

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM JULY 28, 2013

BY PASTOR ANDREW KICKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

Mark 15:37-39

“And Jesus uttered a loud cry, and breathed His last. 38 And the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. When the centurion, who was standing right in front of Him, saw the way He breathed His last, he said, “Truly this man was the Son of God!”



In his excellent book *The Six Pillars of Biblical Power*, John Rankin wrote about the reversal of the reversal. In God's infinite power, He gave glorious gifts such as life, the created world and the ability to love. Yet when His creation soiled themselves by their sin (the reversal) to take what was not theirs, God's love gave even more to redeem and restore His creation (the reversal of the reversal). I can think of no better picture of this than the centurion at the foot of the cross. Christ's faithful obedience to His Father, even in death — not wondrous works of power or majesty — converted the executioner.

In a single moment, the centurion's world view that governed his life changed. He had sworn allegiance to Caesar and was the physical representation of Roman power in Israel. To the Romans, power was the defining characteristic of deity and the title “Son of God” could only belong to Caesar, the embodiment of Rome's power and majesty. This centurion never saw any of the prior miracles of Jesus or heard any of His teachings. Yet in Christ's death, this soldier saw who Jesus Christ was and what it meant to be the Son of God. Divinity was no longer associated with the might of a leader to impose his will, but with humble obedience that transforms lives.

There was one thing the centurion saw in the crucifixion of our Lord that likely reversed his view of Jesus. As a soldier, he understood the necessity of absolute obedience. As another centurion told Jesus in Matthew 8, he understood what authority was and what that meant when orders were given. In the final hours of Jesus this centurion witnessed the Son of God carrying out His mission from the Father in absolute obedience. As bystanders ourselves, we need to reverse our false view of the true nature of divinity and power to see that at its core is obedience.

The world is continually looking for a sign or demonstration that meets worldly criteria. But that is the opposite of faith. The world's attitude is show us and then we will believe – but they will never see enough for them to believe. Faith is trusting to the point of death, not seeing enough to believe. The centurion stands in stark contrast to those who shouted to Jesus for a sign to prove He was the Son of God. God demonstrated power over Rome, the religious leaders, the fickle crowds and the demonic hosts by the humiliation of the cross and reversed the reversal which occurred when man was forced out of the Garden of Eden.

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

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AUGUST 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

The Hymns We Sing

COURTESY OF THE CYBER HYMNAL™

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

When I Get to the End of the Way

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/w/i/g/wigteotw.htm>

"Come to Me, all you who
are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest."

Matthew 11:28

Words & Music:

Charles D. Tillman, 1895



Charles D. Tillman (1861-1943)

The sands have been washed in the footprints
Of the Stranger on Galilee's shore;
And the voice that subdued the rough billows
Will be heard in Judea no more,
But the path of that lone Galilean,
With joy I will follow today,

Refrain

And the toils of the road will seem nothing
When I get to the end of the way,
The toils of the road will seem nothing
When I get to the end of the way.

There are so many hills to climb upward,
I often am longing for rest;
But He who appoints me my pathway,
Knows just what is needful and best.
I know in His Word He hath promised
That my strength it shall be as my day;

Refrain

He loves me too well to forsake me,
Or give me a trial too much;
His people have been dearly purchased,
And Satan can never claim such.
By and by I shall see Him and praise Him,
In the city of unending day;

Refrain

When the last feeble steps have been taken,
And the gates of that city appear,
And the beautiful songs of the angels
Float out on my listening ear;
When all that now seems so mysterious,
Will be bright and as clear as the day,
And the toils of the road will seem nothing
When I get to the end of the way,
Then the toils of the road will seem nothing
When I get to the end of the way.

SEE YOU SUNDAY AT SUNRISE

- July 28 8:45 a.m. Pastor Andrew Kikkert – Mark 15: 22- 47**
The Reversal of the Reversal
10:30 a.m. Second Hour
- Aug. 2 7:00 p.m. Game Night**
- Aug. 4 8:45 a.m. Pastor Andrew Kikkert – Mark 16: 1-20**
All's Well That Ends, Well?
10:30 a.m. Second Hour
- Aug. 9 6:30 p.m. Friday Night Fellowship**
- Aug. 11 8:45 a.m. Pastor Andrew Kikkert**
New Study: Weapons of Spiritual Warfare
Ephesians 6: 10-20 Why Christians Must Fight
10:30 a.m. Second Hour
- Aug. 16 7:00 p.m. Game Night**
- Aug. 18 8:45 a.m. Pastor Andrew Kikkert – Ephesians 6:14**
Spiritual Warfare: The Weapon of Truth
10:30 a.m. Second Hour
- Aug. 23 6:30 p.m. Friday Night Fellowship**
- Aug. 25 8:45 a.m. Pastor Andrew Kikkert – Ephesians 6:14**
Spiritual Warfare: The Weapon of Righteousness
10:30 a.m. Second Hour
- Aug. 30 No Friday Night Activities**
- Sept. 1 8:45 a.m. Pastor Andrew Kikkert – Ephesians 6:15**
Spiritual Warfare: The Weapon of the Gospel of Peace
10:30 a.m. Second Hour

Jailed Pastor Goes On Hunger Strike In Kazakhstan

BY KAZAKH SERVICE /RADIO FREE EUROPE RADIO LIBERTY

A jailed Christian pastor in Kazakhstan accused of using mind-altering drinks to pry donations from a member of his congregation has gone on a hunger strike to protest his treatment by authorities.

Bakhtzhan Kashkumbaev announced in a letter on July 18 that he was launching a hunger strike. The action came amid reports that authorities were planning to transfer him to a psychiatric facility to undergo a compulsory mental-health examination. The pastor says the examination is aimed at locking him up in a psychiatric hospital.

The 67-year-old Kashkumbaev was arrested in May on charges of "intentionally inflicting serious harm" on the health of a member of his Blagodat Baptist church two years ago. If found guilty, he could face up to seven years in prison.

Kazakhstan has Central Asia's largest population of evangelical Christian Baptists, estimated at more than 10,000. Kashkumbaev, an ethnic Kazakh and Christian convert, has been a pastor at the church in Astana since 1995. According to Kashkumbaev's arrest order, he is accused of exerting "psychological influence" on church member Lyazzat Almenova through the use of mind-altering drinks, sermons, and prayers in order to compel her to donate money to the church.

Kazakh media have reported that testing revealed that the mind-altering drink in question turned out to be red tea purchased from local suppliers.