

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM NOV. 2, 2014

BY PASTOR ANDREW KIKKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

1 John 4:1-3

“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world.”

P. T. Barnum made a fortune on the theory that “a sucker is born every minute,” and he has many disciples today. The Internet has only widened the door of opportunity for those that prey on the unsuspecting. I have read that the second most lucrative industry in Nigeria is scamming foolish Americans out of their money by promising to give them millions of dollars in exchange for their personal banking information.

Perhaps even more widespread than financial scams are spiritual scams. False cults and religions lure millions into their traps, promising them fulfillment, happiness, and more. Mormonism is growing rapidly worldwide. Jehovah’s Witnesses aggressively promote their heresies in just about every country of the world. Islam is growing all over Europe, and it is also rapidly expanding in America.

Even among those claiming to be evangelicals, who say that they believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, false teaching abounds. The “New Perspective on Paul,” which has captured many evangelical scholars and pastors, undermines justification by faith alone. The Emergent Church movement embraces much of the postmodern philosophy that there is no absolute truth. Many churches teach the Holy Spirit is at work in the world’s other major religions and that Christians should be open to learning from and being enriched by the Spirit’s work in world religions. In addition to these blatant errors, the “seeker church” movement has subtly redefined the gospel, so that the issue is no longer that we are sinners who need reconciliation to a holy God. Rather, we are religious consumers with needs that God is willing and ready to meet, if we will just give Him a try.

John tells his beloved flock, “do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God.” Paul said a similar thing. After saying that we should “not despise prophetic utterances,” he added, “but examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good” (1 Thess. 5:20-21). True faith is not a blind leap into the dark. It examines its object carefully before putting trust in it. John Stott observes both Paul and John assumed, as the Reformers insisted, that “even the humblest Christian possessed ‘the right of private judgment.’” We need spiritual discernment because Satan and his forces are alive and well, promoting error at every opportunity.



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

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The Hymns We Sing

COURTESY OF THE CYBER HYMNAL™
<http://www.hymntime.com/>

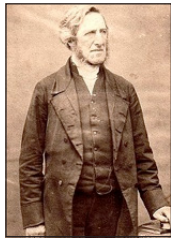
Zion's King Shall Reign Victorious

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/html/zi/o/zionking.htm>

“To whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?”
Isaiah 53:1

Words: Thomas Kelly, Hymns on Various Passages of Scriptures, second edition, 1806.

Music: Austria (Haydn), arranged by Franz J. Haydn, 1797



Thomas Kelly
(1769-1855)



Franz J. Haydn
(1732-1809)

Zion's king shall reign victorious,
 All the earth shall own His sway;
 He will make His kingdom glorious,
 He will reign through endless day.
 What though none on earth assist Him,
 God requires not help from man;
 What though all the world resist Him,
 God will realize His plan

Nations now from God estrangèd,
 Then shall see a glorious light,
 Night to day shall then be changèd,
 Heaven shall triumph in the sight;
 See the ancient idols falling!
 Worshipped once, but now abhorred;
 Men on Zion's king are calling,
 Zion's king by all adored.

Then shall Israel, long dispersèd,
 Mourning seek the Lord their God,
 Look on Him whom once they piercèd,
 Own and kiss the chastening rod;
 Then all Israel shall be savèd,
 War and tumult then shall cease,
 While the greater Son of David
 Rules a conquered world in peace.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SUNRISE November 2014

- Nov. 2 8:45 AM 1st John 4 verses 1 to 6
Discerning the Spirits
- 10:30 AM Sunday School
- Nov. 4 7:00 PM Bible Study
at the Kikkert's
Election Day -
Make Your Vote Count
- Nov. 7 7:00 PM Game Night
- Nov. 9 8:45 AM 1st John 4 verses 4 to 7
Why Love is Required
- 10:30 AM Sunday School
- Nov. 11 7:00 PM Bible Study at the Kikkert's
Veteran's Day-Fly Your Flags
- Nov. 14 6:30 PM Friday Night Fellowship
- Nov. 16 8:45 AM 1st John 4 verses 12 to 16
The Assurance of Abiding
- 10:30 AM Sunday School
- Nov. 18 7:00 PM Bible Study at the Kikkert's
- Nov. 21 7:00 PM Game Night
- Nov. 23 8:45 AM Thanksgiving Celebration
- 10:30 AM *** All Church Pot Luck ***
- Nov. 25 7:00 PM Bible Study at the Kikkert's
- Nov. 27 Thanksgiving
- Nov. 28 No Friday Night Activities
- Nov. 30 8:45 AM John 4 verses 17 to 21
Confidence on the Day of Judgment
- 10:30 AM Sunday School

NOVEMBER 2014						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

Houston mayor drops bid to subpoena pastors' sermons

TODD STARNES IS HOST OF FOX NEWS & COMMENTARY

Subpoenas issued to five Houston pastors demanding all sermons and correspondence dealing with homosexuality, gender identity and the city's Equal Rights ordinance have been withdrawn, the city's first openly lesbian mayor announced at a Wednesday press conference.

"After much contemplation and discussion, I am directing the city legal department to withdraw the subpoenas issued to the five Houston pastors who delivered the petitions, the anti-HERO petitions, to the city of Houston and who indicated that they were responsible for the overall petition effort," said Mayor Annise Parker in remarks covered by television station KPRC.

My column on the issue sparked a bit of national outrage - well - a lot of national outrage. To be honest it was a full-scale hullabaloo. City Hall was deluged with telephone calls, letters, emails - along with hundreds of Bibles and sermons. More than 50,000 supporters signed a petition.

Nevertheless, the mayor still seems hell-bent on defending the Houston Equal Rights Ordinance - a piece of legislation that will in part give grown men who identify as women the right to use the restrooms of their choice.

"It is extremely important to me to protect our Equal Rights Ordinance from repeal, and it is extremely important to me to make sure that every Houstonian knows that their lives are valid and protected and acknowledged," Parker said. "We are going to continue to vigorously defend our ordinance against repeal efforts."

The subpoenas were issued in response to a lawsuit filed related to the so-called bathroom bill. An overwhelming number of religious groups were opposed to a provision of the law that would allow men who identify as women to use the restrooms of their choice.