

GOOD FRIDAY

Pastor Daniel Hahn
April 10, 2020

It rests on the timeline of history like a compelling diamond. Its tragedy summons all sufferers. Its absurdity attracts all cynics. Its hope lures all searchers. History has idolized and despised it, gold-plated and burned it, worn and trashed it. History has done everything but ignore it. How could you ignore such a piece of lumber? Suspended on its beams is the greatest claim in history. A crucified carpenter claiming to be God on earth. Divine. Eternal. The death-slayer. Never has timber been regarded so sacred.
— Max Lucado, *No Wonder They Call Him The Savior*

- *The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.* — John 10:11
- *Greater love has no one than this, that He lay down His life for His friends.* — John 15:13
- *Christ died for our sins.* — 1 Corinthians 15:3
- *Jesus Christ, gave Himself for our sins to rescue us.* — Galatians 1:3 – 4
- *Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us.* — Galatians 3:13

The cross is not simply a lovely example of sacrificial love. Throwing your life away needlessly is not admirable — it is wrong. Jesus' death was something absolutely necessary to rescue us. Why did Jesus have to die in order to forgive us? There was a debt to be paid — God Himself paid it. There was a penalty to be born — God Himself bore it. — Timothy Keller, *The Reason For God*

To Satan it must have seemed like Jesus had no idea what He was doing. He was God the Son; yet He allowed Himself to be handed over to sinful men, who stripped Him, beat Him, and crucified Him. On the cross He was so vulnerable that Satan thought he had the strategic advantage, and he pressed it to the death. But of course this was his fatal mistake, because the whole thing was a ruse. The cross was not a defeat for Jesus but a victory. By making atonement He was able to gain eternal victory over sin, death, and Satan. — Kent Hughes, *Preaching The Word*

He forgave us all our sins, 14 having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. — Colossians 2:13 – 14

God took the record of all your sins that made you a debtor ..., and instead of holding them up in front of your face ... God put them in the palm of His Son's hand and drove a spike through them into the cross. — John Piper, *This Momentary Marriage*

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is My body." Then He took a cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." — Matthew 26:26 – 28