

Memorial Day Weekend

Remembering the Most Important Thing

Isaiah 53:4-6

We observe Memorial Day every year. Why? Because we have a tendency to forget things and setting up a special day helps us to remember the important things that we should never forget. The Bible commands us to remember many things of significance and to avoid forgetting...

"Then take care lest you forget the LORD, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery." **Deuteronomy 6:12**

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you." **John 14:26**

On Memorial Day weekend, I want us to remember Jesus and His sacrifice for us on the cross. Let's read from Isaiah together...

"Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned – every one – to his own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all." **Isaiah 53:4-6**

We Remember Two Things About Jesus and the Cross from Isaiah 53

- I. **Remember the Reason Behind the Cross** – *"Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,"* **Isaiah 53:4-5a**

"Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin." **Heb 4:14-15**

"He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree..." **1 Peter 2:24a**

Jesus was dying, not for his own sins, but for the sins of humanity. Jesus suffered for you and for me.

"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." **2 Corinthians 5:21**

- II. **Remember the Purpose of the Cross** *"...and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned – every one – to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all."* **Isaiah 53:5b-6**

"For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross." **Colossians 1:19-20**

Reconciliation: Every human being's greatest need is not physical, psychological, nutritional or financial. The greatest need every human possesses is to be reconciled to the God they have offended by their sin.

"For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation." **Romans 5:10-11**

"Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved...For 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'" **Romans 10:9-10, 13**

"Jesus, keep me near the cross, there a precious fountain, Free to all – a healing stream, Flows from Calv'ry's mountain. In the cross, in the cross, Be my glory ever: From the cross my ransomed soul nothing then shall sever." **Fanny Jane Crosby**
Run to the Cross and be Saved!

As we mentioned before, we are prone to forget important things. Jesus graciously gave us something very special to remember his sacrifice; it is the Lord's Supper or Communion.

"For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, 'This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." **1 Cor 11:23-26**

We take the Lord's Supper together.