

The Oologah Informer

June 8th , 2014

WHY DID JESUS DIE?
Al Parr, Jacksonville, TX

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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 Sermon on the Mount
Lesson 11 (Mt 7:1-12)

PM Sermon:

Vacation Bible School

Sunday AM Bible Class:

The Book of Joshua – D. Jackson

Wednesday Bible Class:

Vacation Bible School

In SEARCH of the Lord's Way

Tulsa KWHB TV 47
Sunday mornings at 7:30am

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

Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to the Jackson family in the loss of Charlotte Jackson. Please keep this family in your prayers. *At the time of this writing the funeral arrangements were not set.*

VBS June 8-11th

Our VBS starts today, please keep this in your prayers. Don’t forget to bring snacks.

2nd Sunday Fellowship

We will NOT be having our monthly fellowship meal; this is to allow for VBS setup.

Summer Series

No Summer Series this week because of VBS.

Bible Camp

Russ will be taking Ryan and Eric (Ryan’s cousin) to Happy Hollow Bible Camp June 15th-20th. Russ will be one of the counselors and teachers. The camp is in Stratford, Mo.

Recent Prayer Requests

Evans Family – this family has been handling various illnesses and issues while overseas.

Kari Yoder – (Steve Lay’s daughter) is recovering from several strokes and is now in therapy. She is currently paralyzed on the right side.

Ukrainian brethren – the brethren in Ukraine are in a dangerous situation with the armed forces there.

Norman Easter (former gospel preacher) – has throat cancer.

Ed Coats – surgery on his hand went well.

Please keep all of these in your prayers.

Please keep the following in the prayers.

Ed & Barbara Coats

Allen & Joyce Cash

Charles Coats

Jerry Creek

Kennedy Cox

Larry Brown

Dave Preston (A former member)

Theresa (Roy Dean’s Daughter)

Mary Ann Haugh