

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM JULY 26, 2015

BY PASTOR ANDREW KIKKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

Revelation 1:7-8

“BEHOLD, HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen. “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”



Do you really believe God wants no idols? Many people think of Martin Luther as a prophet. But he wrote, “My spirit cannot adapt itself to the book and a sufficient reason why I do not esteem it highly is that Christ is neither taught nor recognized in it.” Some this morning will not think for themselves, but wait for their Bible teacher to wrestle with it, because like Mr. Luther, their mind is made up already.

Personally, I cringe when I read Luther’s appraisal of the Book of Revelation. Having said this, I fear that Luther’s words may reflect an attitude toward Revelation that is far more common than we would like to believe. How much of Christ do we seek to see in the Book of Revelation, and in the rest of biblical prophecy? When we come to the Book of Revelation we may be so intent upon discovering the events of the future and the means by which they will be brought to pass that we fail to focus on the Person of our Lord, who is preeminent in prophecy, and who should be the focus of our attention.

The focal point of verses 1-8 is the Person of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is His work. It is the fact that He has received the revelation and He has communicated it. It is the fact that He is the One who has come as the Witness, who is the Firstborn from the dead, who is going to be the Ruler of kings. He is the One who has loved and released us and made us a kingdom of priests. He is coming again with power and authority to subdue His enemies.

If men saw Jesus Christ as He really will be then they would see Him as John did. John could rest on the bosom in the Gospel of John, but he falls dead before His feet in Revelation. What I am saying is that we have a totality of the Person of Christ. The disciples kept saying, in effect, give us a glimpse, give us a look, let us behold Your glory. But there was a sense, in His first coming on earth, in which that glory was subdued. It was suppressed, veiled, for a purpose. But in Revelation the veil was removed and now we see Christ exalted, lifted up, all-powerful; all of that glory, that visible manifestation of His deity that had been veiled over Him at the first coming was removed. Now Jesus Christ is seen in His totality.

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

AUGUST 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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	31	1	2	3	4	5

The Hymns We Sing

COURTESY OF THE CYBER HYMNAL™
<http://www.hymntime.com/>

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Words: <http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/l/e/t/letallmf.htm>

Music: <http://www.hymntime.com/tch/mid/p/i/c/picardy.mid>

"Let all the earth keep silence before Him."

Habakkuk 2:20

Words: Liturgy of St. James, 4th Century; translated from Greek to English by Gerard Moultrie, 1864.

Music: Picardy, French carol melody; harmony from The English Hymnal, 1906, number 318

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
 And with fear and trembling stand;
 Ponder nothing earthly minded,
 For with blessing in His hand,
 Christ our God to earth descendeth,
 Our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
 As of old on earth He stood,
 Lord of lords, in human vesture,
 In the body and the blood;
 He will give to all the faithful
 His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
 Spreads its vanguard on the way,
 As the Light of light descendeth
 From the realms of endless day,
 That the powers of hell may vanish
 As the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six wingèd seraph,
 Cherubim with sleepless eye,
 Veil their faces to the presence,
 As with ceaseless voice they cry:
 Alleluia, Alleluia
 Alleluia, Lord Most High!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SUNRISE

August 2015

July 26	8:45 AM	Revelation 1: 4-20 Look Who's Talking!
	10:30 AM	Second Hour
July 31		No Friday Night Activity
Aug. 2	8:45 AM	Revelation 2 verses 1-7 Ephesus: Lost Love Part 1
	10:30 AM	Second Hour
Aug. 7	6:30 PM	Game Night
Aug. 9	8:45 AM	Revelation 2 verses 1-7 Ephesus: Lost Love Part 2
	10:30 AM	Second Hour
Aug. 14	7:00 PM	Friday Night Fellowship
Aug. 16	8:45 AM	Revelation 2 verses 1-7 Ephesus: Lost Love Part 3
	10:30 AM	Second Hour
Aug. 21	6:30 PM	Game Night
Aug. 23	8:45 AM	Revelation 2 verses 8-11
	10:30 AM	Smyrna: The Suffering Church
		Second Hour
Aug. 28		Friday Night Fellowship
Aug. 30	8:45 AM	Revelation 2 verses 12-17 Pergamum: Sin City
	10:30 AM	Second Hour
Sept. 7		Labor Day

Texas Supreme Court orders City of Houston to repeal its equal rights ordinance or place on november ballot

[HTTP://WWW.BREITBART.COM/](http://WWW.BREITBART.COM/) • By CASSI POLLICK

AUSTIN, Texas-The Texas Supreme Court ruled on Friday that a nondiscrimination ordinance for the gay and transgender communities must be repealed or put to referendum in a public vote by the Houston city council.

HERO, otherwise known as Houston Equal Rights Ordinance, passed in May of 2014 after an 11-6 vote by the city council. The measure passed under the leadership of Houston's first openly gay mayor, Annise Parker, and proved to be a controversial issue for conservatives and liberals alike, as previously noted by Breitbart Texas' Lana Shadwick.

In that article Shadwick quoted Dr. Steve Hotze, a Texas Republican political kingmaker, author, and owner of a successful health and wellness center. Hotze expressed concerned that the ordinance would "open the door for quotas in hiring, in city contracts and affirmative action requirements."

Moreover, he says that, "according to Parker's proposed ordinance if you refused to hire, do business with, or refuse access to female restrooms for transvestites, then you would be prosecuted as a criminal." He and others believe that business owners should not be forced by law to accept behavior that they consider immoral.

Under the new city law, the mayor had ordered a local pastor to surrender his sermons for inspection to see if they violated the ordinance.

HERO extended rights to Houston's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) population to ensure nondiscrimination and equal opportunity in employment, contracting, and housing.

In its ruling, the Supreme Court said the city council has the "ministerial duty to immediately reconsider the ordinance" and a referendum that highlights opposition to the measure must be taken into account.

Dave Martin was one of the six Houston city council members in opposition of HERO, and upon the court's decision, issued the following statement:

Since first being introduced last year, I have voiced my opposition to the HERO ordinance driven by the mayor. I, along with five other of my council colleagues, voted against it and steadfastly believe it is a decision that belongs to the people and that the legislative power of the citizens of Houston needs to be upheld.

On Friday afternoon, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott released his own statement on the Supreme Court ruling:

Freedom of expression can only exist once government removes itself from stifling free speech, repressing religious liberty and interfering with the lives of its citizens. Today's decision by the Texas Supreme Court appropriately returns jurisdiction over this matter to voters while reassuring the people of Houston that their personal values remain beyond the reach of government.

The Houston city council has until August 24 to repeal the ordinance. If no repeal has been made by then, the public will head to the ballot boxes in November to cast their vote. Follow Cassi Pollock on Twitter @cassi_pollock