

# A WORD ON WORSHIP

## REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM SEPTEMBER 29, 2013

BY PASTOR ANDREW KIKKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

*Hear Sunday Sermons at [www.SunriseTC.org](http://www.SunriseTC.org)*

### **Ephesians 6:17**

*“And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”*

Have you ever been asked how you have confidence that the Bible you have in your hands is accurate to the original texts when the originals no longer exist for comparison? Even biblical scholars agree there are more variations in the existing copies than words in the New Testament, so how confident can we be? Has the Bible changed in 2,000 years of copying and recopying the original texts? There may be variations but we can have confidence in the Bible we hold because of how the original texts are reconstructed to determine the original.†



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Pretend your Aunt Jane learns in a dream about a magic elixir that preserves youth. She jumped out of bed and immediately wrote down the recipe word for word and then dashed off to the kitchen to mix up a batch of “Jane’s Juvenile Juice.” Within days she was the picture of vibrant youth. Aunt Jane was so excited she wrote down three copies word for word and handed them to her bridge partners at Game Night. They in turn, at seeing the remarkable results, made 10 copies each and shared them with their friends. All was glorious until the day Aunt Jane’s cat ate the original recipe. In a panic, she calls her bridge partners only to hear the terrible news that all three friends lost their original copies of “Jane’s Juvenile Juice” on the same night. How will Aunt Jane recover the original recipe or is it lost for all time and eternity?

May it never be! Aunt Jane would recover as many of the remaining second generation copies as she could and reconstruct the original recipe. Let’s assume she recovered 24 out of the 30 second generation copies and spread them out on the kitchen table. The first thing that would jump out would be all the variations that can be seen in the copies. But after closer examination, she finds that 19 of the 24 copies are virtually the same, except for minor misspellings and abbreviations for some of the measurements (qt. instead of quart). Of the five remaining copies, three list the same ingredients but in different order, one has operations inverted when compared to the other copies (chop then mix instead of mix then chop) and one has one ingredient that none of the other recipes contain.†

Do you think Aunt Jane can reconstruct her original recipe with this evidence? Of course she can. Misspellings and abbreviations are variations, but not changes in the recipe. The inverted operation is easily corrected (you can’t mix something that has not been chopped) and the one recipe with a brand new ingredient can be eliminated because it is far more likely that 1 person added an ingredient than 23 people omitted the same ingredient. Given the number of copies and a little common sense, the original can easily be reconstructed. This very simple example demonstrates how scholars do textual criticism and how it was done for all writings of antiquity including Scripture. Given the current count of more than 5,500 copies of Scripture from before 900 AD including 24 complete copies of the New Testament and portions of books (such as the first 7 chapters of John from a scroll written in 200 AD or a fragment containing John 18:31-33 dated to 117 AD – only 40 years from original composition) we have extreme confidence we are holding the inspired Word of God upon which orthodox Christianity is based.†

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

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OCTOBER 2013									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
29	30	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			

**The Hymns We Sing**  
 COURTESY OF THE CYBER HYMNAL™

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

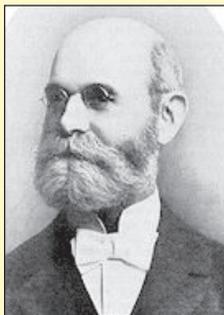
**Jesus Saves**

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/html/j/e/s/jesussav.htm>

“I did not come to judge the world, but to save it.”  
 John 12:47

Words: **Priscila J. Owens**, in *Songs of Redeeming Love*, by John R. Sweney, C. C. McCabe, Tullius C. O’Kane, & William Kirkpatrick (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: 1882). Owens wrote this song for the Union Square Methodist Church Sunday school in Baltimore, Maryland. Photo unavailable.

Music: *Salvation* (Kirkpatrick), **William J. Kirkpatrick**



**William J. Kirkpatrick**  
 1838-1921

We have heard the joyful sound: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!  
 Spread the tidings all around: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!  
 Bear the news to every land, climb the mountains, cross the waves;  
 Onward! ’tis our Lord’s command; Jesus saves! Jesus saves!  
 Waft it on the rolling tide: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!  
 Tell to sinners far and wide: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!  
 Sing, you islands of the sea; echo back, you ocean caves;  
 Earth shall keep her jubilee: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!  
 Sing above the battle strife: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!  
 By His death and endless life Jesus saves! Jesus saves!  
 Shout it brightly through the gloom, when the heart for mercy craves;  
 Sing in triumph o’er the tomb: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!  
 Give the winds a mighty voice: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!  
 Let the nations now rejoice: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!  
 Shout salvation full and free; highest hills and deepest caves;  
 This our song of victory: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

**SEE YOU SUNDAY AT SUNRISE**  
**October 2013**

- Sept. 29 8:45 a.m. **Spiritual Warfare & the Armor of the Word of God** *Ephesians 6:17*
- 10:30 a.m. **Second Hour**
- Oct. 1 7:00 p.m. **Bible Study resumes at the Kikkert’s**  
**The Book of Ephesians**
- Oct. 4 7:00 p.m. **Game Night**
- Oct. 5 8:45 a.m. **Spiritual Warfare and the Armor of Prayer** *Ephesians 6:18-20*
- 10:30 a.m. **Second Hour**
- Oct. 8 7:00 p.m. **Bible Study: Book of Ephesians at the Kikkert’s**
- Oct. 11 6:30 p.m. **Friday Night Fellowship**
- Oct. 13 8:45 a.m. **New Series In The Book Of Judges**  
*Why Study the Book of Judges?*
- 10:30 a.m. **Second Hour Corporate Prayer**
- Oct. 15 7:00 p.m. **Bible Study: Book of Ephesians at the Kikkert’s**
- Oct. 18 7:00 p.m. **Game Night**
- Oct. 19 5:00 p.m. **Sunrise Community Church**  
**40th Anniversary Dinner**
- Oct. 20 8:45 a.m. **Judges 1:1-2:5 Living with the Enemy**
- 10:30 a.m. **Second Hour**
- Oct. 22 7:00 p.m. **Bible Study: Book of Ephesians at the Kikkert’s**
- Oct. 25 6:30 p.m. **Friday Night Fellowship**

**The Cost of Discipleship –**

**U.K. Writer: Christian B&B owners suffer hate in name of tolerance**

By THE CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE [WWW.CHARISMANEWS.COM](http://WWW.CHARISMANEWS.COM)

The Christian owners of a Cornish bed-and-breakfast have suffered a “campaign of hatred, vilification and intimidation” under the guise of tolerance, a British national newspaper columnist has said.

Peter and Hazelmary Bull have been hit by crushing equality laws and a court case over their “married couples only” policy for double rooms. Following the legal case, the couple has received death threats and vandalism and has now decided to sell the business — which is also their home.

Writing in the *Daily Mail*, Richard Littlejohn says some who preach tolerance are actually the “most vile, intolerant bigots imaginable.” He added that the idea of “celebrating diversity never extends to those with devout Christian beliefs.”

The Bulls will only allow married couples to share a double bed at their guesthouse because of their Christian beliefs.

Their policy, which applies to heterosexuals and homosexuals alike, has been in place since the business opened and is well advertised.

But as soon as new gay rights laws were introduced in 2007, the government’s tourism board for England struck the Bulls’ B&B off its approved list. In 2011, the Bulls were successfully sued by gay couple Martyn Hall and Steven Preddy, who won £3,600 (nearly \$5,775) in damages.

The U.K. Supreme Court will hear the Bulls’ appeal next month in a case backed by the Christian Institute.