



SEEING
JESUS
MORE
CLEARLY

FORGIVENESS
THROUGH DEATH

Luke 22:20

Seeing Jesus More Clearly - Forgiveness Through Death

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BIG Idea:

True forgiveness is costly!

Sermon Summary

As we walk through Luke's Gospel, we witness Jesus repeatedly speaking of His death to take place in Jerusalem (9:22, 44; 12:50; 17:25; 18:31-33; 22:15, 20, 22; cf. 24:7). Jesus understands His death as the accomplishment of His mission, the mission given to Him by God the Father. At the first Lord's Supper Table Jesus recognizes that his voluntary death is the means to Divine forgiveness, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you" (Luke 22:20 NLT). Relationship with God is only possible through what Christ accomplished on the cross! Receiving God's forgiveness through Christ demands our willingness to extend forgiveness to others.

Scripture:

"This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you" **Luke 22:20 NLT**

Diving Into The Message

WHY DID JESUS HAVE TO DIE?

- **To Inaugurate the New Covenant - “This cup is the new covenant between God and His people”**

Then Moses took the blood from the basins and splattered it over the people, declaring, “Look, this blood confirms the covenant the Lord has made with you in giving you these instructions.”

Exodus 24:8 NLT

That is why even the first covenant was put into effect with the blood of an animal. 19 For after Moses had read each of God’s commandments to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats,[i] along with water, and sprinkled both the book of God’s law and all the people, using hyssop branches and scarlet wool.

Hebrews 9:18-19 NLT

- **To Pay the Price - “An agreement confirmed in my blood”**

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard. 24 Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. 25 For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, 26 for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he makes sinners right in his sight when they believe in Jesus.

Romans 3:23-26 NLT

- **To Demonstrate His Love - “which is poured out as a sacrifice for you”**

When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. 7 Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. 8 But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. 9 And since we have been made right in God’s sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God’s condemnation. 10 For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. 11 So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.

Romans 3:6-11 NLT

WHY SHOULD WE FORGIVE?

- **Because We’ve Been Forgiven and We’re Instructed to Forgive**

Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

Ephesians 4:32 NLT

HOW DO WE FORGIVE?

- **We Pray**

11 Once Jesus was in a certain place praying. As he finished, one of his disciples came to him and said, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.” 2 Jesus said, “This is how you should pray: “Father, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come soon. 3 Give us each day the food we need, 4 and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And don’t let us yield to temptation.

Luke 11:1-4 NLT

- **We Conquer “Evil with Good”**

*19 Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say,
“I will take revenge;
I will pay them back,”
says the Lord.*

*20 Instead,
“If your enemies are hungry, feed them.
If they are thirsty, give them something to drink.
In doing this, you will heap
burning coals of shame on their heads.”*

21 Don’t let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.

Romans 12:19-21 NLT

Conclusion

Jesus Christ died to satisfy God’s wrath toward sin and to reconcile sinners to Himself. His death is the means that we live in a joyous relationship with God. In Christ, we experience the freedom of forgiveness in our VERTICAL relationships and in our horizontal relationships.

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Discussion Questions

How do you understand the relationship between Jesus' death and the inauguration of the New Covenant? Read Luke 22:20, Matthew 26:26-29, Exodus 24:8, and Hebrews 9:18-19.

Have you or do you have difficulty with the death of Christ being a requirement for reconciliation to God? If so, why?

In Corinthians 1:23&24 we read, "So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended and the Gentiles say it's all nonsense.²⁴ But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God." Difficulty with the cross and the death of Christ is not new. Why do you think "Christ crucified" is nonsense to unbelievers?

According to Ephesians 4:32 how does our forgiveness in Christ impact our human relationships?

How can we rely on one another to help us extend forgiveness to someone who has hurt us?