

TRUTH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Dansoman, Exhibition Estates, Accra, Ghana

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Good Friday Service Sermon Outline

April 10th, 2020

Calvary, There They Crucified Him

And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left. (Luke 23:33)

The story of the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ is most well-known in all the world. The cross of Christ has been a great witness to millions and millions of people from the past to the present. Who has not heard or known that Jesus Christ died on the cross of Calvary?... Perhaps only a few know not. But the story retold, always have a freshness about it year after year when we meet on seasons like this, a special remembrance of the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The text takes us away from all the painful events - from the arrest of Christ in the garden of Gethsemane, through his unfair trial at the Judgment hall, Gabbatha; the molestation, scourging and mockery of many especially the soldiers...to the carrying of his cross tortuously outside of Jerusalem city,...to the place of crucifixion in the company of two other criminals.

Let's fix our attention on the expression in the text, "***Calvary, there they crucified Him***". This simple expression is deeply profound because it brings to light these basic truths:

- ***The Place - "Calvary, there"***
- ***The People - "they"***
- ***The Penalty - "crucified"***
- ***The Person - "Him"***

The Place - Calvary

Calvary, (Latin, Calvaria, "skull", also known in Hebrew as "Golgotha" Jn.19:17).

It is a hill outside ancient Jerusalem where the crucifixion of Jesus Christ took place.

It has been identified as a place of execution where dangerous criminals were flung from the cliffs, stoned to death, or crucified. It owes its name, the place of the "skull" either to the

traditional belief that the skull of Adam was found there; or - the perception that the place resembled a human skull. It is a place of death. A place of no return, no pardon from death. Why was the Lord brought "there", Calvary? (i) **Because of hatred.** He was hated by the Jewish leaders who schemed to plot his death. They hated him in their hearts. So, do many today. Many hate the Lord Jesus. (ii) **Because of enmity.** Man is an enemy of God and makes himself an enemy by sinful rebellion against God ~ Rom. 5:10; Phil. 3:18 Man is not only God's enemy. The world is an enemy also. The Devil and his wicked demons are all God's enemies. All these three combined to bring Christ to Calvary, the place of death! (iii) **Because of ignorance.** Man has always been willfully ignorant of who God is, who Christ is, who man himself is. It is wilful because a man would not accept what God is teaching by the Scriptures and only clings to what he claims he knows. It is wilful because it is not humble, submissive, resigned to learn from God. It is a self-pleasing, self-independent, self-indulgent, kind of ignorance.

The People - "they"

Who are those who crucified the Lord Jesus Christ? Many say it was, (i) The Jewish leaders. Of course, this is true because these leaders never liked the Lord Jesus Christ; they never appreciated his teachings but found fault with them: They never liked his miracles because, by them, he became popular with the people. They never liked Christ teaching on repentance. They never liked how Christ often blew away their knowledge of the Scriptures and how they were made to appear foolish. They never liked the claims of Christ as God. Others also say, (ii) Pilate was the one who delivered the final sentence of death. (iii) The people, filled with hatred, goaded on by their leaders, who cried, "Crucify him, crucify him" (iv) The Roman soldiers.

The truth is that the Triune God sanctioned and approved the death of the Son of God. His death was planned, executed, and accomplished by all members of the Trinity. Further, who are the "they" who crucified Christ? Every sinner past, present, future. All are in Adam who crucified Christ. In other words, all of us sinners are represented in the crucifixion of the Lord!

The Penalty - "crucified", crucifixion.

Why was the crucifixion the form of punishment meted out to the Lord? Couldn't they murder him any other way? Of course, they could kill with a simple piercing of the spear, or striking of the sword. So why crucifixion?

1. It was to fulfil prophecy.

Time will fail to go through all the prophecies about the death of Christ in the Old Testament. But suffice, to say that the Scriptures were literally fulfilled (see Psalm 22; 69; Isaiah 53, etc). *2. It was to reveal almost the full extent of human wickedness and cruelty, the evil nature of man, the hideous craftiness of man. The crucifixion was to show the ugliness, the exceeding sinfulness of sin. The crucifixion was also to show the magnitude of man's transgressions and sin* *3. It was to prove the success and far-reaching scope of the atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ by ONE SACRIFICE! (See Heb. 10:12). It was for Christ*

to bear the sins of millions and millions of his people through all ages by one sacrifice. 4. *It was to prove how great is God's pardoning love...!* 'Love so amazing, so divine Demands my soul, my life, my all.' The crucifixion sings in awe, 'Who is a pardoning God like Thee, Or who has grace, so rich and free?' Oh..such love... deep, faithful, unchanging, ever merciful, ever kind!

Finally, our thoughts, I say, must be riveted on,

The Person - "Him", the Lord Jesus Christ.

Who was crucified? The Lord Jesus Christ! Oh...He who is; The Eternal One..Jn. 1:1-18, The Prophesied One; The Promised One ..Gen. 3:15; 49:10; The Redeemer..Matt. 20:28; Gal. 3:13; 4:5; The Sin Bearer...Jn. 1:29, 36; The Justifier of all believing sinful men ..Rom. 3:26; The Great Shepherd and Intercessor for all His people! ~ Jn. 17:20-24; Rom. 8:34; Heb. 7:25; 9:24. Even on the cross our Lord was interceding and saving! ~ Lk. 23:34, 43. It was Christ who is our Substitute, our Sin-bearer, our Sacrifice, our Saviour, our Sinless Redeemer, our Sufferer, our Supreme High Priest!

Dear sinner,... See, see Christ suffering, dying, on your behalf! See his tears for you! See his groans over every sin you commit! See his pardon being offered to you freely! Will you close your eyes over these things? Will you cling to your hardheartedness? Will you reject such love? Are you crucifying Christ..." THERE", there in your heart right now?

O..come now to Him!
Plead for the forgiveness of your sins!
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God bless you!

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