

# Good Friday 2011

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*The most important event in History – Phil.2:5-11(Ampl.) Above All*

## **Good Friday Is About Jesus' Death on the Cross**

### **Traditional Religious View**

*A day of mourning? WRONG*

- **WRONG:** Remembering a Sad Touching Story of something that happened 2000 years ago
  - It should be called Sad Friday
    - Jesus did not die on Friday – But this is not important
  - The spiritual impact is as real now as ever
    - There is no time in the spiritual realm – It is always now
- **WRONG:** Focus on Jesus' physical suffering –
  - Wrong focus: Many go through pain and suffering
    - But that was not the key issue for Jesus
    - Jesus' spiritual suffering was much greater
  - Focus on what has happened spiritually
    - That is what made an impact on all human being that have ever existed and will exist
- **WRONG:** The idea is that even today Jesus suffers when we sin
  - Used to put condemnation on people
  - This is completely false, He already was punished for them
    - He took all our sins on Himself – **1Cor.15:3**
  - Jesus said, it is finished -
    - That referred to the GREAT EXCHANGE - His work on earth
- **WRONG:** For true repentance we must go through some form of pain and mourning
  - Repentance is changing your mind, turning around
    - Only feeling sorry does not produce results but depression – **2Cor.7:8**
  - If we need to suffer, Jesus suffered in vain

### **Spiritual View**

*Going to the Word of God*

- Physical things are temporary, Spiritual things are eternal – **2Cor.4:18**
  - People that are stuck on physical things:
    - Will remain bound by their past
    - Cannot experience salvation and miracles
  - BLESSING From BELIEVING TO SEE rather than FROM SEEING TO BELIEVE – **Jn.20:29**
- **TO BENEFIT YOU MUST CONNECT THE PHYSICAL TO THE SPIRITUAL**
  - Not just remembering facts, but having the spiritual understanding and believing
    - There is much more involved than eyes can see
  - **Eph.1:17-20** – Spirit of Wisdom and revelation
    - To know = (Gk. Eido) = BE AWARE
    - As you are aware you can walk in it

*Looking at "The Old Rugged Cross"*

## **The Impact of Jesus' Death, Burial and Resurrection**

### **Isa. 53:1-6-10 – Who has BELIEVED..?**

*Some points we MUST BELIEVE ABOUT JESUS to be able to receive*

- Jesus was fully human and operated as a man –
  - **Phil.2:5-8** – Stripped himself of all divinity and took the form of a man
    - He was fully human with all the human weaknesses (tired, hungry, thirsty, with emotions, likes and dislikes, desires) but he was not controlled by these
    - If you met him on the street you would not say he is God
    - **Rom.5:15** – Through the man Adam came sin, through the man Jesus came righteousness
  - Jesus was tempted in all ways as you are – **Heb.4:15-16**
    - He had fleshy desires to deal with – **Jam.1:12-14**

- Because He was a man he could be our High Priest
  - He understands you, he has been there, and can have compassion
  - We can boldly approach the Father
- Jesus was not a victim, but consciously chose to die
  - Jesus knew the prophecies about the Messiah – **Jn.2:19-22**
  - HIS ATTITUDE was not affected by what they did to him
    - **Lk.23:34** – Father forgive them
    - **Lk.23:39-43** – Extending forgiveness to the thief
  - The time He was affected was when he became sin, and was separated from the Father –
    - **Mt.27:45-46** – “My God, My God” – Experiencing agony of separation
    - Even then He trusted God – **Lk.23:46** – Father, into your hands I commit my spirit
- Jesus took our sins
  - The price of sin was suffering and death (Curse of the law – **Gen.2:17**)
    - Jesus experienced the price of sin – Depth of human suffering
  - **2Cor.5:17-21** – Now we are the righteousness of God
    - Reconcile – Gk – Exchange mutually – The Great Exchange
- Jesus conquered sin, death and the devil
  - Jesus had complete victory -
    - The proof is: JESUS WAS RESURRECTED
- No longer separation from God – The Veil in the temple was torn – **Mt.27:50-54**

*Some points YOU MUST BELIEVE ABOUT YOU, the other side of the truth*

- Jesus took your sins, our sicknesses and our pains – **Gal.3:13, 1Pet.2:24**
  - These things are the result of our fallen state (the curse of the law)
  - Now, these things have no longer the right to be on you – Believe it!
- As you believe in Him, you become His righteousness
  - God has forgiven you
- You don't need to pay for what Jesus has already paid
- If Jesus, as a man, could do it, you can too, and even more – **Jn.14:12**
  - Jesus victory is your victory – **Eph.1:22-23**

*Many who call themselves Christians, but really are not believers*

- They believe in Christian traditions, assuming that it is right
  - Not what the Word says
- They think that Jesus had special powers – That is not true - **Act.10:38**
- They cannot experience Jesus' victory

