

Mark 15:33-47 – 10 October 2021

“The Great Exchange Of The Cross?”

Introduction

*Jesus Christ has come into Jerusalem for the last week of His earthly ministry & life to die for our sins

*Jesus has his face like a flint set on the cross for the joy that comes just beyond it

*The cross is the culmination of His dedication to save our souls from separation from God for eternity

*Chap 15:1-32 we saw Jesus’ trial before Pilate & Him sentenced to the cross

*Finishing Chap 15 we see Jesus’ time on that cross

*Mark (thru Peter) has a remarkable way of presenting what’s known as “The Great Exchange”

*We’re gonna look today at what really happened on the cross when Jesus died

Today, 3 things that became true when Jesus died

1st thing that become true when Jesus died: He became sin for us, in dark separation from the Father (Vs 33-37)

Read Vs 33

1. This is from noon until 3pm
2. And remember this was the Passover which happened at the full moon
3. Roman Historian Phlegon wrote of this & the earthquake we'll see in vs 38
4. Read Rom 8:22 – “Whole creation groaneth waiting...”
 - a. Triumphal Entry – “Even the rocks would”
 - b. Even creation knows this isn't the created design of things...it's been corrupted.

Read Vs 34

1. This is the 4th saying of Jesus from the cross
2. Jesus is declaring that He's fulfilling Psalm 22

3. He's fulfilling prophecy, but what does it make Him?
 - a. Read II Cor 5:21 – He who knew no sin became sin for us
 - b. The sin of the world was set on Jesus

Read Vs 35-36

1. The people still misunderstand (Elias)...even until the bitter end
2. Jesus was separated from His Father & made to be sin for us & the people didn't get it
3. Exp: Have you ever gone thru a tragic situation w/ tears & said, "I'm really torn up about this" just to have them say, "Oh, it'll be alright"?
 - a. They just don't understand the deal

Read Vs 37

1. 7th Saying - "Father into Thy hands I commend..."
2. 12 yrs old Jesus – I must be about my Father's business
3. Read I John 3:16 – THIS is how we know the love of God

2nd thing that become true when Jesus died: We gained full access to the Father thru relation w/ Jesus (Vs 38-41)

Read Vs 38

1. Matthew (27:51) tells of earthquake now
2. Josephus says the veil was 4” thick and 30’ tall, it would have taken 32 team of oxen to rip it apart
3. This is a miracle! Ripped from top to bottom
 - a. Speaks of full access to God being opened
 - b. Inside the veil was the Holy of Holies
 - c. No more layers of duties to come to God
 - i. Jesus has completed the work, it is finished!

Read Vs 39

1. Centurion saw the earthquake & the way Jesus intentionally died.
 - a. This compelled him to testify of Jesus’ relationship w/ God

2. Luke says, the centurion also said, “Certainly this was a righteous man”.
 - a. Pilate, Judas & thief on the cross ALL testified to Jesus’ innocence
3. See, only an innocent, perfect sacrifice could satisfy our sin debt that was against God
 - a. Opening the way to our forgiveness
 - b. Opening the way to peace with God
 - c. Opening the way to eternal life

Read Vs 40-41

1. These ladies did all the travelling the 12 did
2. The women that served always believing
3. Interesting the roles we all have are different
 - a. Disciples – Teach, serve, build churches
 - b. Joseph (we’ll see) – gave of his money
 - c. These ladies – served all manner of material service and labor
 - d. But it’s all labor for the Kingdom’s advance

3rd thing that become true when Jesus died: We were provoked to boldness to receive the gift (Vs 42-47)

Read Vs 42

1. Joseph was on the Sanhedrin (the counsel)
 - a. The Jewish counsel that condemned Jesus
 - b. This was his complete livelihood (job)
2. What boldness to ask for the body, this is true relationship between Jesus & Joseph
 - a. Request for the body could easily be denied
 - b. Joseph was ready to be mock or even kicked off the counsel.

Read Vs 46-47

1. From John's Gospel we see that Nicodemus also helped Joseph in the burial activities.
 - a. Nicodemus was who came to Jesus at night
 - b. Nicodemus who spoke in Jesus' favor, wanting to have Jesus properly heard (John 7)
2. These men demonstrate here devotion & honor

3. They get nothing out of serving & paying the money for all this expense.
4. There's a lesson in here for us: Serve God with what He's given you
 - a. The 12 disciples have their whole life and time ahead of them to serve
 - b. The women had material talents & used them
 - c. Joseph & Nicodemus had money
5. Read Heb 4:14-16
 - a. Joseph's faith resulted in asking for the body of Jesus for a proper burial
 - b. Demonstrates the worthiness of Jesus to Joseph
 - c. And when you see Jesus for who He is and all He's done for you...
 - i. It prompts faith in us to believe
 - ii. It prompts motion
 - iii. It prompts boldness

Conclusion

So the cross of Christ Jesus initiated the Great Exchange to you and for you. So what happened on that cross?

1. Jesus became sin for us, in dark separation from the Father

- a. The earthquake, the darkness were all just physical pics of the reality of Jesus' separation from God the Father
- b. This is how we know He loves us, He came & identified with us & died for us at great cost

2. We gained full access to the Father thru relation with Jesus

- a. What greater sign could there be that God has made a way to come to Him, than veil ripping?
- b. The innocence of Jesus was effective for our entrance into peace with God

3. We were provoked to boldness to receive the gift of eternal life

- a. There will be a need for boldness to accept all that Christ has for your life.