

The Oologah Informer

December 15th, 2013

WHY DID JESUS DIE

Al Parr

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Service Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.
Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

Preacher:

Russ Earl

AM Sermon:

The Other Side
(Numbers 16:41-45)

PM Sermon:

Why I am a member of the church of Christ - Lesson 7 – because it teaches we are born innocent and not in sin (Ps 51:5)

Sunday AM Bible Class:

The Book of Job – D. Jackson

Wednesday Bible Class:

The Christian Do's - Swearingen

In SEARCH of the Lord's Way

Tulsa KWHB TV 47
Sunday mornings at 7:30am

For the Record: 12/8

AM Bible Class: 22
AM Worship: 24
PM Worship: 20
Contribution: \$1576
Weekly Budget: \$2800
Wednesday Night Bible Class: 21

The Bible several times records the fact that Jesus sent His apostles to preach the gospel to the whole world (Mark 16:15). One of the men whom Jesus chose for this work (Paul of Tarsus) wrote the gospel includes the facts that [1] Jesus died, [2] Jesus was buried and [3] Jesus rose from the dead (I Corinthians 15:1-4). Many thousands of people find hope in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, but why did He die in the first place?

The historical political facts are that Jesus was arrested because the leaders of the Jews were envious of Him, and He was sentenced to death by the Roman governor who was willing rather to please people than to do what he knew to be right (Mark 15:10-15). But if Jesus is the Son of God, did He not have power to prevent their killing Him? If He had such power, why did He not use it? This was precisely the question of some people present during the crucifixion of Jesus. In Matthew 27:39-44, we read that they mocked him: "If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross," and "If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him." So why didn't He? It's a good question, and there are good answers.

Jesus died to pay the price for my sins. In the eternal plan of God, man has always been required to sacrifice something to God because of sin. "Sin is the transgression of the law" (I John 3:4). When laws are violated, a penalty payment is due. When man first sinned, God provided a plan by which man could sacrifice an animal to atone for his sin (Genesis 4:1-7). When God separated the nation of Israel unto Himself and gave them His law (*see the book of Exodus*), He provided a detailed pattern of sacrifices of animals and crops (*see the book of Leviticus*). Whereas these were not, Jesus is the *perfect* sacrifice that does not need to be offered repeatedly. The price was paid once and for all when He died (Hebrews 10:1-14).

Jesus died to save me from punishment for sin. Just as the breaking of man's laws demands fines, retribution or incarceration, so "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). For his sin against God, man deserves the punishment of death (Genesis 2:17). God is that holy (I Samuel 2:2), and sin is that bad compared with His holiness (Proverbs 29:27). Instead of *my* dying for my sins, *Jesus* died in my place. Jesus is the "propitiation" for our sins (I John 4:10).

Jesus died to fulfill the plan of God. When the apostle Peter first preached the gospel after the death of Jesus, he said the envious Jews had "by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God" crucified Jesus (Acts 2:23). His death wasn't in opposition to God's plan; it was at the very heart of that plan. From the time that sin first entered into the world (Genesis 3:15), and throughout all the history of His speaking through the prophets (*i.e.* Isaiah 53:4-9), God said the Messiah (anointed, chosen One) would die.

Jesus died for you, too. As the price paid for sin, and as the agent of salvation from punishment for sin, Jesus' death is the greatest expression of the love of God (John 3:16). That love is for every soul in the world. There is not one who cannot

benefit from His sacrifice and be saved from punishment for sin. Even those who, “by lawless hands,” crucified Him were shown God’s plan of salvation. When they asked, “What shall we do?” (Acts 2:37), Peter did not tell them it was hopeless. He said, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ” (verse 38). He added, “The promise is to . . . all who are afar off” (verse 39). One who wanted to obey this asked, “What hinders me?” The man of God answered, “If you believe with all your heart, you may” (Acts 8:36-37). As he faced His death, Jesus said, “I lay down my life ... No one takes it from Me ... I have power to take it again” (John 10:17-18). It wasn’t a tragedy; it was good news for you. Believe in Jesus. Repent toward Jesus. Profess faith in Jesus. Be baptized into Jesus. That’s why He died.

Announcements

Thanks!

Thanks to all those who helped with the food pantry.

Area Wide Singing

The church of Christ in Owasso will be having an area wide singing on Saturday, January 11th from 3-5pm.

Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to the families of Larry Overson and Dee Robinson. Please keep both of these families in your prayers.

New Materials

We have several new materials available in the foyer: House to House-Heart to Heart, Voice of Truth International and some new tracks are also available.

Recent Prayer Requests

Patti Payne – will be going back to the doctors on the 18th.

Kenny Payne – had surgery on the 13th in OKC.

Ed’s brother wife Roxy – has Alzheimer’s and is in a home in Jacksonville, IL.

Barbara Coats – will be having several appointments over the next few weeks.

Jerry Creek – (Ed’s son in law’s brother) recently had surgery for throat cancer but has found out that his cancer has spread.

Granddaughter of Steve Lay – was born during the week of Thanksgiving but only weight about 2lbs.

Clare Beaman – (Dicie’s mom) is not in good health.

Juanita Quillin – (close friend of Doris) had a stroke and is not expected to recover.

Dave Preston – (once a member here) is not in good health.

Please keep all of these in your prayers.