

A WORD ON WORSHIP

REVIEW OF MESSAGE FROM MARCH 29, 2015

BY PASTOR ANDREW KICKERT, SUNRISE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Hear Sunday Sermons at www.SunriseTC.org

Jude 20-23

But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life. And have mercy on some, who are doubting; save others, snatching them out of the fire; and on some have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.

Every thinking person sometimes wrestles with doubt. That's true not only for thinking Christians, but also for atheists and agnostics. They sometimes wonder, "What if I'm wrong and there really is a God?" And every thinking Christian sometimes wonders, "What if I'm wrong and Christianity is not true?" For some, the bouts with doubt are short and relatively minor. For others, the doubts are deep and disturbing. But wherever you are on the spectrum, if you've been a Christian for any length of time, you have gone through battles with doubt.

The sources of my personal struggles with doubt vary. Sometimes it stems from wrestling with certain difficult theological issues. At other times the problem of unanswered prayer has tripped me up. And I've had to face doubts related to the age-old problem of suffering: Why would a good and all-powerful God allow His people to die in the prime of life, while the wicked prosper? How can a loving God allow sweet little children to suffer?

While there are different biblical answers to all of these sources of doubt, there is one answer that under girds them all. I usually come back to it when I'm struggling with doubt. The apostle Paul said that the entire Christian faith rests on one foundation, the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead (1 Cor. 15:13-19). If that fact of history is true, then our faith has a solid footing in spite of our doubt that we cannot fully resolve. perhaps ever in this life. On the other hand, if Jesus Christ is not risen from the dead, then the strongest faith in the world is useless, because it rests on a faulty object.

If you wait to trust in Christ until all of your doubts are cleared up, you're not an honest doubter. Rather, you're using your doubts as an excuse so that you can hold onto your sin. If you don't repent, you'll go to your death alienated from the Savior. There is more than adequate evidence to support a reasonable faith that Jesus Christ is the risen Savior. The question is: will you lay aside your doubts, which serve only as excuses, and trust in Jesus as your Savior and Lord?



**“Blessed is he
that cometh in the
name of the Lord!”**

Mark 11:9

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

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http://www.hymntime.com/tch/mid/n/o/t/nothing_but_the_blood.mid

“Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin.”

Hebrews 9:22

Words & Music: Robert Lowry, in Gospel Music, by Howard Doane & Robert Lowry (New York: Biglow & Main, 1876)

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Refrain

Oh! precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my pardon, this I see,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
For my cleansing this my plea,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Refrain

Nothing can for sin atone,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
Naught of good that I have done,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Refrain

This is all my hope and peace,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
This is all my righteousness,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Refrain

Now by this I'll overcome
Nothing but the blood of Jesus,
Now by this I'll reach my home
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Refrain

Glory! Glory! This I sing-
Nothing but the blood of Jesus,
All my praise for this I bring-
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Refrain



Robert Lowry (1826-1899)



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SUNRISE



Holy Week

- April 2 7 PM Maundy Thursday Services (join with Westminster Presby. Church)
- April 3 6:30 PM Good Friday Worship (Sunrise Service)
- April 5 8:45 AM Easter Sunday

Pastor jailed 1 year for questioning cross removals in China

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING — A Christian pastor who questioned authorities in eastern China about the forced removal of crosses from the roofs of churches was sentenced Tuesday to one year in prison, his lawyer said.

Huang Yizi is the first person to be jailed for opposing Zhejiang province's intense campaign to remove crosses from churches.

Authorities in the province tore down about 400 rooftop crosses last year, saying they violated the building code. Churchgoers and religious rights advocates say the Christian faith is being targeted because its rapid growth unnerves the ruling Communist Party.

After a six-hour trial, a court in the city of Pingyang found Huang guilty of gathering crowds to disrupt social order, lawyer Zhang Kai said by telephone.

A woman who answered the court's phone and gave only her family name, Li, confirmed that Huang's trial took place Tuesday afternoon. The phone rang unanswered in the evening, when the trial ended.

Huang, an outspoken pastor, was taken away by police last summer after he brought some parishioners to a local government building to demand answers about a July clash in which security personnel armed with sticks attacked congregation members who had been keeping a night vigil over the cross atop their sanctuary.

Huang also urged local church leaders to put back the toppled crosses.

Zhang said the charge stemmed largely from the gathering in front of the government building, but said Huang did not disrupt social order and instead played a mediating role.

Zhang said the defense argued that Huang's activism was justified because authorities violated the law by trying to remove the cross by force and without legal ground. The court rejected that defense, Zhang said.



Pray for the Persecuted Church

APRIL 2015

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	9	10	11	12	13	14
12	16	17	18	19	20	21
19	23	24	25	26	27	28
26	27	28	29	30	1	2