

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM OCT. 12, 2014

BY PASTOR ANDREW KIKKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

1 John 3:7-9

“Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous; the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.”

John divides all people into two camps: those who practice righteousness (3:7) and those who practice sin (3:8). There is no third camp for those who do not believe in Jesus, but are decent, good people who never hurt anyone. You may protest, “Surely, my grandmother who was sweet towards everyone and who believed in the basic goodness of human nature, was not of the devil!” The Bible offers no comfort to those who base their righteousness on good deeds, clean living or gentleness of spirit. _

The key to understanding John’s meaning lies in his next phrase, “for the devil sins [lit.] from the beginning.” This points us back to the original fall of Satan. God created Satan and all the angels as good, but Satan sinned against God and led a rebellion of other angels, who became demons. Isaiah 14:12-14, on one level describes a taunt against the king of Babylon, is also a description of Satan’s fall: “How you have fallen from heaven, O star of the morning, son of the dawn! You have been cut down to the earth, you who have weakened the nations! But you said in your heart, “I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God, and I will sit on the mount of the assembly in the recesses of the north. I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.”

Notice that five times the devil said, “I will,” in opposition to God. He was not content with where God had created him. He wanted his own way. As we saw in verse 4, which is parallel to verse 8, the essence of sin is rebellion against God. The sinner says, “I will! I want my way! I will not submit to the Most High God.” This attitude originated in Satan and is the defining attribute of all who stand in opposition to the grace and mercy of God who provides His righteousness to all who trust in the work of His Son on the cross of Calvary.

So whenever a person acts in line with his own will, without submitting to God’s will, he is committing the original sin of the devil. Whether it manifests itself as the humanly respectable, “I will be nice to others, so that people will think highly of me,” or as the reprehensible, “I will kill others to get what I want,” it all comes from the same source: the devil. Any action that originates in the human will that is not in submission to God is devilish, even if outwardly it is a nice, humanitarian, seemingly “good” action.



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

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 (626) 287-6120 • PastorAndy@SunriseTC.org • www.SunriseTC.org

The Hymns We Sing

COURTESY OF THE CYBER HYMNAL™

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

His Eye Is On The Sparrow

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/h/i/s/hiseyeis.htm>

“Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father...So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.”

Matthew 10:29-31

Words: Civilla D. Martin, 1905

Early in the spring of 1905, my husband and I were sojourning in Elmira, New York. We contracted a deep friendship for a couple by the name of Mr. and Mrs. Doolittle-true saints of God. Mrs. Doolittle had been bedridden for nigh twenty years. Her husband was an incurable cripple who had to propel himself to and from his business in a wheel chair. Despite their afflictions, they lived happy Christian lives, bringing inspiration and comfort to all who knew them. One day while we were visiting with the Doolittles, my husband commented on their bright hopefulness and asked them for the secret of it. Mrs. Doolittle’s reply was simple: “His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.” The beauty of this simple expression of boundless faith gripped the hearts and fired the imagination of Dr. Martin and me. The hymn His Eye Is on the Sparrow was the outcome of that experience.

— Civilla Martin

The next day she mailed the poem to Gabriel, who supplied the music. Singer Ethel Waters (1893-1977) so loved this song that she used its name as the title for her autobiography, and it appears on her tombstone.

Music: Charles H. Gabriel (1856-1932)



Civilla D. Martin
(1866-1948)



Charles H. Gabriel
(1856-1932)

Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely, and long for Heav’n and home,
When Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is He:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Refrain

I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free,
For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

“Let not your heart be troubled,” His tender word I hear,
And resting on His goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;
Though by the path He leadeth, but one step I may see;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Refrain

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
When songs give place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to Him, from care He sets me free;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Refrain

WHAT’S HAPPENING AT SUNRISE October 2014

Oct. 12	8:45 a.m.	1st John 3 verses 4-10 <i>What is Sin to a Christian?</i>
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School
Oct. 14	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study in Colossians, at Kikkert’s
Oct. 17	7:00 p.m.	Game Night
Oct. 19	8:45 a.m.	1st John 3 verses 11-18 <i>Love or Hate — One or the Other</i>
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School
Oct. 21	7:00 p.m.	Bible study in Colossians at the Kikkert’s
Oct. 24	6:30 p.m.	Friday Night Fellowship
Oct. 26	8:45 a.m.	1st John 3 verses 19-24 <i>Blessed Assurance</i>
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School
Oct. 28	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study in Colossians at Kikkert’s
Oct. 31	5:00 p.m.	TRUNK OR TREAT! <i>We need people to represent Sunrise!</i>

OCTOBER 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	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	1

Lao Christians Arrested For Religious Gathering

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH FOR LAO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

The chief of Boukham village, along with the village security officials and village police, arrested Pastor Sompong Supatto and six other Christian believers for exercising religious freedom in gathering for religious worship at the house of Pastor Sompong Supatto. The incident took place on Sunday, September 28, 2014, at 11:30 AM after the morning worship service when believers were gathering for lunch. All seven, along with a child, are being detained at the Boukham village government headquarters. Pastor Sompong is being held in handcuffs and leg stocks, while the six believers and a child are being detained without handcuffs and leg stocks.

The arrest was conducted after the village officials had issued warning from the previous Sunday, September 21, 2014, that Christians were no longer allowed to gather for worship in Boukham village. Christians have been assembling for corporate worship in Boukham village for 3-4 years.

The names of the seven adults and one child who were arrested and detained are:

1. Pastor Sompong Supatto, resident of Bouham village, Atsaphathong district, Savannakhet province_2. Manivanh, female, age 60, resident of Phosai village, Palansai district, Savannakhet province_3. Chai, female, age 56, resident of Phosai village, Palansai district, Savannakhet province_4. Anna, female, age 50, resident of Phosai village, Palansai district, Savannakhet province_5. Tiang, small female child, age 3, resident of Phosai village, Palansai district, Savannakhet province_6. Chanthanarm, male, age 18, resident of Phosai village, Palansai district, Savannakhet province_7. Neal, male, age 21, resident of Changseng village, Palansai district, Savannakhet province_8. Petsamone, age 40, resident of Changseng village, Palansai district, Savannakhet province

The HRWLRF urges the Lao government to respect the right of the Lao people to religious freedom and the accompanying rights as guaranteed in the Lao constitution and the U.N. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, ratified by Laos in 2009, upholding the individual’s right to adopt a religion/belief of choice as well as the right to manifest that religion/belief in a corporate worship (Article 18). Any form of coercion impairing the freedom to have and manifest one’s religion/belief of choice is condemned in the Covenant.

Additionally the HRWLRF urges the Lao government to punish the Boukham village chief and other village officials who acted illegally to arrest these seven Christians and a small child.

The HRWLRF demands the immediate release of all seven Christians mentioned above.

