

The Crucifixion of Jesus

Mark 15:21-41

I. Imagine, for a second, that you are about to face your own death, but also imagine that your death will be the most horrifying experience of your life.

II. Your heart is in anguish because you know what you are about to face.

1. You know that a friend has turned against you.
2. You know you will be given over to those who despise you.
3. A multitude will come with weapons and seize you like a criminal.
 - a. They will physically abuse you.
 - b. They will mock you.
 - c. They will have a hate for you that is so deep, they will desire to kill you.
4. You know that those who said they loved you and would even die for you will desert and leave you to face this enemy by yourself.

III. Now imagine it is the morning after this horrifying night.

1. Today you know things are not going to get any better.
2. You have been awake all night and you have not had anything to eat or drink.
3. You are taken by your enemy and delivered over to government officials at about 9 a.m.
 - a. As you stand before this official he realizes you have done nothing wrong.
 - b. He is a weak man and tries to appease the crowds anger by having you beat.
 1. He turns you over to the soldiers and orders you to be Scourged.
 - a. They strip you naked
 - b. They tie your hands to the top of a post and your feet hang to the ground.
 - c. They take a whip made of leather straps with pieces of bone and shards of pottery tied to the end and begin to beat you across the back, buttocks and legs with no less than 39 lashes.
 - 1.) The pieces of bone and pottery cut into your skin
 - 2.) Ribbons of flesh hang from your body
 - 3.) Blood runs profusely down your back
 - 3.) Gaping wounds appear on your flesh.
 2. After the soldiers have beaten you they take you down from the post and violently force a crown of thorns upon your head and into your scalp.
 3. The soldiers then put a scarlet robe over you back and place a staff in your right hand.

4. Upon doing this they fall down to the ground and mock you as you stand beaten before them.

5. The soldiers then spit on you and take the rod from your hand and begin to beat you on the head.

4. Following this beating a 6 ft long beam weighing between 75 and 125 lb. is placed upon your back and tied to your wrists.

5. You then begin the long walk to the place where you will be killed, some 1/3 of a mile from your present location.

6. As you walk to your place of death people continue to mock you.

7. Along the way you collapse and someone is forced to help you carry the crossbeam.

III. Now you arrive at your place of death.

1. You are exhausted and in excruciating agony

2. The soldiers take the cross beam and nail it to the riser.

3. They grab you and throw you to the beams.

4. Taking a hammer they drive an 7 inch iron spikes through both of your wrists

5. They then cross you legs and drive a spike through the center of your feet right above the arch.

6. Finally they lift the cross up and settle it into a hole where you hang from you appendages.

7. As you hang there you can still hear the crowd mocking you.

8. Slowly the weight of your body begins to weigh heavy on your legs and you relax, but when you do you find it difficult to breath.

9. You push yourself up but you are weak from all the beatings and the pain to your legs back and wrists are unbearable so you collapse again.

10. Eventually all your strength is gone and you can no longer lift yourself up to breath by 3 p.m. you are dead due of asphyxiation and possibly heart failure.

IV. Now consider that everything I have said actually happened to one individual, Jesus.

1. But you might ask why? Was this man a criminal. NO!
2. The why did this happen to him?
3. One reason. It happened because we needed it to happen.

V. You see, without the death of Jesus we would have no hope of salvation. It's only through the shedding of His blood that we find hope.

VI. Today as we continue our study of the Gospel of Mark we now come to the crucifixion of Jesus. What I want us to focus on is what that death or shedding of blood does for us. Why was it that Jesus had to die this way?

VII. What we find is that **The blood of Jesus is necessary because of what it does.**

Trans: Let's consider the first thing Jesus' blood does.

1. Jesus' Blood Provides Remission of sins

A. The Bible affirms forgiveness of sins through His blood.

1. **Matt. 26:28**

- a. The preposition "eis" appearing here also appears in Acts 2:38
- b. (For, unto, with a view) In order to obtain remission of sins.

