

Why Jesus Died

Matthew 27:32-51

4/ 11/ 04

Intro

He is risen. He is risen indeed!

This is the day we celebrate the most important day on the calendar, the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As the old hymn goes, "Up from the grave He arose, with a mighty triumph o'er His foes!"

We have understood the fact that Jesus rose from the dead, but what I want to have us look at today are the reasons why Jesus died and rose again.

It is in understanding the reasons for His death and resurrection that His life and death become personal. Not just historical facts, but an event that must be applied personally.

These, then, are reasons why Jesus died on the cross and rose again to new life.

I. To Bear Our Transgressions

A. Our guilt fell upon Him

- This is the greatest news the world has ever known!
- This is why it must be celebrated – it is good news. And must be taught like good news.

Isaiah 53:4-7 By His scourging we are healed.

B. Our sin has been taken away

- This is hard for us to understand, because for many people, their sin is always before them.
- But this is why he died – that the guilt stains of our sin would fall on Him.

Psalm 103:12, "As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us."

1 Peter 3:18, "For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit;"

II. To Demonstrate His Love

A. He even died for those who hated Him

- There was no hate in Jesus, no bitterness of soul. He even loved those who mistreated Him.

Luke 23:34, Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

- In fact this is one of the great ways he shows us how much He loves us...

Rom 5: 8, 10, "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life."

B. He loves with all His heart

- He held nothing back in loving us.
- He gave everything to love us.
- If He gave His only Son, would he withhold any good thing?

John 15:13, "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends."

Jeremiah 32:41, "I will rejoice over them to do them good and will faithfully plant them in this land with all My heart and with all My soul."

- In fact the scripture says that he shouts over us with singing!!

Illus – the prodigal son – the father ran to see him.

C. Do we love Him in return?

- To love Him in return is to recognize how much He loved us in Christ.
- He who is forgiven much – loves much.

Luke 7:36-50 - the woman whose tears fell on His feet

III. To Make All Things New

A. New life

- In Christ, he makes all things new, the old has passed away.

John 11:25-26, Jesus said , " I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"

- And he renews us even now.
- He is renewing the soul.

2 Corinthians 4:16, "Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day."

B. New purpose

- God made us to have a purpose.
- For many people, their purpose is self.
- But this is very unsatisfying.

II Corinthians 5:15, “and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.”

- Our soul was made to be alive!!

C. New hope

- If we have hope in this life only, it is a sad life.

1 Corinthians 15:19, “If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.”

- **But it is based in being right with God.**

Illus – read testimony

II Corinthians 5:17-20 – be reconciled to God

Conclusion

The reasons Jesus died on the cross can be summarized by one word – love.

1st Sergeant Steve Winter arrived home Saturday

- Spent his 1st tour of duty in Kuwait on security missions into Iraq
- Then spent time in Iraq
- And the last 7 months in Saudi Arabia

Has received:

- Army Commendations
- Volunteer Service Award
- Bronze Star
- Combat Infantry Badge