

Refuge City Church — April 2, 2021

Good Friday — “Glorified”

Introduction

- As Palm Sunday represents the day we remember Jesus riding in to Jerusalem a week prior to His arrest and crucifixion.
- Good Friday represents His crucifixion and death.
- Following the events after Jesus’ Triumphal Entry in to Jerusalem, leading up to his crucifixion & death.

John 12:23-24, 27-28

“And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be **glorified**. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit... “Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But *for this purpose* I have come to this hour. Father, **glorify** your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have **glorified** it, and I will **glorify** it again.”

- We see the agony of Jesus [**soul**]. Yet He remains steadfast aligned to His Father’s will [**spirit**].
- **Glorify** = Praise; Honor; Magnify; Exalt. To acknowledge the glory of God through what Jesus was going to go through.
- What were the reasons Jesus was crucified?
 1. Jesus gives up his life so that His Father is glorified.
 2. Through his death, we become the recipients of His “fruit”; grace & forgiveness.
- Jesus then goes on to wash the disciples feet.
- Judas Iscariot is identified as His betrayer.

John 13:31-32

“When he [**Judas**] had gone out, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man **glorified**, and God is **glorified** in him. If God is **glorified** in him, God will also **glorify** him in himself, and **glorify** him at once.”

- The process of glorification now begins [**crucifixion, resurrection, ascension, & glorification in heaven**] as Judas is conspiring with the Pharisees to have Jesus arrested.
- Through complete obedience to His Father’s will, God is glorified.
- We have the same opportunity here and now through the lives we live.
 - Be obedient to His call on your life, and do all that is necessary within the confines of His instruction, to carry it out.
 - It may trouble your soul, but keep your spirit aligned to His. [**Galatians 5:25**, “If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.”]
 - **1 Peter 4:10-11**, “As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one

who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ...”

- As Jesus continues to move towards the cross:
- Jesus goes on to explain further where He is going after He departs
- He promises the Holy Spirit in His physical absence.

John 15:5, 8

“I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, **he it is that bears much fruit**, for apart from me you can do nothing **[reference to ‘grain of wheat’s necessary death to bear fruit]**... By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

- Intimacy through obedience.
 - This identifies the life of Jesus. All He did was in obedience to His Father’s will.
 - **Philippians 2:8**, “And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”
- In the same way Christ glorifies God, so we must die to ourselves and the way of the world.
- In the same way Christ was united with the Father, so we, in so doing bring forth the fruit of the Spirit, and testify to the goodness of God.
- With the cross getting closer and closer...
- Jesus goes on to explain the necessity of abiding in Him, to walk in love, and not to be surprised when the world hates us for doing so.

John 17:1-5

“When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; **glorify** your Son that the Son may **glorify** you, since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. **And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified** you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now, Father, **glorify** me in your own presence with the **glory** that I had with you before the world existed.”

- **QUOTE:** “What were we made for? To know God. What aim should we set ourselves in life? To know God. What is the ‘eternal life’ that Jesus gives? Knowledge of [not about] God. ... What is the best thing in life, bringing more joy, delight, and contentment, than anything else? Knowledge of God.” [J.I. Packer]
- **Philippians 3:10**, “that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,”
- As we are reflecting on what Christ did for us in life and death, can we pray the same prayer? Are we glorifying Him in all we do? Are we accomplishing the work He has given us to do?
- The cross is now imminent...
- Jesus is arrested in the garden, and brought before the High Priests.
- Peter denies Jesus 3 times.
- Jesus is brought before Roman councils for trial.

- He's convicted to appease the crowds, sentenced to die, flogged/beaten, and delivered to be crucified.

John 19:16-19, 28-30

“So he delivered him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” ... After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.” [Luke 23:46, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he breathed his last.”]

- For the glory of God, through obedience to God's ultimate plan of redemption, Jesus suffered and died to forgive us our sins.
 - So that, if we accept the free gift of salvation, are joined/united in Christ, to live our life free from the bondage of sin, to be obedient to what He calls us to do, all for His glory!
 - **Romans 5:8-11**, “but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.”
- Through the death of Jesus on the cross, God sets you in His presence. He brings you back. He brings you close.
- Jesus is offering you peace & eternal life. The price has been paid.
 - That is why we can sit here today, and refer to this Friday as ‘Good’. Amen?!
- It is now up to you to choose to recognize all that He is, and did for you.