

Yateley Baptist Church, Good Friday 10 April 2020

Opening Prayer

Hymn: Praise! 415

Come and see, come and see
Come and see the King of love
See the purple robe and crown of thorns he
wears
Soldiers mock, rulers sneer
As he lifts the cruel cross
Lone and friendless now he climbs towards the
hill

*We worship at your feet
Where wrath and mercy meet
And a guilty world is washed
By love's pure stream
For us he was made sin
Oh, help me take it in
Deep wounds of love cry out 'Father, forgive'
I worship, I worship
The Lamb who was slain.*

Graham Kendrick

2 Come and weep, come and mourn
For your sin that pierced him there
So much deeper than the wounds of thorn and
nail
All our pride, all our greed
All our fallenness and shame
And the Lord has laid the punishment on him

3 Man of heaven, born to earth
To restore us to your heaven
Here we bow in awe beneath
Your searching eyes
From your tears comes our joy
From your death our life shall spring
By your resurrection power we shall rise

Reading: John 19:16b-42, ESV

So they took Jesus, ¹⁷ and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. ¹⁸ There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. ¹⁹ Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” ²⁰ Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹ So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews’, but rather, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’” ²² Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.”

²³ When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, ²⁴ so they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be.” This was to fulfil the Scripture which says,

“They divided my garments among them,
and for my clothing they cast lots.”

So the soldiers did these things, ²⁵ but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfil the Scripture), “I thirst.” ²⁹ 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. ³⁰ When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished”, and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

³¹ Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. ³² So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³ But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴ But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. ³⁵ He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. ³⁶ For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: “Not one of his bones will be broken.” ³⁷ And again another Scripture says, “They will look on him whom they have pierced.”

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³⁸ After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. ³⁹ Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. ⁴⁰ So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹ Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. ⁴² So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

Hymn: Praise! 411

Alas! and did my Saviour bleed
And did my Sovereign die?
Did He devote that sacred head
For such a one as I?

2 Was it for sins that I had done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity! grace unknown!
And love beyond degree!

3 Well might the sun in darkness hide
And shut his glories in
When God, the mighty Maker died
For man the creature's sin.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

4 So might I hide my blushing face
While His dear cross appears
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness
And melt my eyes to tears

5 Dear Saviour, how can I repay
The debt of love I owe?
Lord, take my very self, I pray,
my all I give to you.

Prayer

Hymn: Praise! 414

At the cross of Jesus,
I would take my place,
drawn by such a measure
of redeeming grace.
Fill my heart with sorrow,
lift my eyes to see
Jesus Christ my Saviour,
crucified for me.

2 At the cross of Jesus,
patiently he bore
bitter shame and sorrow,
grief and anguish sore.
Through eternal ages,
I shall never know
what he had to suffer,
why he loved me so.

3 At the cross of Jesus,
even though I be
chief of all the sinners,
there is hope for me.
Judged, condemned and guilty,
I am lost indeed,
but the cross of Jesus
meets my deepest need.

4 At the cross of Jesus,
pardon is complete,
love and justice mingle,
truth and mercy meet.
Though my sins condemn me,
Jesus died instead,
there is full forgiveness
in the blood he shed.

5 At the cross of Jesus,
Liberty you gave,
so I come, dear Saviour,
Glad to be your slave.
Let your love possess me,
so that all may see
what your death accomplished
on the cross for me.

John Eddison

Sermon: John 3:16 – Why Did Jesus Die?

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life” John 3 v 16

Nicodemus: “we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no-one could do the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with Him.” John 3 v 2

1. Jesus died because God loves His world

God loves the world he has made: “For God so loved the world”.

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1).

After He created Adam and Eve, God gave them one simple rule – “you are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.” Genesis 2 v 16-17

But such is the love of God that straight after they sinned and broke God’s law, He told them that He had already had a plan in place to rescue humans from sin

The first reason John 3:16 tells us for Jesus’ death was because God loved the world He created and was prepared to go to the greatest lengths to rescue it.

2. Jesus died because God sent Him to

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son”.

The Father and the Son have existed together for eternity, in perfect love and fellowship.

God’s love is powerful, meaningful, real, genuine, true, costly, extravagant love.

His love for us is so great, that He was willing to make the ultimate sacrifice – He sent His Son to earth, to become like one of His creatures, so that He might die in our place, taking the punishment for our sin.

God takes His Son, with whom He has enjoyed a unique and eternal relationship, and He gives Him up for the salvation of sinful men and women.

To God be the Glory: “the vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.”

Jesus allowed Himself to be crucified, for the sake of His people, so that He could become our substitute – taking our punishment for sin on Himself, so that we might go free.

3. Jesus died so we could have life

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

This promise of eternal life is conditional.

Do you believe in Jesus?

To believe in Jesus means that you have put your personal trust in Him, that you trust Him with your life – both here on earth and after death.

Two ends:

Perishing: Jesus is speaking of divine condemnation, complete and everlasting, which means that a person is cast out from the love of God and dwells only under wrath forevermore.

Eternal life: Jesus died so that He could secure eternal life – in the paradise of heaven, where there is no more suffering or pain or tears – for His people – for all those who believe in Him.

Jesus died so that we might receive this eternal life, as a gift – completely free, paid in full by His death on the cross. He died because God loves this world so much that He was willing to send His Son to be punished instead of His people, so that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but have everlasting life.

Hymn: Praise! 676

To God be the glory, great things He has done;
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth
hear His voice!*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people
rejoice!*

*O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He has
done.*

2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

3 Great things He has taught us, great things He
has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our joy and our wonder, when Jesus we see.

Frances J. van Alstyne (1820-1915)