

# A WORD ON WORSHIP

## REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM APRIL 27, 2014

BY PASTOR ANDREW KIKKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

### *Judges 21:24-25*

*“The sons of Israel departed from there at that time, every man to his tribe and family, and each one of them went out from there to his inheritance. In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”*



The final five chapters of Judges function as an appendix to the entire book. Instead of focusing on the sins of Israel or of their judges, these chapters look closely at the lives of two Levites. Levites were the priestly tribe in Israel, the religious leadership of the nation. Sadly, we will discover that the religious leadership is not holding the nation accountable for its sin. Instead, the Levites are as messed up as the people they are supposed to lead. Their small, personal failures escalate to tribal and national dimensions and plunge Israel into political and moral anarchy. Thus, Judges concludes with a finger pointing in the face of the Levites.

When the Scriptures tell us each man did what was right in his own eyes, it is not singling out a single level of society or position of leadership. It was across the board. The surface issue is what people were doing, but the elephant in Israel's room was the standard by which they governed themselves. It was no longer God's standard but their own eyes and results in people insisting on following the leading of their own lusts, declaring their independence from God and echoing the lie of the serpent from the Garden of Eden.

The message of the Book of Judges is a message for the church today. How many of us are outraged at the conduct of the covenant people of God? They were called to be the people of God by a covenant but still refused to be subject to His commands. We have been saved by a covenant of God, but in our self piety, reject the rule of God for what is right in our eyes. We come to church on Sunday because it is congenial and find our moral standard commendable in our own eyes. Yet in our hearts we are as stubborn and sinful as the people of Gibeah in our rejection of God's authority and standards in our lives.

Sometimes matters appear quite proper on the surface, but if we are willing to look past the obvious and dig a little deeper we will find the true enemy. We may be shocked at the author's selection of Gibeah and their sins to document Israel's depravity. But do not let the outrageousness of the offense blind us from the point that the Scriptures are making. The root of it all is each man doing what is right in his own eyes. That root may show itself in the grossest of sins as we see here at the end of Judges or in the veneer of righteousness that can be seen with the rich young ruler, but it all comes from the same source.

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

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MAY 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27	28	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	3	4	5	6	7

## The Hymns We Sing

COURTESY OF THE CYBER HYMNAL™

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

### O the Blood, the Precious Blood

*"The precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect."*

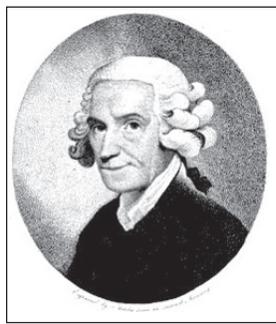
1Peter 1:19

TEXT <http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/o/t/h/othblood.htm>

TUNE <http://www.hymntime.com/tch/mid/a/m/s/amsterdam.mid>



**Charles Wesley**  
(1707-1788)



**James Nares**  
(1715-1783)

**Words:** Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Appeared in *The Unpublished Poetry of Charles Wesley, Volume III* (Nashville, Tennessee: Abingdon Press, 1992), page 183.

**Music:** Amsterdam, James Nares (1715-1783), in *The Foundery Collection*, 1742

O the blood, the precious blood,  
That streams from yonder tree!  
Glory to th'incarnate God  
Who suffers death for me!  
Me to save from endless pain,  
Me to mount above the skies,  
God becomes a mortal man,  
And bows His head and dies.

Him as on the altar laid  
Ev'n now by faith I view,  
Suffering in the sinner's stead  
The death to sinners due:  
Say not ye, the deed is past,  
Now His mortal pang I feel,  
Still He pants, and groans His  
last,  
He dies for sinners still.

Close beneath the curséd wood  
My prostrate soul remains,  
Gasping for the balmy blood  
That starts from Jesus' veins:  
Wilt Thou not one drop afford?  
Yes, Thou dost the comfort give:  
O my bleeding, loving Lord,  
Thou diedst that I may live.

Rivers of salvation flow  
And springs of life from Thee,  
Saved from sin, I live, I know  
Thy blood hath ransomed me:  
Now I catch the healing tide  
Now I taste how good Thou art,  
Now I feel the blood applied,  
The pardon to my heart.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SUNRISE

### May 2014

April 27	8:45 a.m.	Judges 19-21 – Saving Private Benjamin
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School
April 30	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study* in the Book of Philippians
May 1	6:00 p.m.	National Day of Prayer at Temple City Park
May 2	7:00 p.m.	Game Night
May 4	8:45 a.m.	<b>New Study in the Book of Philemon</b>
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School
May 6	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study* in the Book of Philippians
May 9	6:30 p.m.	Friday Night Fellowship
May 11	8:45 a.m.	<b>Mother's Day</b>
		No Sunday School — Celebrate Mom
May 13	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study* in Colossians
May 16	7:00 p.m.	Game Night
May 18	8:45 a.m.	<b>New Study in the Book of Ruth</b>
		Ruth 1:1-22 Best of Times, Worst of Times
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School
May 20	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study* in Colossians
May 23	6:30 p.m.	Friday Night Fellowship
May 25	8:45 a.m.	Ruth 2:1-23 Can Christian Mingle Beat This?
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School
May 26		<b>Memorial Day</b>
May 27		<b>No Bible Study</b> – Wendy Post Operation
May 30		<b>No Friday Night Activity</b>
June 1	8:45 a.m.	Ruth 3:1-18 Undercover Operations
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School
June 3	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study* in Colossians
June 6	7:00 p.m.	Game Night
June 8	8:45 a.m.	<b>Pentecost Sunday</b>
		Ruth 4:1-22 Gentile Redemption!
June 10	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study* in Colossians
June 13	6:30 p.m.	Friday Night Fellowship

\*Bible Study is at the Kikkerts' home

## Young Christian woman murdered in Mogadishu

WWW.PERSECUTION.COM — VOICE OF THE MARTYRS

Yet another Christian was murdered in Mogadishu, Somalia earlier this month. "Sufia" was killed by a group of armed men who burst into her home and dragged her outside, shooting at neighbours who tried to rescue her. The suspects then fled, and police are still searching for them. Sufia's parents, who were present at the time of the assault, were physically unharmed but are now mourning the devastating loss of their daughter.

Somalis who are discovered as followers of Jesus face almost certain death, not only those in their own country but also in neighbouring countries where many Somali believers are forced to flee as refugees. "In Somalia, they kill you if they just find a piece of literature," a VOM source explained.

As members of one body in Christ, let us join with Sufia's loved ones in their suffering and grief at this time (1 Corinthians 12:26). Pray that, in their deep loss, they will trust wholeheartedly in Jesus Christ concerning the promise of His salvation, having the assurance that Sufia's now experiencing the reality of heaven with Him. May the gunmen be found and brought to justice. But even more importantly, may these perpetrators repent of their wrongdoing and come to faith in our Lord. Pray that the church in Somalia will continue to grow, despite the harsh persecution God's children endure.