2. It is the blood that washes our robes. **Rev 1:5; 7:13,14**

3. **Romans 5:9**

- a. The word justified means acquitted. This is a court term
- b. In a court room situation it would be the term used if someone was found not guilty. When one is acquitted he is found guiltless.
- c. It is through the blood of Jesus that we are found guiltless.

B. Some might ask, Why did Jesus have to die for this to be so? Why did such a high price have to be paid?

1. The holiness of God; the nature of sin; the sinfulness of man.

- a.) God is Holy as we read in **Isaiah 6:3**, Holy, Holy, Holy
- b.) The nature of sin is anarchy against God
- c.) Someone who was qualified had to do for man what man could not do on his own, **Heb. 9:22,23**

2. **Isaiah 53:4-6**

Appl: Jesus bore the guilt of our sins. If we try to bear the guilt of our sins we are separated from God and lost. If our sins have not been forgiven then we are wasting the blood that was shed for me.

The blood of Jesus is necessary because of what it does. It provides remission of sins

Trans: Let us now look at our second thing Jesus' blood does

2. Jesus' Blood Provides Reconciliation

A. Reconciliation is to make right what was not. To remove the barrier that separates.

Re - Again

Concile - Unite

B. The Bible affirms reconciliation through the blood of Jesus

1. It is through the death of Jesus that we are reconciled to God **Romans 5:10**

2. **Eph. 2:12-13**

a.) All can be reconciled to God through His blood

b.) His blood brings us near to God

Illust: A little boy is lying right at death's door. On one side of the bed is his mother on the other was his dad. Mom and dad had been separated, alienated, estranged, and it was breaking this boy's heart. With the last surge of strength he reached up and grabbed both their hands and brought them together in his death in the effort to bring about reconciliation.

Appl: Jesus Christ, the God-man, hangs suspended at Golgotha. He reaches up to the Father who in His holiness has been offended by the anarchy of man, and He reaches down to man, deeply marred and scarred by sin, and He brings the two together in His death, bringing about reconciliation.

Jesus breaks down that which separates us from God through His own blood.

The blood of Jesus is necessary because of what it does. It provides reconciliation.

Trans: Understanding that in the blood of Jesus we have both forgiveness and reconciliation we can now turn to our third and final blessing

3. Jesus' blood Provides Redemption

A. To be redeemed is to be bought back. That is, a price had to be paid.

B. The Bible affirms redemption

1. Jesus died to redeem us, **Eph. 1:7**

2. **1 Peter 1:18-20**

It is through the blood that we are reconciled, brought back to God.

It is through the blood that we are redeemed, bought back.

3. **1 Cor. 6:19,20**

Illust: A slave girl who worked faithfully for her master was allowed to work for others and she was paid for her efforts. Being a hard worker and frugal with what she was paid she amassed a large sum of money.

When the master fell on hard times he put some of his slaves up for sale including her. She used her own money to buy her freedom.

Shortly after this the old master died and her brother was put on the block for sale. He was a strong young man and the bidding continued to rise. When the auctioneer's gavel was raised and he was saying going going, a shrill voice came from behind the crowd with a bid so high no one went against it. It was his sister and she had now saved him.

Could that young man to his dying day forget the redemptive love of that sister?

Appl: For those who are in Christ can we ever forget we have been bought with a price? we are his -- mind, muscle, money, time, tongue, talent -- because we are redeemed,

The blood of Jesus is necessary because of what it does. It provides redemption

Con: When we look back to the time of Jesus' death we see that it was a time of great pain and suffering. It was a death unlike what any had faced before. Not only in its brutality, but especially in what that death provided for the world.

You see, people die every day, but only One death was faced with the hope of mankind at stake.

In the death of Jesus, in the shedding of His blood we find what nothing else can provide. In His blood we find

1. **Remission of sins**
2. **Reconciliation**
3. **Redemption**

But, how does that blood affect me? How do I receive what His blood offered? **Romans 6:1-7**

How and when do we appropriate the saving power of Jesus blood? The Bible teaches that we are baptized into His death.

We are washed in the blood of Christ when we are Biblically baptized.

The blood of Jesus is necessary because of what it does. It provides the remission, reconciliation and redemption we need to share in His eternal glory.