

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM AUGUST 11, 2013

BY PASTOR ANDREW KICKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

Ephesians 6:11-12

Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.



Paul concludes the Book of Ephesians with the clearest definition of spiritual war that we find in Scripture. Most assuredly there is a spiritual battle to be fought and without using the weapons God has provided, we will find we are hopelessly under-powered. Our study into this topic over the next few weeks will inform us what those weapons are and why they are so essential to the battle we fight. These are weapons designed by our Heavenly Father which best repel the attacks of Satan.

Many come to faith in Christ without ever realizing they have now stepped into a battlefield. We are told of entering into every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ (*Ephesians 1:3*) but we hear very little about the commencement of a great struggle against Satan and his forces. With few exceptions, our enemies are invisible to the human eye, but are very real indeed. They take on many names: rulers, powers, world forces of this darkness and spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. I doubt we can fully understand the variety and number of forces which oppose us and if we did, many might lose heart. But the armor we have been given has been designed to prevent us from being devoured and for our stand against these assaults.

It is true that the days we live in are evil and we must be careful how we walk in this world if are to make the most of the days God has given to us. But we know from Scripture that for as bad as things seem today, they will get worse. Man continually hopes that things will get better, and that is reflected by many in the Church who falsely assume that Christ will return when we have prepared the world for Him by our good deeds. The Bible is very clear in *2 Thessalonians 2:1-12* and *Revelation Chapters 12 and 20* that satanic opposition will only increase until the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ for the final destruction of Satan and his hosts. This will require the Christian to be a vigilant warrior, prepared for the schemes of the enemy in order to stand in these, the final days of confrontation.

I am excited you are here to join us in this new study of spiritual warfare and the armor of God. This will not be a study about taking the war to enemy, for that is Christ's job. Our task is defensive, not offensive. It is our duty to resist the devil, not remove him. From the Scripture, my prayer for us in this study is that we will stand because God is the One who wins the battle. Satan's ultimate defeat is not at the hand of the saints, but from the hand of God. May we learn the victory is the Lord's and our part is to put on the full armor of God and stand!

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
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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/>

Be Strong In God

“Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.”
Ephesians 6:10

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/b/e/s/besingod.htm>

Words: Susan H. Peterson (1950-2004) 1998 (released to the public domain).

Music: Ein' Feste Burg, also known as **A Mighty Fortress is Our God** by Martin Luther (1483-1546), 1529.

Learn more about Hymnist Susan H. Peterson at

http://www.hymntime.com/tch/bio/p/e/t/peterson_sh.htm

Be strong in God and in His power;

Put on His armor every day.

Thus you can take your stand each hour;

The devil's schemes won't lead you astray.

The battle's like a flood,

Though not 'gainst flesh and blood;

But 'gainst the spiritual realm,

With Satan at the helm;

You face the powers of darkness.

Take God's full armor — your life surround,

So when the day of evil appears,

You'll then be able to stand your ground,

And after all, to stand without fear.

Stand firm, then, in the faith,

The belt of truth in place;

Breastplate of righteousness,

Feet shod with readiness

That comes from the true Gospel of peace.

Take, over all, the shield of faith,

To quench the flaming arrows outpoured.

Salvation's helmet wear over your face,

And take the Word, the Spirit's sword.

Pray in the Spirit's power,

All kinds of prayers each hour.

Be always on alert,

And pray for all the Church.

Through God you'll win the battle!



Susan H. Peterson
(1950-2004)

SEE YOU SUNDAY AT SUNRISE

- 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**

The Cost of Discipleship – Vietnamese Christian put in prison, shocked with electrical wires

VOICE OF THE MARTYRS

Vietnam (MNN/VOM) — “Bao,” a new Christian, is being pressured by village authorities in Vietnam to recant his faith, a Voice of the Martyrs (VOM) worker reports.

After Bao and his family converted to Christianity four months ago, authorities told Bao he could not live in the village. They also barred him from purchasing products like food, clothing, or candles in the village as long as he continued in his beliefs.

They repeated their threat three times. After Bao was baptized on July 16, his brother beat him and had him arrested. Bao was jailed for two days, beaten, and shocked in his eye with electric wires.

Police fined Bao \$250, which had to be paid before he could be released. His wife was unable to go and find someone to loan them the money because she is blind. Instead, Bao was released on the condition that he returns in two days with the full payment. Voice of the Martyrs is providing Bao with money to pay the fine.

Voice of the Martyrs exists to serve the worldwide persecuted church through spiritual and practical assistance. Their ministry is based on Hebrews 13:3 which reads, “Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.” The public can take action to show persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ that they are not forgotten. Please pray for the provision and protection of Bao and his family. Pray that Bao's faithfulness to Christ will cause others to ask, “Who is this God he serves?”



Pray
for the
Persecuted
Church