

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM JUNJE 1, 2014

BY PASTOR ANDREW KIKKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

Ruth 3:1-4

“Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, “My daughter, shall I not seek security for you, that it may be well with you? Now is not Boaz our kinsman, with whose maids you were? Behold, he winnows barley at the threshing floor tonight. Wash yourself therefore, and anoint yourself and put on your best clothes, and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. It shall be when he lies down, that you shall notice the place where he lies, and you shall go and uncover his feet and lie down; then he will tell you what you shall do.”



Naomi has proposed to Ruth a shortcut to getting what Naomi wanted, but by the grace of God, the two principle characters – Ruth and Boaz – remained sterling examples of godly conduct. I have found I have been influenced by some Bible teachers who have tap danced all around the threshing floor, fervently trying to sanctify Naomi’s actions. It is time to take off the rose colored glasses and see the godly manner in which Ruth and Boaz handled the risky situation into which they had been placed by others’ plans.

You might rightly ask why I hold to this position, when others I highly respect and admire see the text quite differently. It all comes down to one’s hermeneutics (the interpreting of Scripture). First, I believe that the Bible is to be understood as it appears. Second, I believe that the Scriptures provide the willing student with all the supporting information one needs to understand what they find in any biblical text. I do not believe that the interpretation of any text hangs upon information discovered outside the Bible whether that is from historical narratives or scholarly commentaries. External information may supplement and illustrate biblical truth, but the interpretation of a biblical text does not hang on something outside of Scripture.

When it comes to the Book of Ruth, many want to see a common cultural practice underlying the actions which Naomi directed. The reality is that we see no such practice in the Bible - anywhere! (Please search for yourself!) Without other biblical texts to support this conclusion, I must take the text at face value. There is no unique cultural interpretation here. In other words, when a woman bathes, puts on perfume and dons her best dress, and then secretly climbs under the covers with a man who has had his fill of food and wine, I don’t think anyone in any culture would read this in any way but what we all assume.

That being said, the godly character of both Ruth and Boaz is dramatically displayed against the backdrop of Chapter 3. Circumstances were far from ideal here but that did not prevent them from living in a way that should command our respect. We often bemoan the fact that we live in dark days and are more than willing to complain about the evil of our day. Is today any different than the times of the Judges of Israel? It is during such times that the light of the gospel should shine ever more brightly from the distinctiveness of His people so God will get the glory!

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

JUNE 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
25	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	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

The Hymns We Sing

COURTESY OF THE CYBER HYMNAL™

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

All My Hope on God is Founded

Words: <http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/a/m/h/amhogifo.htm>
Tune: <http://www.hymntime.com/tch/mid/c/o/b/coblenz.mid>

Thou art my hope, O Lord God: Thou art my trust from my youth.

Psalm 71:5



Robert S. Bridges
(1844-1930)

Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680) (Meine Hoffnung stehet feste); translated from German to English by Robert S. Bridges in the Yattendon Hymnal, 1899.

Music: Coblenz, Joachim Neander, 1680



Joachim Neander
(1650-1680)

All my hope on God is founded;
He doth still my trust renew,
Me through change and chance He guideth,
Only good and only true.
God unknown, He alone
Calls my heart to be His own.

Pride of man and earthly glory,
Sword and crown betray His trust;
What with care and toil He buildeth,
Tower and temple fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour,
Is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth,
Deep His wisdom, passing thought:
Splendor, light and life attend him,
Beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore from His store
Newborn worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth th' almighty Giver
Bounteous gifts on us bestow;
His desire our soul delighteth,
Pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand at His hand;
Joy doth wait on His command.

Still from man to God eternal
Sacrifice of praise be done,
High above all praises praising
For the gift of Christ, His Son.
Christ doth call one and all:
Ye who follow shall not fall.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SUNRISE

May and June 2014

June 1 8:45 a.m. Ruth 3:1-18 Undercover Operations
10:30 a.m. Sunday School

June 3 7:00 p.m. Bible Study in Colossians

June 6 7:00 p.m. Game Night

June 8 8:45 a.m. Pentecost Sunday
Ruth 4:1 -22 Gentile Redemption!

June 10 7:00 p.m. Bible Study in Colossians

June 13 6:30 p.m. Friday Night Fellowship

June 15 8:45 a.m. Father's Day
Boaz: A Mighty Man of God
No Second Hour- Celebrate Father's Day

June 17 7:00 p.m. Bible Study in Colossians

June 20 7:00 p.m. Game Night

June 22 8:45 a.m. New Series In 1st John
The Tests of True Christianity
10:45 a.m. Sunday School

June 24 7:00 p.m. Bible Study in Colossians

June 27 6:30 p.m. Friday Night Fellowship



Nepal Hindus: Give land to Christians to bury their dead

By CHRISTOPHER SHARMA • <HTTP://WWW.ASIANEWS.IT/> • <HTTP://WWW.PERSECUTION.ORG/>

Kathmandu (AsiaNews) - Hundreds of people, Christians and Hindus together, followed the body of the Catholic Rajendra Rai to the place of his cremation. The funeral rites later turned into a large peaceful demonstration, calling on the authorities to grant Christians the land needed to create a cemetery. The issue has been going on for some time, and even sparked violent protests in the past.

Rai's funeral – he was an official of the local Caritas who died at age 49 due to heart problems – has brought the issue once again to the fore. After the funeral in the Cathedral of the Assumption in Kathmandu, the interfaith procession followed the hearse to the Bagmati river. There Hindus cremate the bodies of their loved ones. Gyan Rai, brother of the deceased, told AsiaNews: "Although we are sad for the loss, it is comforting and nice to see this great mass of people at the funeral. Hopefully the government will listen to us."

Pradip, Hindu, continues: "Nepal has several religious groups and is now a secular state: all faiths should have the same rights and the same opportunities. The government should immediately grant the land to the Christians. If they are not free and happy, then neither are the Hindus, Christians are citizens of this country, equal to all others." Binod Pahadi, also Hindu, says: "We are with the Christians and we will support their demands. The government cannot simply ignore us."

The debate over burial sites for the Christian minority and tribal Kirlti (who will not cremate their dead) has been ongoing for decades. The majority of Hindu tradition cremate their dead and do not understand the needs of minorities to bury their dead, and hinders such custom. Until now, Christians and tribal land bought at his own expense that are often seized or desecrated. Spaces are sometimes inadequate. In a tomb of a few meters can also be buried 10 dead.