



Shepherd's Voice



Orcutt Christian Church Newsletter

Committed to Excellence in Communicating Biblical Truth and Its Application



The Minister's Musings
Bro. Archie Miller
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Communion is a Love Story



The 1987 Danish film *Babette's Feast* has become a cult classic. One of its fans is Pope Francis, who has declared it to be his favorite movie.

Babette Hersant is a French refugee in the 19th century who works as a servant in the home of two frugal, elderly sisters in a remote Danish village. The sisters are preparing to celebrate an important anniversary: the 100th birthday of their late father, a stern and pious pastor.

In gratitude for the family sheltering her, *Babette* offers to prepare the meal, which turns out to be far more elaborate than the simple supper the sisters had contemplated.

Unbeknownst to them, *Babette* was once a distinguished chef in Paris. She has also recently won the lottery. Sending off for special provisions, she prepares for the little group a gourmet meal beyond their wildest imaginings.

The rich fare reminds one of the dinner guests, General *Lorens Löwenhielm*, of one of the most memorable meals of his life: "One day in Paris, after I'd won a riding competition, some French officers invited me out to dine at one of the city's finest restaurants, the *Café Anglais*. The chef, surprisingly enough, was a woman. We were served *cailles en sarcophage*, a dish of her own creation. General *Galliffet*, our host for the evening, explained that this woman, this head chef, had the ability to transform a dinner into a kind of love affair, a love affair that made no distinction between bodily appetite and spiritual appetite."

The chef, of course, was none other than *Babette*.

When *Martine*, one of the sisters, learns that *Babette* has spent 10,000 francs on the meal, she points out, "Now you'll be poor for the rest of your life."

"An artist is never poor," replies *Babette*.

Filippa, the other sister, says: "In Paradise you will be the great artist that God meant you to be. Ah, how you will delight the angels!"



At the table with our LORD

Elder Ed Saunders



We are so blessed to live in a country that is free to worship. Our freedoms are being threatened every day. People don't appreciate the opportunity we have in America. We don't have to hide to read our bible or to gather in a group of believers.

There are so many places in the world that do not have religious freedom. Christians are being beheaded, churches are being burned; yet people under those conditions risk their lives to study God's word.

One nation I was surprised to read about was Iraq. There are a lot of people risking their lives to meet in small worship groups. Living in North Korea is a nightmare, and China is a very dangerous place to be a Christian.

Let us appreciate the opportunities we have today. If Christians don't stand up for Christ we can one day be in a position that we will have to worship in secret.

God loves us all, whether enslaved or free. We read in John 3:16 that God so loved us all (and we all are sinners) that He gave His one and only son to redeem us. Let us be willing to be a living sacrifice for our Lord.



GRACE
CARRIED ME HERE
and by grace
I WILL CARRY ON

