

Easter 2021 002

3/28/21

Good Friday

Romans 3:21-26

I. Introduction:

A. Good Friday

1. Friday before Easter Sunday is called “good Friday”? “It’s Friday Jesus was crucified.
2. When reading events surrounding the crucifixion of Jesus they are anything but good.
 - a. Jesus suffered three unjust trials at the hands of wicked men.
 - b. Jesus was declared innocent by Pilate, yet condemned to die.
 - c. He was flogged and beaten beyond recognition.
 - d. Jesus was so physically abused He could not carry His cross all the way to Calvary.
 - e. Roman soldiers pulled out His beard & smashed a crown of thorns down on his head.
 - f. They nailed Jesus to the cross, driving large iron spikes through His hands and feet.
 - g. To make sure He was dead, they drove a spear deep into His side.
3. Good Friday: Day’s called Good Friday because that’s day for which sin was atoned.
4. That was the best Friday this world has ever known!

II. Good Friday (Romans 3:21-22)

A. Righteousness revealed to us.

1. The first reason it was a good Friday is Jesus revealed righteousness to us.
2. Righteousness is all God demands & approves. God’s righteousness is perfect holiness.
3. The righteousness of God is sinless perfection. Jesus was the righteousness of God manifest in human form. Jesus lived a human life in perfect righteousness.
4. Brought it to us! He brought the righteousness of God to us.
5. Jesus imputes His righteousness upon us. To “impute” means to lay on one’s account.
6. Jesus forgives our sin and places on our account His perfect righteousness.

B. Faith

1. When we put our faith in Jesus & ask Him to forgive our sin, he pardons all our sin and imparts to us His righteousness.
2. Jesus’ righteousness on our account makes us acceptable to the Father.
3. It was a Good Friday indeed because Jesus brought to us His righteousness.

C. What Kind of Faith

1. Saving faith is not merely a mental accent that there is a God.
2. Just confessing that you believe there is a God is not saving faith. **(James 2:19)**
3. The demons know God is real and they are afraid of the judgment to come.
4. Saving faith has two components:
 - (1) – Receiving
 - a. Saving faith is willing to confess sin & desires to receive God’s pardon of sin.
 - b. Saving faith is willing to surrender to Jesus and receive Him as Lord.
 - (2) – Trust
 - a. Saving faith then trusts God. **See Hebrews 11:1**
 - b. Substance is the word *hupostasis* meaning the essence or reality of something.
 - c. It is the reality of something upon which trust is established.
 - d. The fact that God saved me & change my heart is evidence for me to trust Him.

III. **Expanse of God's grace (Romans 3:23)**

A. **All need Jesus' Righteousness.**

1. We are all sinners. That statement offends some people.
2. The first of the Ten Commandments says: **(See Exodus 20:3)** we are to put nothing in this life ahead of Jehovah God, the one true and living God.
3. When Jesus was asked what is the greatest commandment of all, He said **(See Matthew 22:37)** to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind.
4. We have all failed at this command. We often love ourselves more than we love God.
5. We are all sinners. We all need the righteousness of Jesus on our account.

IV. **Justification and Redemption (Romans 3:24-25)**

A. **Justification**

1. All who place their faith in Jesus will be justified.
2. Justified is a legal term that means to be declared righteous.
3. The word is in the present tense which means to continually be declared righteous.
4. It is a one-time event, at salvation, that has a continuing affect forever.

B. **Freely by His Grace**

1. God's forgiveness of sin & justification are free to us meaning we don't have to earn it.
2. There is nothing we can do to earn it, so the only way we can be forgiven is by grace.
3. Grace is God's unmerited favor toward us.

C. **Redemption**

1. God loves us & desires to save us; however, God is righteous & could not pardon our sin without for it being paid. That's where Jesus' death on the cross comes in.
2. The word redemption comes from the Greek word *apolutrosis* meaning, in a general sense, to bring deliverance or to provide an atonement, a payment or ransom.
3. Sin held us captive when we were lost. The price to gain release from sin was death.
4. Jesus died on the cross, taking our sin upon Himself, paying the ransom for our sin.
5. The penalty of sin has been paid in full, thus making the way possible for deliverance.

D. **Propitiation**

1. The death of Jesus on the cross is then expressed in terms of a sacrifice.
2. Propitiation is Greek word *hilasterion* meaning a sacrifice that satisfies the wrath of God against sin. **(Romans 3:25)**
3. The wrath of God against sin is not like that of a vengeful God, rather this kind of propitiation is a satisfaction of the righteousness of God.
4. God's righteousness has been offended by our sin & Jesus' sacrifice satisfies offense.
5. Illustration: On the Day of Atonement, the sins of Israel for the past year were atoned.
6. Application: Jesus was the one perfect sacrifice that purchased mercy for the world.
7. Jesus shed His blood on Calvary, making atonement and satisfaction for our sin.

V. **Purpose of Jesus' death (Romans 3:26)**

A. **God's justice demonstrated.**

1. God did not always judge sin in the past. His forbearance was because of grace.
2. His forbearance was also because Jesus would come and pay for sin.
3. Justification: Justification is divine accounting declaring sinner as justified based on the finished work of Jesus on the cross. 4. There are three things about God's justice:
 - (1) – It originates in grace.
 - (2) – By the finished work of Jesus
 - (3) – Received by faith