## **The New Covenant**

*Jesus' established a Better Covenant between God and Man*

- **Jn.1:29** – The lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world
- **Heb.7:22** – The guaranty of a better covenant

### **Behold the Lamb**

*Communion – 1Cor.11:23-34*

- Proclaiming His death and Appropriating the results

### **Communion Song**

*Jesus Death: A demonstration of God's love for us*

- **Jn.15:13-14** – Greater love as no one than to lay down your life for your friends
- Attitude of gratefulness and love

### **Above All**

# Easter Sunday 2011

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## ***Jesus' death burial and resurrection***

### **Background in this series**

- The account - **Mt.28:1-8**
- The Resurrection is the Validation of the New Covenant
  - Without resurrection our faith is in vain – **1Cor.15:14-17**
  - **1Cor.15:3-8** – Many evidences and witnesses
  - Doubters go just by their opinion, not the evidence
- Are you living in the “New Covenant” or “Under the Law”?
  - It only depends on your beliefs

### **The most important event in history of humanity – **Phil.2:5-11 (Ampl.)****

*Doubters have always been there*

- Even the Apostles doubted
- The blessing of believing – **Jn.20:29**
- We always believe something: Be careful what you believe
  - It is difficult to judge – we must develop discernment by experience and wisdom
  - What is the source of your belief?
    - What they told you (there is so much confusion)
    - Your experience
      - ✦ At what age? (Adults living with 4 year old emotional logic)
      - ✦ We often confuse coincidence with causality
      - ✦ Self-fulfilling prophesies
    - Word of God (most reliable source - tested)

*Your beliefs create your reality and experiences*

- Your life today is the reflection of your beliefs not your wants
  - Your wants often become the stumbling block – they are beliefs of lacking what you want
- Changing your beliefs produces new results – TRANSFORMATION
  - We all want to be better, but many have given up
  - According to your faith is done to you
  - True for your behavior, health, finances, relationships -

*Not external religion but a personal relationship with God*

- This was Jesus' example for us – He only did what He saw the Father doing
- The power working in Him overcame sin, death and the devil – THE GREATEST POWER

## ***Resurrection Theology = Power for Transformation***

### **Resurrection Power in Christ (putting our faith in Him)**

*The Holy Spirit*

- **Rom.8:11** – The same spirit – Holy Spirit
  - Give life to your MORTAL BODIES – Not just spiritual
    - **THAT INCLUDES PHYSICAL HEALING**
- Jesus said that you need to connect with the Holy Spirit –
  - **Jn.14:16, 16:7, Act.1:4** – Another Helper

*Manifestations*

- Jesus' Miracles (He also raised Lazarus, son of the Widow of Naim)
- Jesus' Resurrection
- We are Born Again = Transformation into a new creation – **2Cor.5:17**
- We receive and perform miracles (There are people raised from the dead today)
- We will be resurrected to a new body at Jesus' return

## ***Experiencing Resurrection Power***

*You need change? You can in all areas of your life (Healing, Finances, Relationships)*

- Jesus did it

- Jesus is our example and guide
  - **Jn.11:25** – Jesus said to Mary: I AM THE RESURRECTION
    - The way Jesus operated was the Resurrection – **Act.10:38**
- Jesus said that we also can operate as He did
  - **Jn.14:12** – Greater works
- BELIEVING we can
- **Philp.3:10-11** – That I may know the power of his resurrection
  - Desire to appropriate,
  - Not that I have taken hold = Gk. Lambano (often receive)
    - Apprehended = katalambano = seize, take hold violently, possess
    - No matter where you are today – THERE IS MORE
  - IT IS NOT A QUESTION OF TRYING HARDER, BUT OF CHANGING YOUR BELIEFS
    - A **PROGRESSIVE** APPROPRIATION BY FAITH (Taking of the promised land)
    - Take short steps and consolidate your position
      - ✦ Protect your hold – **Pro.4:23**
      - ✦ People get distracted and forget what they have conquered

*Appropriating by a physical act*

- Faith/Believing without action is dead – **Jam.2:17,20,26**
- BAPTISM – Identification with death, burial and resurrection
- LORD’S SUPPER – appropriating and the benefits of Jesus’ death

## **Communion**

### **1Cor.11:23-32 – Enforcing the New Testament – Covenant**

*Taking – Grk. Lambano - more than physical - Appropriation*

- His Body – Eat it – Symbolically His body is in us - We are one with Him
- His Blood – Poured for us –
  - Life is in the blood - His life is in us
  - New covenant – Between us and God
    - Blood covenant – sharing blood

*In Remembrance*

- Only a reminder for us, not the real thing
- You proclaim – A declaration you make

*In an unworthy manner*

- Guilty of the body – They are not part of the body
- Guilty of the blood – They have no life
- They made a mockery of what Jesus has done
- They are still guilty, and their sins have not been forgiven because of not discerning the body
- For this they are separated from God, still under the Curse of the Law and they cannot receive healing
- When we judge ourselves we can receive forgiveness