

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM SEPTEMBER 15, 2013

BY PASTOR ANDREW KICKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

Ephesians 6:14-17

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; in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.



In 1947, a rumor spread that the Ford Motor Company would give a new Ford in exchange for every copper penny dated 1943. The rumor spread like wildfire, even without the internet or email, and Ford was flooded with requests for information about this incredible giveaway. But as you might expect, it turned out to be nothing more than a hoax. The U.S. Mint confirmed that in 1943 they minted over one billion pennies out of a combination of zinc and steel due to the need for copper in World War II, but none were minted out of copper.

There has been another rumor going through out the human race for centuries that people can go to heaven based on their good works. But that too is a hoax. The fact is there are no works made on earth that are acceptable in heaven because all of our works are tainted by sin. The only righteousness that will gain entrance into heaven is the work of Jesus Christ, graciously given to sinners who come to Him by faith. Our eternal destiny depends on our understanding that we are justified not on the basis of our moral behavior, but by faith in God who credits righteousness to people apart from their works.

Faith is a gift from God. And like so many other gifts of God, we have a responsibility to appropriate it and grow in it. So how do we grow in faith? The key is to grow in the object of our faith, namely Jesus Christ. Faith is only as good as its object. You can have the strongest faith in a rickety bridge and have it collapse under your weight in spite of your strong faith. Or you can have a weak faith in a strong bridge and it will hold you up along with a semi truck that rumbles along beside you. The right way to have a strong faith is to know the engineer who built the bridge. Your knowledge of the bridge and its builder would increase your faith in the bridge's ability to hold you up, even though it may span a frightening chasm below. The bridge, not your faith in the bridge, gets the glory.

We need to put our faith in action. As we act in faith and see God's work, our faith is strengthened to trust Him the next time we are at a crossroad. We need to be careful not to misapply His promises. John the Baptist in prison was confused because he thought that if he were the Messiah's forerunner, and Jesus was the Messiah, then he should not be in prison. Jesus assured John (Matthew 11:2-11) that He was the Messiah. But that assurance did not mean John got out of prison alive. Even if God's will is our earthly death, we can glorify Him by dying in faith as we look to His promise of eternal life.

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/>

Just As I Am, Without one Plea

“Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

John 1:29

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/j/u/s/justasam.htm>

Words: Charlotte Elliott, 1835; first appeared in *The Christian Remembrancer*, whose editor Elliott became in 1836. The last verse is from Elliott's *Hours of Sorrow Cheered and Comforted*, 1836.

Music: Woodworth, William B. Bradbury, Mendelssohn Collection, or Third Book of Psalmody New York: 1849

Evangelist Billy Graham said he was saved in 1934 in a revival meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, led by Mordecai Ham, after hearing *Just As I Am*. This became an altar call song in the Billy Graham Crusades in the latter half of the 20th Century. Graham also used it in the title of his 1997 book, *Just As I Am: The Autobiography of Billy Graham*.

Just as I am – without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee –
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am – and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot –
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am – though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without –
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am – poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need in Thee to find –
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am – Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe –
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am – Thy love unknown
Hath broken every barrier down;
Now, to be Thine, yea, Thine alone –
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am – of that free love
The breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,
Here for a season, then above –
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

SEE YOU SUNDAY AT SUNRISE September 2013

- 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 –

Catholic priest, pastor among 'hostages' in So. Philippines city

WWW.ASSISTNEWS.NET

A Catholic priest and a Protestant pastor are said to be among the “hostages” of the Moro National Liberation Front who are engaged in a standoff with government forces in Zamboanga City, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) said Tuesday.

According to GMA News (www.gmanetwork.com), the CBCP said Chief Inspector Ariel Huesca, spokesman of the Philippine National Police Regional Office 9, identified the priest as Fr. Michael Ufana of St. Joseph Parish.

“Ufana was reportedly with his parents who were celebrating their wedding anniversary yesterday when the rebels took them in Barangay St. Catalina,” the CBCP said on its news site, citing information from Huesca. A separate report on radio Tuesday night said the MNLF is also holding his parents and sister hostage.

According to an ANS correspondent based in the area, “A pastor called a radio station this morning and secretly informed the station he is one of the hostages, but the communication was cut off. I could not write the story straight at the moment because of the ongoing crossfire.”

The CBCP quoted Zamboanga Archdiocese administrator Msgr. Crisologo Manongas as saying Ufana was trapped in the standoff.

“All the time they were there until eventually their house was forced open by the MNLF and the rebels used it as a place where they put their guns,” Manongas said. Manongas said they have been praying for the safety of the hostages and an end to the violence.

“We are praying. That is all we can do for now because we have to leave the rest to the authorities. We are also helping in distribution of food to those stranded in the evacuation centers,” he said.

In eight evacuation centers, over 9,000 residents are seeking temporary shelter amid the continuing standoff between government forces and Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) fighters loyal to founding chairman Nur Misuari.

Several areas in Zamboanga City have become virtual ghost towns on Tuesday, September 10, as government troops continue to choke MNLF positions on the second day of the siege that left four people dead and at least a dozen wounded. As of 4 p.m. Tuesday, there were still about 170 residents being held hostage by the MNLF. The rebel group released five hostages, one adult and four children, earlier in the day at Barangay Talon-Talon following negotiations initiated by the police.

