

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM APRIL 26, 2015

BY PASTOR ANDREW KIKKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

2 Samuel 22:25-28

“Therefore the Lord has recompensed me according to my righteousness according to my cleanness before His eyes. With the kind You show Yourself kind, with the blameless You show Yourself blameless; with the pure You show Yourself pure, and with the perverted You show Yourself astute. And You save an afflicted people; but Your eyes are on the haughty whom You abase.”



David, the man after God's heart, sang many of his prayers to the Lord. David composed at least half of the psalms, which, we need to remember, were to be sung, not just read. He was always singing, even when he was in a cave, hiding to save his life (Psalm 57). David has much to teach us about prayer and, especially, about the aspect of praise in prayer—our next lesson on prayer from the Old Testament.

Becoming a person of praise may not be at the top of your priority list – you've got practical problems to solve – but it ought to be! As the Westminster Shorter Catechism puts it, “The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever,” or, as John Piper rephrases it, “to glorify God by enjoying Him forever.” One of the main ways we glorify God is through praise. The brief glimpses Scripture gives us into heaven indicate that a major part of eternity will be filled with praising God. To the extent that that activity strikes us as a bit boring, we lack understanding of the infinite perfections of God and of the tremendous joy of praising Him. We all need to become people of praise.

In 2 Samuel 22 (and Psalm 18), we don't know whether David was writing about a specific incident, or just lumping together his many narrow escapes from death. In poetic language he describes (18:4-5) a man who is in turbulent water over his head. Weeds or vines are wrapping around him so that he cannot break free. In the terror of the moment, all he can think is, “I'm going to die.” He had come to the end of himself.

God has to bring affliction into our lives to humble our pride. *“God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble”* (1 Peter 5:5). When God humbles us so that we no longer trust in ourselves, then we call out to Him for salvation and He gets all the praise because we know that it was all due to His grace, not at all due to our merit. It's a lesson we must learn in coming to God: We cannot save ourselves. We must come to the end of ourselves and call out to God. Then, when He saves us, we will sing His praises. It's also a lesson we must keep on learning throughout our Christian lives. We are so prone to trust in ourselves, but we cannot praise God while we trust ourselves. The lower we see ourselves, the more we exalt God. So, God lovingly keeps bringing us into situations where we are helpless, where we're forced to trust in Him alone.

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

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APRIL 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	9	10	11	12	13	14
12	16	17	18	19	20	21
19	23	24	25	26	27	28
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

The Hymns We Sing

COURTESY OF THE CYBER HYMNAL™

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

Take My Life And Let It Be

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/t/a/k/takemyli.htm>

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/mid/m/e/s/messiah.mid>

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/mid/h/e/n/hendon.mid>

"I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God-this is your spiritual act of worship."

Romans 12:1

Words: Frances R. Havergal, February 1874.

I went for a little visit of five days (to Areley House). There were ten persons in the house, some unconverted and long prayed for, some converted, but not rejoicing Christians. He gave me the prayer, "Lord, give me all in this house!" And He just did. Before I left the house every one had got a blessing. The last night of my visit after I had retired, the governess asked me to go to the two daughters. They were crying, &c.; then and there both of them trusted and rejoiced; it was nearly midnight. I was too happy to sleep, and passed most of the night in praise and renewal of my own consecration; and these little couplets formed themselves, and chimed in my heart one after another till they finished with "Ever, Only, ALL for Thee!"

Havergal Manuscripts

Music: Messiah Louis J. Hérold, 1830; arranged by George Kingsley, 1838

Alternate Music: Hendon, Henri A. C. Malan, 1827; harmony by Lowell Mason, 184

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in
ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of
Thy love.

Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for
Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my
King.

Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages
from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I
withhold.

Take my intellect, and use every power as Thou shalt
choose.

Take my will, and make it Thine; it shall be no longer
mine.

Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal
throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure
store.

Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SUNRISE

April 2015

- April 26 8:45 AM** *The Man Who Was Always Singing*
– 2 Samuel 22
10:30 AM *Sunday School – Digging Deeper*
- April 28 7:00 PM** *Bible Study in II Timothy – at the Kikkert's*
- May 1 7:00 PM** *Game Night*
- May 3 8:45 AM** *The Man Who Prayed About the Weather*
– 1st Kings 17-19
10:30 AM *Digging Deeper*
- May 10 8:45 AM** *The Woman Who Gave Away Her Son*
– I Samuel 1 & 2
Mother's Day – No Second Hour

'Forget Me Not': marchers flood streets of Los Angeles on 100-year anniversary of Armenian Christian genocide

By ADELLE NAZARIAN BREITBART.COM

Between 50,000 to 100,000 Armenians took to the streets of Little Armenia on the centennial anniversary of the day that marked the start of the Armenian genocide 100 years ago.

The atmosphere was thick with an energy of enthusiasm from those in attendance who braved the chillier weather, which is uncharacteristic of Los Angeles during this time of year, to voice their concerns over the lack of formal recognition of the loss their people suffered years ago.

The five-mile march began at Sunset Boulevard and Western Avenue and ended at the Turkish Consulate on Wilshire Boulevard; 19 organizations had helped to organize Friday's event. The majority of businesses were closed in recognition of it.

Elen Asatryan, executive director of the Armenian National Committee of American Western Region was born in Yereman, Armenia, and her family moved to the United States in 1993.

Asatryan said not recognizing the Armenian genocide as such is "denying a very important and proud part of American history." She recalled how under the leadership of America's 28th President Woodrow Wilson, the first U.S. Congressionally-sanctioned humanitarian organization was formed. It is now known as the Near East Foundation.

"For 15 years the American people and the U.S. Government raised \$117 million to save the Armenians. They saved 132,000 orphans and set up over 400 orphanages. To deny the Armenian genocide or not to acknowledge it, is to deny the efforts of the American people for so long," Ms. Asatryan said. She also claimed that "Turkey's position with ISIS nowadays really shows that they haven't changed their ways. Turkey currently facilitates and assists ISIS in its efforts."

Although the vast majority of those in attendance were Armenian Christians, there were large pockets of members from other religious organizations also present to show their support.

Father Christopher Kelley of St. Mary's Anglican Church in Hollywood was also present. He equated Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan decision to recall Turkey's ambassador to the Holy See following Pope Francis' decision to call the Armenian tragedy a genocide to a "petulant, juvenile tantrum." He told Breitbart News, "Until Turkey frankly admits what the Ottomans did, it remains a blot on the Turkish soul. And as the Republic of Turkey participates in the denial of it, it stains them irreparably."