

SERMON: PROCLAIMING THE REPUGNANT

1st Corinthians 11:26

For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till He come.

Introduction

There are some topics that we are reluctant to talk about. They are distasteful and we seek to postpone the discussion or avoid mentioning them all together. Even today, there is much discussion about what topics should be taught in school and if they are taught, how much emphasis should be placed on them. One of the topics we don't like to talk about is death. The reluctance to talk about physical death is understandable. Who wants to talk about the demise of a loved one or even their own demise?

Death on a cross combined pain with indignity, and torture with humiliation, to the maximum degree. Josephus, the Jewish historian of that time, called it the "most wretched of deaths." It was so horrible that a Roman citizen sentenced to death could not be executed by crucifixion. He was swiftly beheaded. Yet, Jesus told us to celebrate Holy Communion and each time we celebrate it we are proclaiming His death. Why would He want us to proclaim His death? Let's get some answers. (This sermon just happens to be a prelude to the next Sunday School lesson.)

Exposition

1. The Death Of Christ Reveals The Severity Of Sin.

(Sins Of Weakness And Sins Of Wickedness.)

(Sin Hurts Others As Well As The Sinner.)

2. The Death Of Christ Reveals The Justice Of God.

(Sin Could Not Go Unpunished And Justice Prevail.)

(God Does Not Ignore Sin.)

3. The Death Of Christ Reveals The Immense Love And Mercy Of God.

(Jesus Took Our Punishment.)

(Love Makes One Obligated To The Beloved.)

4. The Death Of Christ Makes Forgiveness And Healing Possible.

(The Precious Blood Of Jesus Makes Remission Of Sin Possible.)

(Christ And The Sinner Are Reconciled.)

(Christ, The Wounded Healer, Heals The Sinner.)

5. The Death Of Christ Incites Saints To Worship Our Gracious King.

(Worthy Is The Lamb To Receive, Glory, Honor, And Praise.)

Closing Thoughts

As we partake of the elements of the Lord's Supper, let us be reminded of the awful nature of our sins that make it necessary for Jesus to have died as a substitute in our place. Let us be overwhelmed with the gracious wonder of God's love for us. As willingly and as completely as Jesus Christ gave Himself, let us give ourselves in service to Him for others. He died for us; let us live for Him. Give God Glory! Give God All The Glory!

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