

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM AUGUST 25, 2013

BY PASTOR ANDREW KICKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

Ephesians 6:14

“Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH ...”

We all dress in a certain order. We begin with our ‘foundation garments’ because other garment will be layered over them. Usually we finish with putting on our shoes, because putting our pants on after our shoes proves to be very difficult. The armor of God is to be put on

in a certain order as well, and the first step is to gird our loins as we prepare for spiritual battle. In the Bible, the girding of the loins is the first step but it also prepares us for further action. As Peter wrote, we are to “gird our minds for action” as we act like the One who called us (1 Peter 1:13-16).

Truth is the grid through which all information can be filtered. It gathers up the loose ends of information and processes and conforms it all to legitimacy and goodness. James reinforces the importance of truth in our salvation when he wrote in James 1:18 *“He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.”* It is by the truth that we are sanctified and brought to maturity in Christ. The question we must be able to answer then is how do we arrive at truth? Is it based upon our experience, the rules of society or even the laws of government? Or does truth come from a different source altogether? The line we use to measure truth is the question that must be answered before we can rightly chart a course for our decision making.

Christ prayed for His disciples in the upper room in John 17:17 *“Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.”* Any decision we make on what is good or right for a situation or response must be seen through the grid of Scripture. The human response is to measure good or bad by how it benefits us. But the Word of God calls for us to die to ourselves and our interests, to subject ourselves to the government and to love others as we have been loved by God. The truth is the basis for Christian unity that builds up and edifies the church. This is completely opposite to the world’s way of thinking and is only learned through the truth of Scripture.

Jesus Christ is the truth. When we turn away from the truth we are turning away from Him. As important as the other garments are, the foundation of all of them is truth because that is who Jesus Christ is. He is the way, the truth and the life. Being rooted in Him is what prevents us from being taken captive by philosophy or empty deception. He is also what we are to grow into, with Christ being head over all. The world is constantly changing, declaring new fads and fictions to be the truth because someone wrote a book or spoke at a conference. We do not live in such a shifting landscape as so many do in this generation. We live completely secure in the bedrock foundation of Christ’s truth.



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

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AUGUST 2013						
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The Hymns We Sing

COURTESY OF THE CYBER HYMNAL™

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

In the Sweet Bye and Bye

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/i/n/t/intsab.htm>

In My Father's house there are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you.

John 14:2

Words: Sanford F. Bennett, 1868. This song was sung in the Academy Award winning movie *Sergeant York* (1941).

Music: Sweet By and By, Joseph P. Webster

Mr. Webster, like many musicians, was of an exceedingly nervous and sensitive nature, and subject to periods of depression, in which he looked upon the dark side of all things in life. I had learned his peculiarities so well that on meeting him I could tell at a glance if he was melancholy, and had found that I could rouse him up by giving him a new song to work on.

He came into my place of business (in Elkhorn, Wisconsin), walked down to the stove, and turned his back on me without speaking. I was at my desk. Turning to him, I said, "Webster, what is the matter now?" "It's no matter," he replied, "it will be all right by and by." The idea of the hymn came me like a flash of sunlight, and I replied, "The Sweet By and Bye! Why would not that make a good hymn?" "Maybe it would," he said indifferently.

Turning to my desk I penned the words of the hymn as fast as I could write. I handed the words to Webster. As he read his eyes kindled, and stepping to the desk he began writing the notes. Taking his violin, he played the melody and then jotted down the notes of the chorus. It was not over thirty minutes from the time I took my pen to write the words before two friends with Webster and myself were singing the hymn.

– Sanford Fillmore Bennett (1836-1898)

There's a land that is fairer than day,
And by faith we can see it afar;
For the Father waits over the way
To prepare us a dwelling place there.

Refrain

In the sweet by and by,
We shall meet on that beautiful shore;
In the sweet by and by,
We shall meet on that beautiful shore.

We shall sing on that beautiful shore
The melodious songs of the blessed;
And our spirits shall sorrow no more,
Not a sigh for the blessing of rest.

Refrain

To our bountiful Father above,
We will offer our tribute of praise
For the glorious gift of His love
And the blessings that hallow our days.

Refrain

SEE YOU SUNDAY AT SUNRISE

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 –

Egyptians say Muslim Brotherhood's bid to blame Christians failing

FROM FOXNEWS.COM

As Egypt descends into violent chaos, Egyptians are increasingly blaming the Muslim Brotherhood, despite attempts by the Islamist group to scapegoat Christians and the military, according to several sources who spoke to FoxNews.com from Cairo.

"The Muslim Brotherhood has lost all sympathy with their points due to their violence," said a Long Island, N.Y., Egyptian-American, who is in a Cairo suburb for a family wedding.

The man, a Coptic Christian who asked that his name not be used until he and his family are safely back in the U.S., told FoxNews.com he arrived in the Cairo suburb of Heliopolis last weekend, just days after Muslim Brotherhood supporters began clashing violently with security forces. Since then, nightly curfews, angry mobs and closed roads that cut off supplies to restaurants and groceries have made his homeland unrecognizable.

"We see very few people after 7 p.m. in the streets," he told FoxNews.com.

The violence began when, more than a month after the military stripped President Mohammad Morsi of power and took him into custody, authorities cleared camps of protesters in Cairo. That action prompted a violent uprising in which more than 1,000 people have been killed. Morsi, who critics said had put the nation on a path toward Islamist rule, is now facing accusations of conspiring with Hamas to escape from prison during the 2011 uprising and complicity in the killing and torture of protesters outside his Cairo palace in December.

A Muslim woman named Nina told FoxNews.com most citizens — Christian and Muslim — are solidly behind the military, which has been criticized by the west for its decisive crackdown on Muslim Brotherhood supporters.

"I am Muslim and I am against terrorism and I support the revolution [which ousted Morsi] and I support all the decisions of the Egyptian army forces," she said. "We love Egypt so much and we hope the foreign countries stop misunderstanding about us and the situation now in Egypt."

Even at mosques, the tide seems to be turning against the Muslim Brotherhood, according to one man who spoke from Cairo.

"They gather around mosques, from five to 100 of them, to show they are important and the goal is to go and cut off the roads and rally to get more supporters," he said.

