

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM NOVEMBER 17, 2013

BY PASTOR ANDREW KICKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

Judges 5:2-3

That the leaders led in Israel, that the people volunteered, bless the Lord! Hear, O kings; give ear, O rulers! I — to the Lord, I will sing, I will sing praise to the Lord, the God of Israel.



It has been said there are three kinds of people in the world: those who watch, those who make things happen, and those who scratch their heads and ask what just happened. The ability to make things happen is the gift of leadership and it is needed in every area of our lives. Our nation needs leaders to guide us forward in an uncertain and ever-changing world. The church needs leaders to move the church forward in the mission of proclaiming the gospel that transforms lives. Our homes need leaders to pass the truth of the Scriptures to the next generation. Leadership is essential. Yet as important as leadership is, God's leadership is what is most essential, for apart from Him we can do nothing.

Our text offers all three of these qualities for us to learn and to understand God intervenes when we act with courageous faith. Deborah turns our attention to four specific tribes who refused to join the fight. The tribe of Reuben lacked the will to join the fight. The people of Gilead thought they were exempt since they lived on the other side of the Jordan. The people of Dan were too busy conducting business to come to their neighbor's aid. And the people of Asher were simply unwilling to leave their homes.

On the other hand we have Barak and the men of Zebulon and Naphtali who went to war and fought the battle. Deborah begins with the commendation for the people of God who did step up, both the leaders and the volunteers. The battle plans God had given them through the prophetess Deborah made little sense, militarily speaking. But they did not trust in their own strength or numbers, they trusted in the Lord and His promises. This entire chapter focuses our attention on God's glorious power and the praise that should flow from His people. When leaders lead, it inspires people to follow them, to the glory of God.

We must choose whether we will serve the Lord and His people. It is so easy to be passive, lazy, busy or distracted, yet the honor goes to those churches and individuals who are faithful to the Lord. Although the gates of Hades will not prevail against the Church universal, thousands of American churches close their doors every year. There is no guarantee that any church will remain successful, just as it is with individuals. If you have placed your faith in Jesus Christ, you are good for heaven. But you must ask yourself, are you good for earth? Deborah's song could have been sung in Barak's honor, but instead the glory went to Jael who, when action was required, stepped forward to be counted. How will your song be sung? Will you answer the call or do you already have an excuse for why you could not enter the battle today?

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

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NOVEMBER 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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

The Hymns We Sing
 COURTESY OF THE CYBER HYMNAL™

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

**When The Roll Is Called
 Up Yonder**

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/w/h/e/whenroll.htm>

“I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened.”

Revelation 20:12

Words & Music: James M. Black, 1893 This song was sung in the Academy award winning movie *Sergeant York* (1941).

“While a teacher in a Sunday School [in Williamsport, Pennsylvania] and president of a young people’s society,” says the author of this hymn, “I one day met a girl, fourteen years old, poorly clad and the child of a drunkard. She accepted my invitation to attend the Sunday-school, and joined the young people’s society. One evening at a consecration-meeting, when members answered the roll-call by repeating Scripture texts, she failed to respond. I spoke of what a sad thing it would be, when our names are called from the Lamb’s Book of Life, if one of us should be absent; and I said, ‘O God, when my own name is called up yonder, may I be there to respond!’ I longed for something suitable to sing just then, but I could find nothing in the books. We closed the meeting, and on my way home I was still wishing that there might be a song



James M. Black
 (1856-1938)

that could be sung on such occasions. The thought came to me, ‘Why don’t you make it?’ I dismissed the idea, thinking that I could never write such a hymn. When I reached my house my wife saw that I was deeply troubled, and questioned me, but I made no reply. Then the words of the first stanza came to me in full. In fifteen minutes more I had composed the other two verses. Going to the piano, I played the music just as it is found to-day in the hymn-books, note for note, and I have never dared to change a single word or a note of the piece since.” – *Ira Sankey*

When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound, and time shall be no more,	On that bright and cloudless morning when the dead in Christ shall rise,
And the morning breaks, eternal, bright and fair;	And the glory of His resurrection share;
When the saved of earth shall gather over on the other shore,	When His chosen ones shall gather to their home beyond the skies,
And the roll is called up yonder, I’ll be there.	And the roll is called up yonder, I’ll be there.

Refrain

When the roll, is called up yonder,
 When the roll, is called up yonder,
 When the roll, is called up yonder,
 When the roll is called up yonder I’ll be there.

Refrain

Let us labor for the Master from the dawn till setting sun,
 Let us talk of all His wondrous love and care;
 Then when all of life is over, and our work on earth is done,
 And the roll is called up yonder, I’ll be there.

Refrain

SEE YOU SUNDAY AT SUNRISE

What’s Happening at Sunrise

November 2013

- Nov. 17 8:45 a.m. Worship
- 10:30 a.m. Second Hour
- Nov. 19 7:00 p.m. Bible Study in the Book of Ephesians
- Nov. 22 6:30 p.m. Friday Night Fellowship
- Nov. 24 8:45 a.m. Worship
- 10:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Brunch
- Nov. 26 7:00 p.m. Bible Study in the Book of Ephesians at the Kikkert’s
- Nov. 28 Thanksgiving
- Nov. 29 No Friday Night Activities

The Cost of Discipleship –

Christians among those killed in mass public executions across North Korea for possession of Bibles DPRK always considered Christians to be their greatest threat

ICC (INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONCERN)
WWW.PERSECUTION.ORG

11/14/2013 North Korea – International Christian Concern (ICC) has learned that Christians were likely among the estimated 80 “criminals” publicly executed by North Korean officials across the country earlier this month. On Monday, a South Korean newspaper, the JoongAng Ilbo, reported that the coordinated killings took place in seven different cities on Nov. 3. Among the reasons listed by the newspaper for the executions were “watching South Korean movies and the possession of Bibles.”

“It just shows that Kim Jong-un is still trying to consolidate power and I think this is an indication of his failure to do so,” said an ICC source familiar with the region, referring to the mass executions. “I think it is a reflection of both the stepped up crack-down that he started when he became dictator and also the fear he has of the North Korean people...the greatest threat to the regime are those who escape and tell us what is happening and those who have information from the outside world. I am sure all those executed knew information from the outside and [among them] were certainly Christians. The DPRK (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea) has always considered Christians to be their greatest threat.”

North Korea is consistently cited as the world’s worst persecutor of Christians. Escapees from the authoritarian nation, labeled by the regime as “defectors,” have reported that crimes as simple as Bible ownership are punished severely. According to human rights organizations, sentences for this “crime” range from thirteen years’ imprisonment to execution; up to three generations of the “criminal’s” family may be sentenced to life in prison inside one of the nation’s notorious labor camps. In 2007 and 2009, unconfirmed reports from sources inside the country claimed that individuals had been publicly executed for distributing Bibles.

According to a “single unidentified” source cited by the JoongAng Ilbo, one of the executions took place in the port city of Wonsan. The source said that 10,000 spectators, including children, were forced to gather and watch as eight individuals, including at least one charged with possessing a Bible, were tied to posts and executed by machine gun. “I heard from the residents that they watched in terror as the corpses were (so) riddled by machine gun fire that they were hard to identify afterward,” the source said.

