

We Preach Christ Crucified

Introduction:

A. The Bible gives great emphasis to the death of Jesus as a substitute for sinners

[I Corinthians 1:23](#)

23

But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

B. Christians should continually remember the pain of the crucified Jesus

[Isaiah 53:1-5](#)

1

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?

[John 12:38](#) [Rom 10:16](#)

2

For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

3

He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

4

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. Mt 8:17

5

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

1 Pet 2:24

c. This great sacrifice was motivated by love

I Corinthians 2:2

2

For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

d. Jesus was truly a man without equal! His sacrificial death for our sins fills us with hope and amazement. How could anyone love so much? Why did Jesus die?

I, The need that prompted Jesus' death:

a. In Romans chapter three Paul, by inspiration of God, described man's problem. In doing so he quoted from

Psalm 14:1-3

1

The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good. Rom 3:10 Psa 53:1

2

The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God. Rom 3:11 Psa 53:2

3

They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one. Rom 3:12 Psa 53:3

Romans 3:10-12

10

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: Psa 14:1, 53:1 Ecc 7:20

11

There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. Psa 14:2, 53:2

They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. [Psa 14:3](#), [53:3](#)

b. Later in the chapter he said, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

[Romans 3:23](#)

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

c. As we observe Paul's use of the terms "all" and "none" we quickly recognize that there are no moral and respectable people without Jesus. There are only sinners. The result of sin is horrifying. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." -[Romans 6:23](#) Except for the death of Jesus we would be forever lost; but through His blood, thank God the obedient can be saved!

ii. The love that was proved by Jesus' death:

a. Through an astonishing love Christ took my sins so I could have His righteousness

[II Corinthians 5:21](#)

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

b. His love caused Him to "become sin for us." - [Romans 5:6-8](#) describes the love of Jesus for mankind.

For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners,
Christ died for us.

c. [John 3:16](#) also describes the love of God

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever
believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

iii. The church which was purchased by Jesus' death:

a. The church of Christ is not a denomination. The church of Christ is the blood-
bought body of our Lord.

[Acts 20:28](#)

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the
Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath
purchased with his own blood.

b. Denominations are man-made, but the church of Christ is divine, consisting
of only the saved and of all of the saved. The church of Christ is a divine
institution because it belongs to Christ

[Matthew 16:13-19](#)

When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples,
saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others,
Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

5

16

And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

17

And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

18

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

19

And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

c. Men have built many so-called churches but Christ has built only one. It was purchased by His blood. All the saved are added to His church.

[Acts 2:38-47](#)

38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39

For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the LORD our God shall call.

40

And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

41

Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

42

And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

43

And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

44

And all that believed were together, and had all things common;

45

And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.

46

And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

47

Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

ii. The destiny that is prevented by Jesus' death:

a. The blood of Jesus provides our only escape from eternal hell. No other religion or "savior" has any hope to offer. Without Jesus we will perish and our "whole body" will be cast into hell

[Matthew 5:29,30](#)

29

And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

30

And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

b. It is the death of Jesus which keeps the obedient from perishing.

[John 10:28](#)

28

And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

c. Hell is a place of eternal punishment. Our Lord said, "And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." -[Matthew 25:46](#).

d. Were it not for the blood of Jesus we would all go there. Only the blood of Jesus can keep you from that place of horrible pain and outer darkness

[Ephesians 1:7](#)

7

In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

v. The hope which is provided by Jesus' death:

a. At the very heart of our heavenly hope stands the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. The cross provides the answer to man's sin problem and frees him for heaven. The blood of Christ provides us with the hope of heaven. Paul spoke of "the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel."

[Colossians 1:5](#)

b. Hope is provided "by way of the cross."

[Galatians 6:14](#)

14

But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

c. The cross shows both God's love for mankind and His hatred for sin. It also shows God's desire to bring sons to glory.

[Hebrews 2:9,10](#)

9

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

10

For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

Conclusion:

a. Everything done on the cross assures us of God's love for, and His desire to save sinners. Salvation, peace, contentment and real joy come through the cross of Calvary

b. Man must:

1. Hear the Gospel

[Romans 10:17](#)

17

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

2. Believe in Jesus

Mark 16:16

16

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

3. Repent of past sins

Acts 17:30

30

And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

4. Confess Jesus as Lord

Acts 8:36,37

36

And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37

And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

5. Be baptized for remission of sins

Acts 2:38

38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

6. Live a Christian life

I Peter 2:9

9

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;

adapted from a sermon by Charles Box