

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM JANUARY 5, 2014

BY PASTOR ANDREW KICKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

Romans 15:4-6

“For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus, so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”



Our series title, *Hope and Change, God's Way*, was done purposefully and slightly satirically. Not only does it indicate that *hope* is the topic, but it also calls attention to the fact that this theme struck a very sympathetic cord in the hearts of many Americans as “Hope and Change” was the campaign slogan for our last two presidential elections. This slogan resonated with many Americans because they lacked assurance of hope for the future.

A number of events have occurred recently which make people fearful of the future. In the recent past, we have seen natural disasters in the Philippines or the winter storms affecting most of our nation this week. Then there are the man-made dangers looming in the future. There are threats of rogue governments in Asia and the Middle East and terrorist plots here and abroad. Young and old have lost faith in politicians, and many have lost hope in the political system altogether. People desperately want to find something or someone in which they can put their hope.

The hope which we have as believers in Jesus Christ is the only true hope. It is the hope which unbelievers lack – but desperately need. Let us keep our sure and certain hope before us, and may our hope cause unbelievers to ask us how we can be so hopeful in such a hopeless world. Just as the Scriptures teach, let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, and let us fix our hope on the grace that is to be brought to us when He will be revealed at His second coming.

No political party or any presidential candidate (not even your guy) can promise the kind of “hope and change” that the Bible offers to any who will trust in the person and work of Jesus Christ. Most of us recognize that hope is often found in conjunction with faith and love. “Faith, Hope, and Love” are mentioned together a number of times in the Bible.†We have all heard some wonderful messages on faith and on love, but I would venture to say that we have heard too little about hope. (Even I do not remember ever teaching a message focusing primarily on hope.) This is why we will take the next several weeks to explore the hope of the Christian, rooted in the person of Jesus Christ.

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

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JANUARY 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

SEE YOU SUNDAY AT SUNRISE

January 2014

- Jan. 5** 8:45 a.m. **Hope & Change God's Way**
What is Hope
- 10:30 a.m. **Adult Sunday School**
- Jan. 7** 7:00 p.m. **No Bible Study**
- Jan. 10** 6:30 p.m. **Friday Night Fellowship**
- Jan. 12** 8:45 a.m. **Hope & Change God's Way**
Hope in the Old Testament
- 10:30 a.m. **Adult Sunday School**
- Jan. 14** 7:00 p.m. **No Bible Study**
- Jan. 17** 7:00 p.m. **Game Night**
- Jan. 19** 8:45 a.m. **Hope & Change God's Way**
Hope in the Gospels
- 10:30 a.m. **Adult Sunday School**
- Jan. 21** 7:00 p.m. **Bible Study in Ephesians returns to the Kikkert's house**
- Jan. 24** 6:30 p.m. **Friday Night Fellowship**
- Jan. 26** 8:45 a.m. **Hope & Change God's Way**
Paradise Lost

The Hymns We Sing

COURTESY OF THE CYBER HYMNAL™

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

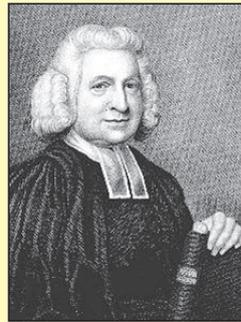
And Can It Be That I Should Gain?

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/a/c/a/acanitbe.htm>

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/mid/s/a/g/sagina.mid>

“The angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, ‘Arise up quickly.’ And his chains fell off from his hands.”

Acts 12:7



Charles Wesley
(1707-1788)

Words: Charles Wesley,
Psalms and Hymns,
1738

Music: *Sagina*,
Thomas Campbell,
Bouquet, 1825



Thomas Campbell
(1777-1844)

1. And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain—
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be,
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

*Amazing love! How can it be,
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?*

2. 'Tis mystery all: th'Immortal dies:
Who can explore His strange design?
In vain the firstborn seraph tries
To sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
Let angel minds inquire no more.

*'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore;
Let angel minds inquire no more.*

3. He left His Father's throne above
So free, so infinite His grace—
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race:
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For O my God, it found out me!

*'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For O my God, it found out me!*

4. Long my imprisoned spirit lay,
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray—
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

*My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.*

5. Still the small inward voice I hear,
That whispers all my sins forgiven;
Still the atoning blood is near,
That quenched the wrath of hostile Heaven.

*I feel the life His wounds impart;
I feel the Savior in my heart.*

*I feel the life His wounds impart;
I feel the Savior in my heart.*

6. No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;
Alive in Him, my living head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.

*Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.*

Charles Wesley 1707-1788

Born: December 18, 1707, Epworth, Lincolnshire, England.

Died: March 29, 1788, London, England.

Buried: St. Marylebone Parish Church, London.

Wesley wrote more than 6,000 hymns; as with most hymnists, his works were frequently altered. In the preface to the 1779 Collection of Hymns for the Use of the People called Methodists, his brother John wrote:

I beg leave to mention a thought which has been long upon my mind, and which I should long ago have inserted in the public papers, had I not been unwilling to stir up a nest of hornets.

Many gentlemen have done my brother and me (though without naming us) the honour to reprint many of our hymns. Now they are perfectly welcome to do so, provided they print them just as they are. But I desire they would not attempt to mend them, for they are really not able.

None of them is able to mend either the sense or the verse. Therefore, I must beg of them these two favours: either to let them stand just as they are, to take things for better or worse, or to add the true reading in the margin, or at the bottom of the page, that we may no longer be accountable either for the nonsense or for the doggerel of other men.

In addition to hymn writing, Charles & John founded the movement which became the Methodist denomination.