us and shown us the best way to live. He gave so that we could live. Those who believe in Him will not be disappointed.

We live with disappointments. Nearly everywhere we turn we can find things that disappoint us. Some are disappointed that their favorite football team is not in the Super Bowl this year. Some are disappointed with their wages. Some are disappointed with their insurance company. Some are disappointed that they can't find a real person to talk to when they call customer services. Some are disappointed with politicians. Some are disappointed that their favorite pizza place closed. Some are disappointed with their kids. Some are disappointed with the church they attend. Friends can disappoint us. It is easy to be disappointed and it is easy to find things that make us disappointed.

The opposite of disappointment is satisfaction. The satisfied customer doesn't complain. One satisfied with the meal compliments the cook. "I'm satisfied" - that's a rare statement any more. Genesis 25:8 tells us that Abraham died an old man, satisfied with life. Abraham was satisfied. His life wasn't easy. He had many trials and he made mistakes. His satisfaction came from trusting the Lord. By faith, Hebrews 11 tells us, Abraham obeyed God and journeyed, not knowing where God was leading him. He was satisfied.

I have met those who were disappointed with Christ, especially His word. They were disappointed that Jesus would not allow them to do whatever they wanted. They were disappointed that Christ makes demands. They are disappointed that the way to Heaven involves a righteous walk and a devotion to Christ. They are disappointed that they can't live like a sinner and die like a saint. They had wrong ideas, false concepts and just too much of self in them to ever be satisfied with Christ.

He who believes in Him will not be disappointed. Think about that statement. Let it simmer a moment in your mind.

- Do you think anyone would be disappointed in forgiveness? Do you think the prodigal was bummed because he got to sleep in house, where sons sleep, instead of the barn, where servants sleep? Do you think he was disappointed that he got to sit at the table and eat with this Father, instead of standing behind him and filling his cup as servants do? Do you think he was disappointed that his father came out to greet him? Was he disappointed that his father ordered the sandals, robe and ring be placed upon him?

Was he disappointed that his father invited him to a celebration, with a feast and music? We don't see it, but for those who believe, we have sandals on our feet and a ring on our finger. They are the symbols of acceptance by God. Through faith we are saved in Christ Jesus. Disappointed with forgiveness? No way!

- Do you think anyone would be disappointed with Heaven? Can you imagine just how beautiful Heaven will be? And think, you don't just get to see it, you don't just get a special tour of it, you stay. You stay there forever. His home, becomes your home. Disappointed? Are you kidding? A world that is truly problem free. Never again to take a pill. Never again to lock a door, turn on a light, be afraid, be worried or to have doubts. Heaven! The best place ever. Together with Jesus. Disappointed with Heaven? No way!

- Do you think anyone would be disappointed with God's love? God never gives up on us. He loves us more than we love Him. He wants us to spend forever with Him. He sent the best of Heaven for us. He has revealed His heart to us. He has put people in our lives to remind us, connect us, and bring us to Him. He has given us the greatest book the world has ever known-the Bible. Disappointed with God's love? No way!

Disappointed-No. When people are disappointed with Christ, it is because they don't know Christ and they want a Christ that suits them and allows them to be selfish.

Satisfied people look no further-there's no need, they are satisfied. Those satisfied in their marriages, don't cheat-there's no need, they are satisfied. Those satisfied with their homes don't put them up for sale-they are satisfied. Those satisfied with Christ look no further, there's no need, they are satisfied.

The one area spiritually that we are disappointed in is in ourselves. We are not as focused as we ought to be. We are disappointed that we let little things bother us so much. We are disappointed that we choose the here and now, the quick and easy, and often the wrong, over what is best. Our singing could be better. Our prayer life could be better. Our preaching could be better. Most Christians feel this way. We beat ourselves up, thinking we are spiritual losers. Don't do that. It's not healthy, helpful or productive. If you see areas to work on, then do it. Realize that God is not disappointed in you. He's not given up on you. Look at expressions such as the five talent man who heard his master say, "Well done, good and faithful servant..." He was pleased with him. The reason we don't give up on ourselves is because of Jesus. Christ works with us, in us and through us to be the people we should be. It's not us, it's Christ who makes the difference.

There is no disappointment in Christ-None! Is that how you feel about things?

It's wonderful being a Christian!

Roger Shouse

