

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM SEPTEMBER 8, 2013

BY PASTOR ANDREW KICKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

Ephesians 6:14-15

“Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE ...”



From my experience, I do not think that Christians experience the full peace of God and as a result we are vulnerable to the attack of Satan. As I look around I see so many who live in fear and anxiety. To parents anxious about their children, families anxious about their finances, and churches anxious about their programs and facilities – anxiety appears to be a staple of day-to-day life. We speak on Sunday about the sovereignty of God but our anxiety about the daily tasks of our lives often conflict with the tenets of our faith and the character of God.

Peace is something God has accomplished in Jesus Christ but it is something the Christian must pursue. The question we must be answer is how does the Christian pursue peace? Our pursuit of peace must begin at the cross and cause us to return to the cross continually to consider its ramifications in our life. We must make peace a priority and a guiding principle that governs our conduct. We must focus on the character of God and His sovereign plans and purposes. We must recognize He gives us peace in the midst of adversity and suffering. We obtain peace the same way we obtain all of God’s gracious gifts to us: as gifts of grace by faith.

True peace comes from delighting in God. He is our salvation and our security and peace is the result of rejoicing and resting in Him. Peace is the fruit of pursuing unity and harmony while graciously enduring the weakness and faults of our brothers and sisters in Christ. We find peace through prayer as we petition Him to meet our every need and then trust Him to do so. Peace comes when we refuse to allow our hearts and minds to entertain thoughts which fall short of truth and righteousness. Peace comes when we put into practice what we know to be true and have pondered in our hearts.

Peace comes from God and God alone. Peace comes through Jesus Christ who made peace between God and man. He is the One who gives us true peace and enables us to stand in the midst of Satan’s schemes. Inner feelings of peace are not proof that we are in the right, but being in the right is the basis for peace. May we all find peace in Him by trusting in Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins. For it is by His righteousness that we have fellowship with God and each other.

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

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SEPTEMBER 2013						
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
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

The Hymns We Sing

COURTESY OF THE CYBER HYMNAL™

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

Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

“He’s calling you!”

Mark 10:49

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/s/o/f/softlyat.htm>

Words & Music: Will L. Thompson, in *Sparkling Gems*, Nos. 1 and 2, by J. Calvin Bushey

Chicago, Illinois: Will L. Thompson & Company, 1880. This hymn was sung at a memorial service for American civil rights leader Martin Luther King, at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia, April 8, 1968, & in the 1985 Academy Award winning movie *Trip to Bountiful*.

When the world-renowned lay preacher, Dwight Lyman Moody, lay on his death bed in his Northfield, Massachusetts, home, Will Thompson made a special visit to inquire as to his condition. The attending physician refused to admit him to the sickroom, and Moody heard them talking just outside the bedroom door. Recognizing Thompson’s voice, he called for him to come to his bedside. Taking the Ohio poet-composer by the hand, the dying evangelist said, “Will, I would rather have written ‘Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling’ than anything I have been able to do in my whole life.”

Emurian, p. 109

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
Calling for you and for me;
See, on the portals He’s waiting and watching,
Watching for you and for me.

Refrain

Come home, come home,
You who are weary, come home;
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
Calling, O sinner, come home!

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
Pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not His mercies,
Mercies for you and for me?

Refrain

Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing,
Passing from you and from me;
Shadows are gathering, deathbeds are coming,
Coming for you and for me.

Refrain

O for the wonderful love He has promised,
Promised for you and for me!
Though we have sinned, He has mercy and pardon,
Pardon for you and for me.

Refrain

SEE YOU SUNDAY AT SUNRISE September 2013

- Sept. 8 8:45 a.m. Ephesians 6:15
The Armor of the Gospel of Peace
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
- Sept. 13 6:30 p.m. Friday Night Fellowship
- Sept. 15 8:45 a.m. Ephesians 6:16
The Armor of the Shield of Faith
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
- Sept. 20 7:00 p.m. Game Night
- Sept. 22 8:45 a.m. Ephesians 6:17
The Armor of the Helmet of Salvation
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
- Sept. 24 7:00 p.m. Bible Study resumes in Ephesians
at the Kikkert’s
- Sept. 27 6:30 p.m. Friday Night Fellowship
- Sept. 29 8:45 a.m. Ephesians 6:17 The Armor of the
Word of God
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
- Oct. 1 7:00 p.m. Bible Study in Ephesians

The Cost of Discipleship –

Bakery owners respond to firestorm over wedding cake decision

SOURCE: KATU.COM

Aaron and Melissa Klein, a Gresham, Ore. couple who run a bakery and have come under fire for their decision not to bake a wedding cake for a same-sex couple, recently moved their business, Sweet Cakes by Melissa, from a Gresham storefront back into their home, where they had originally started the venture. They said their business has taken more than a 50% hit since January, when Aaron refused to bake a wedding cake for a lesbian couple based on his religious beliefs.

Once word got out, the story quickly made national headlines. At issue is whether the business violated the Oregon Equality Act of 2007. Oregon law does not allow businesses to deny service based on sexual orientation. One of the women who was refused service filed a complaint with Oregon’s Bureau of Labor & Industries, which is looking into the matter. There is an exemption for religious organizations and schools, but private businesses cannot discriminate based on sexual orientation, race, sex, age, veteran status, disability or religion.

In the meantime, the Kleins have found themselves in the middle of a firestorm over their decision. On one side, there are supporters who feel the couple had a right to make that type of decision. On the other side are those who feel the Kleins violated the law by discriminating against the same-sex couple. The Kleins cited a break-in to their bakery truck as one example of what’s been happening to them. They also said critics harassed their vendors to the point that vendors would no longer refer customers, which led to their income dropping off dramatically.

Still, despite everything, the Kleins remain optimistic and stand by their beliefs. “It took a lot of years for me to build up what I built up,” Melissa said. It’s been hard, but I don’t know, I’ve kind of also been at peace with it because I am who I am and I want to live my life the way I want to live my life. I choose to serve God and I believe in the Bible. And I believe what it says and I want to live by that.”