

3-16-2013, COTR Texarkana

Title: Good Friday?

Purpose: Purpose: proclaim the Biblical necessity of the cross and provoke people to embrace Jesus as Savior and Lord.

Spiritual Truth: “Good Friday” is God’s solution for our sin.

Text: John 1:29

Topic: Good Friday, Atonement, Cross, Jesus, Blood

Good Friday?

I. Introduction

A. Video: Who was Jesus? *Visual reality 3:07* (Contrast modern day opinions to John the Baptist)

A.1. John 1:29 (ESV)...he (*John the Baptist*) saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “**Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!**”

A.2. John’s words about Jesus are different from the video opinions because he was an eyewitness of the supernatural events surrounding Jesus’ life. What did he mean when he said Jesus was “the Lamb of God, who takes away sin” and why does this matter. That’s the subject of today’s message.

A.3. Today we remember the most important week in world history: on Palm Sunday Jesus entered Jerusalem to shouts of Hosanna, on Thursday Judas betrayed Him and on the Jewish Passover/ “Good Friday” we was beaten and crucified on a cross at 12. It became dark outside and He died at 3

A.4. What’s so good about “Good Friday”? It’s a paradox why we call the day of Jesus’ death “good”. Today we’ll see what made it good.

B. Title: Good Friday?

C. Purpose: Purpose: proclaim the Biblical necessity of the cross and provoke people to embrace Jesus as Savior and Lord.

D. Spiritual Truth: “Good Friday” is God’s solution for our sin.

II. How did we get in this mess? (A history lesson showing us why we have problems, pain and death)

A. **Genesis 2:15–17 (NLT)** — 15 The LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden...16 But the LORD God warned him, “You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden—17 except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. **If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.**”

A.1. Summary: God gave a commandment: they broke it. Satan tempted Adam and Eve to sin and opened the door to all the pain, death and heartache in the world today. The promised “Death” wasn’t only physical; it was separation from God. Sin separated them and us from God. It’s our biggest problem.

A.2. **Genesis 3:21–23 (NLT)** — 21 And the LORD God made clothing from **animal skins** for Adam and his wife...23 So the LORD God banished them from the Garden of Eden...

A.3. In spite of their sin God showed His love by clothing them with animal skins, not from Kmart but an animal was killed to protect and cover their sin. (The OT is filled with animal sacrifice for sin) Why?

A.4. Hebrews 9:22 (ESV) Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and **without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.**

A.5. Spiritual principle: Sin has consequences but a merciful God provided a way to cover/forgive their sin through a sacrifice. When sin is forgiven the relationship between sinful man and God is restored

III. The Passover foreshadowed the work of Christ (God sent plagues)

A. **Exodus 12:21–23 (NCV)** — 21 Then Moses...told them, “...**kill the lamb for the Passover.** 22 Take a branch of the hyssop plant, dip it into the bowl filled with blood, and then wipe the blood on the sides and tops of the doorframes...23 When the LORD goes through Egypt to kill the Egyptians, he will see the blood...he will pass over that house. He will not let the one who brings death come into your houses and kill you...13 (NCV) ...**When I see the blood, I will pass over you...**

A.1. Context: The human race has multiplied since Adam and Eve numbering in the millions. The Jews, God’s chosen people, are in Egypt. Egypt is a place of bondage and God has prepared a Promised Land but Pharaoh won’t let them go. God used Moses to bring judgments on Egypt and now they await the final judgment on the Passover.

A.2. Judgment is avoided at Passover because of the blood of an acceptable sacrifice. Why blood? Leviticus 17:11 (ESV) For **the life of the flesh is in the blood**, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life.

- A.2.a. Atone: To give satisfaction for the wrong done; rectify a wrong...to make it right. Sin will produce death but an acceptable sacrifice will stop the consequences. The life of the sacrifice takes the place of the one who did wrong.
- A.3. The blood of an innocent lamb was the only way to protect people from death. Israel celebrated the Passover every year. Jesus was crucified on Passover.
- A.4. John 1:29 (ESV) ...**“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”**

IV. Christ's death on the cross paid the penalty of sin and restored man to God

- A. Luke 18:31–33 (ESV) — 31** And taking the twelve, he said to them, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. **32** For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. **33** And after flogging him, **they will kill him**, and on the third day he will rise.”
- B. Jesus accomplished what OT Prophecies given 500-800 years earlier predicted:** the Psalmist predicted His betrayal by a friend; Zachariah predicted he'd be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver; Isaiah predicted He'd be beaten and silent before His accusers; The Psalmist predicted His hands and feet would be pierced; Isaiah said He'd be crucified with thieves; Ps 22 describes crucifixion hundreds of years before it was invented; Isaiah said He'd pray for His persecutors and Zechariah said they'd pierce His side; The Psalmist said He'd have no broken bones and soldiers would cast lots for his garment.
- C. On the cross Jesus said some amazing things:** 1: to those who crucified Him He forgave them “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” 2: to a criminal on the cross who believed in Him He promised eternal life "Today you shall be with me in paradise." 4: Sin was so serious God The father turned His back on Jesus when He took on Himself the judgment for the sins of the world "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" 6: "It is finished." and gave up his spirit. (When He died the curtain in the temple separating the most Holy Place was torn in two from top to bottom symbolizing the barrier of sin separating God and man was torn down. Prior to that the High Priest would go behind the curtain once a year with blood to atone for sin)
- C.1. What was finished? His work of forgiveness whereby God erases our sin and removes sins judgment. It's available to all who believe. Redemption was accomplished; Christ's death bought us back from satan's power and sin's bondage. Reconciliation was done. Christ's death restored our relationship with God. Justification has been accomplished; when sin is forgiven those with faith in Christ are declared righteous.

- D. **This is why “good Friday” is good.** 1 Peter 1:18–19 (NLT)...God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And **the ransom he paid** was not mere gold or silver. **19 It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.**
- E. **This is why Christianity offers the only way to heaven,** i.e. Jesus paid for our sin in the way that was acceptable to God. John 14:6 (ESV) Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. **No one comes to the Father except through me.**
- F. **Summary: 1 Corinthians 1:18 (NIV)** For **the message of the cross** is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

V. Conclusion: Who is Jesus?

- A. **People on the video had a lot of opinions about who Jesus was.** John the Baptist was very clear John 1:29 (ESV) ...**“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!**
 - A.1. “Good Friday” is good because Jesus took away the sin of the world.
- B. **Response...Are you ready to believe in Him today and receive God's forgiveness? Are you ready to follow Him?**
- C. **Prayer Easter weekend/ Communion**