

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM FEBRUARY 8, 2015

BY PASTOR ANDREW KIKKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

Jude 1-2

"Jude, a bond-servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to those who are the called, beloved in God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ: May mercy and peace and love be multiplied to you."



There is a familiar story about three men who were working on a stone pile at a construction site. A curious passerby asked the first worker, "What are you doing?" He tersely replied, "Chiseling stone." Hoping for a better answer, he asked the second worker, "What are you doing?" "Bringing home a paycheck." Still wondering what was going on, he asked the third man, "Sir, what are you doing?" The man dropped his sledge hammer, stood erect, and his face brightened as he waved toward the site and exclaimed, "I'm building a great cathedral!" All three men were doing the same job, but only the third man had the proper vision to make his job meaningful and to put his heart into it.

Our calling is not on what we do for God, but rather on what God has done for us. The basis for any service for Christ is that God has effectually called us to belong to Christ, He has set His love on us, and He has set us apart unto Himself, bestowing His grace and peace on us. Throughout Scripture, God the Father is the one who calls us to salvation. For example, in 1 Corinthians 1:9 Paul writes, "God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." Here Jude tells us God calls us to belong to Jesus Christ.

"Called" in the New Testament epistles always refers to God's effectual call to salvation. It is not merely an 'invitation,' but the powerful and irresistible reaching out of God in grace to bring people into his kingdom." Paul makes this clear in Romans 8:30, "and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified." The entire chain of salvation is God's doing, so that no one may boast in himself, but rather, only in the Lord.

To be a Christian means that God has intervened in your life, calling you out of darkness and into His kingdom of light, where you now belong to Christ and have fellowship with Him. Paul often refers to our new standing as being "in Christ." We are totally identified with Him. This implies a fundamental break with the world, where we no longer love the world and live for the same things that the world lives for. We now are those who have been called to belong to the Lord Jesus Christ.

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/>

O Blesséd Day

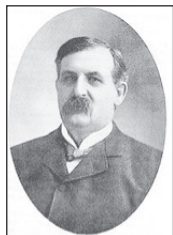
<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/o/b//oblesday.htm>

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/mid/l/o/u/lourdes.mid>

"He is risen." – Matthew 28:6

Words: J. Burtis White, in *Revival Hymns*, edited by Daniel Towner & Charles M. Alexander (Chicago, Illinois: The Bible Institute Colportage Association, 1905), number 163.

Music: Lourdes Daniel B. Towner



Daniel B. Towner
(1850-1919)

O blessèd day when from the tomb,
The Son of Man in triumph rose!
Where darkness reigned, now shines the
light
Of hope eternal, pure and bright.

Refrain

O blessèd day, when I shall see
The risen Christ, who died for me,
And on that bright and peaceful shore
Rest in His love forevermore!

O blessèd day, when on the way
With His disciples Jesus walked!
Their saddened hearts within them burned
As to the Scriptures Jesus turned.

Refrain

O blessèd day, in Bethany
When Christ ascended to His home!
Redemption's wondrous work is done,
And lo, the Comforter has come!

Refrain

Thrice blessèd day, when Jesus comes
To take His ransomed children home;
Ye saints of God, arise and sing
Hosannas to your Savior King!

Refrain



Join the Flock at Sunday School!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SUNRISE February 2015

Feb.8	8:45 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Jude verses 1 & 2 <i>Digging Deeper in Jude</i>
Feb.10	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study in 2nd Thessalonians
Feb.13	6:30 p.m.	Friday Night Fellowship
Feb.14		Valentine's Day
Feb.15	8:45 a.m. 10:30	Jude verse 3 ANNUAL MEETING & POTLUCK
Feb.17	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study in 2nd Thessalonians
Feb.20	12:00 p.m.	Temple City Camellia Festival
Feb.21	10 a.m.-11 p.m.	Temple City Camellia Festival
Feb.22	8:45 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12-8:00 p.m.	Jude verses 4 to 7 <i>Digging Deeper in Second Hour</i> Temple City Camellia Festival
Feb.24	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study in 2nd Thessalonians
Feb.27	6:30 p.m.	Friday Night Fellowship

FEBRUARY 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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

Texas judge dismisses lawsuit against orthodox Jewish congregation represented by Liberty Institute

By MERRILL HOPE • WWW.BREITBART.COM

Collin County District Court Judge Jill Willis ruled that the members of a small Orthodox Jewish community, the Far North Dallas Congregation of Toras Chaim, have the right to continue meeting in a Plano home for private worship. She made the decision on Wednesday, Feb. 4.

In the case, Liberty Institute Senior Counsel Justin Butterfield had contended that Congregation Toras Chaim was protected under the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA), a federal law designed to protect religious liberties from zoning rules and the companion Texas Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA). The judge agreed.

The Plano-based Liberty Institute defended the Jewish community's right to freely exercise their religious beliefs. It is the largest legal organization in the nation dedicated solely to defending and restoring religious liberty in the United States. Attorneys from Haynes & Boone also volunteered to work on the case. All the lawyers provided their services pro-bono to Congregation Toras Chaim.

Last year, the Jewish families were sued by David Schneider, who is a neighbor. He lives across the street from the congregation. He was also the Homeowner's Association (HOA) president and the HOA got involved in the lawsuit against the Orthodox Jewish community for practicing their faith in a residential home.

After the ruling, Butterfield told reporters, "Today, we are thankful that the District Court upheld these members' religious liberty rights. We are grateful that

these Jewish families will no longer be under attack for exercising their right to worship God as prescribed by the tenets of their faith."

Butterfield highlighted the underlying significance of the favorable decision. "It shows how much we value religious liberty in America since its founding," he told reporters.

Rabbi Yaakov Rich of Congregation Toras Chaim told Breitbart Texas he was so grateful for the judge's ruling. "We now have the ability to practice freely in the neighborhood. There are just so many families who are residents in the neighborhood who would have been devastated. For the Orthodox Jewish families who walk to the synagogue, it's such a blessing." He also thanked the Liberty Institute and Haynes & Boone.

"We are thankful that this distressing season has ended with a favorable ruling, protecting our right to worship. I am incredibly grateful that Liberty Institute successfully defended our case, and that the law has upheld our right to live out our faith within our homes."

Congregation Toras Chaim had met in private homes for several years before Schneider filed a lawsuit in late 2013. Later, Schneider was elected president of the Homeowners Association (HOA) and dragged the HOA into his lawsuit.

After the ruling, Schneider told reporters that he could not speculate on the determination of an appeal until other results regarding other related matters in the case are resolved. He was referring to an order that Judge Willis would make on Friday, Feb. 6 regarding the non-profit property owners' association.