

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM JUNE 23, 2013

BY ELDER KEN MCAULEY, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Galatians 3:10

For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT ABIDE BY ALL THINGS WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW, TO PERFORM THEM."



Ever give any thought to the fact that the Scriptures declare that anyone who puts his trust in the Law of God to gain the approval of God, is under a curse? Most people think that the Law of God is righteous and holy and it is! But to be under a curse if you put your trust and hope in it?!?!?

The issue is that one has to obey every one of them or you are guilty of breaking the whole Law. *For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.* James 2:10. We don't like to look at it that way. We want to believe that it is a good code of conduct that everyone should live by. There is nothing wrong with that idea. Everyone should live by it, but when we think God will look on our behavior and say that our good works are deserving of Heaven, the idea is from someone's imagination and not from what God has said in His Word, the Holy Scriptures.

You see, the Law requires death as the penalty of breaking even one of them. Some curse, eh? But God has a remedy. The Scriptures say that the Law is but a tutor to lead us to Christ. We must realize that we need help being righteous. Christ is the sacrifice of God for our sin to satisfy His requirement for the penalty of death for breaking His Law. That's why Jesus had to die and rise again. That's something that we can't do for ourselves. That sounds pretty special to me!

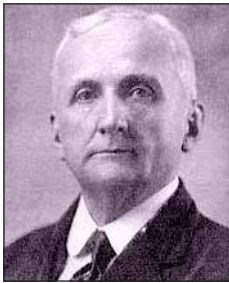
So, all we have to do is put our trust in Christ. That may sound strange to some. How do we do that? What does it mean? We simply believe that Jesus did for us all that needs to be done to satisfy God. There is nothing that **we** can **do** to earn God's approval or get Him to recognize that we are good enough. When we acknowledge that God's sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross is all we need and stop depending on how good we think we are, our dependence transfers from ourselves to Him. We call it faith. His grace then gives us the gift of Salvation from the bondage of this evil age and gives us hope for the future in Heaven with Him. We can then focus on Him instead of ourselves. It's not about us. It's all about Him.

Sunrise Community Church
Come acknowledge the Lord in our midst
EVERY SUNDAY BEGINNING AT 8:45 A.M.

Hymn of the Week

COURTESY OF THE
CYBER HYMNAL™

<http://www.hymntime.com/>



Anthony J. Showalter (1858-1924)

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

"The eternal God is your refuge,
and underneath are the everlasting arms."

— Deuteronomy 33:27

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/l/e/a/leanarms.htm>

Music: Anthony J. Showalter (1858-1924)

Words: Elisha A. Hoffman (1839-1929)

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure
from all alarms;

Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,

Leaning on the everlasting arms;

O how bright the path grows from day to day,

Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain

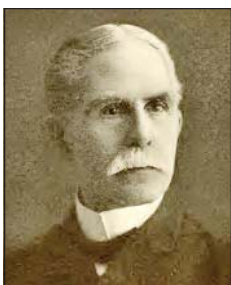
What have I to dread, what have I to fear,

Leaning on the everlasting arms;

I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,

Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain



Elisha A. Hoffman (1839-1929)

SEE YOU SUNDAY AT SUNRISE

What's Happening at Sunrise

June 2013

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

June 23 8:45 a.m. Elder Ken McAuley

June 30 8:45 a.m. Mark 14:53-72 –

Pastor Andrew Kikkert
Mission Impossible



Join the Flock at Sunday School!

Sunday School
is at 10:30 a.m.
each Sunday

JUNE 2013

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	23	24	25	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

The Cost of Discipleship –

Chinese government shuts down multiple house churches

MISSION NETWORK NEWS www.mnnonline.org

China (VCM) – A recent report from the *Voice of the Martyrs Canada* office shows the Chinese government has ordered the closure of more than a dozen house churches in the southern province of Hainan.

Last month while the Sanya Hosanna Church was holding a morning worship service, several people from the Religious Affairs Bureau and the neighborhood committee disrupted the service and served this notice: "Announcement by the Hongqi Street Community of the Voluntary Dissolution of Irregular and Illegal Religious Meeting Sites."

The committee warned the Christians that officials would take stricter measures if they met again the following week. They also put pressure on the landlord to stop renting the meeting site to the church, which was given 15 days' notice to move out.

It didn't stop there. According to China Aid, a ministry partner with the *Voice of the Martyrs*, the leader of the church was also restricted from going to Hong Kong to attend a special conference. He was told his attendance might jeopardize national security and national interests.

On the same day, three other Sanya house churches (Elim Church, Bethel Church and XinjuChurch) faced the same

kind of harassment. Days earlier, Sanya's Mengai Church, Hexing Church, and three other house churches were shut down. A church in Haikou has experienced similar treatment, and several other churches have been forcibly closed. In addition, some churches in the Baoting county have been shut down.

"Closing a dozen churches in Hainan is an alarming sign that little has changed with Xi Jinping as president," said ChinaAid founder and president Bob Fu. "The government is carrying out its plans to 'eradicate' the independent house church movement, a crackdown that would affect up to 100 million people. China must end this repression if it wants global respect as a rising power."

Pray that these believers will be greatly encouraged spiritually, cultivating a deeper relationship with the Lord as they embrace the fellowship of His sufferings (*Philippians 3:7-10*). Ask that His faithful servants be granted mercy and favor with the officials of the Religious Affairs Bureau and members of the neighborhood committee. May their oppressors discover the joy and peace of personally knowing Jesus, as witnessed in the lives of these Christians ... even in the midst of life's challenges.

