

CP— 3/24/24

Luke 22:47–23:56 — Good Friday

Sermon Outline

Where's the goodness of Good Friday?

1. Good Friday is good because what man meant for evil, God meant for good.

(Genesis 50:20)

- God was in complete control, not man! (Acts 4:27–28). The OT prophecies were fulfilled.
- Jesus was not on trial; man was (and we failed).
- Sinfulness and wickedness of man are displayed (the darkest day in history).
 - Good Friday is good because it's a mirror, showing us our need of a Savior.
- Good Friday proclaims the glory, genius, and grace of God.
 - Good Friday is good because we see God's plan and provision to save sinners.

2. Good Friday is good because Jesus is the substitutionary sacrifice sent from God.

- Genesis 22:13
- It was a custom for the Jews to have a prisoner released on Passover.
- Barabbas was in prison for insurrection and murder. (Luke 23:25)
- They seized Simon of Cyrene to carry Jesus' cross.
 - Simon became a believer, and there is a good chance that he is a source for Luke.
 - Simon had two sons named Alexander and Rufus. (Mark 15:21; Romans 16:13)
 - The church in Antioch that sent Paul on his missionary journeys was started because men from Cyrene went and preached the gospel in Antioch. (Acts 11:20)
 - One elder in Acts 13:1, Simeon, is thought to be of the household/family of Simon.
- Good Friday is good because we see the substitute that God provided for all of us.
- His life was representative, and his death is substitutionary in the place of sinners.
- He Himself became sin so that we could become the righteousness of God in Him.

3. Good Friday is good because justice and mercy met at the cross.

- How can a holy God allow sinful man into His presence?
- God demands perfection and doesn't change His mind
- At the cross, you see the justice of God.
- At the cross, you see the mercy of God.
- It's imaged in the tearing of the veil. (Luke 23:45)
 - Matthew adds that it was torn from top to bottom. (Matthew 27:51)
- The veil represented and enforced separation between the holiness of God and people.
- Only one day a year was one priest allowed behind the veil, on the day of atonement.
- God is still utterly holy and will be for all eternity.
- Good Friday is good because Jesus' atoning death is appropriately and eternally a sufficient, wrath-bearing sacrifice.
- Now, God's justice is satisfied, and men are reconciled to God through Christ's work.
- Now, we can come boldly to God's throne in prayer.
- Now, we can worship God in spirit and truth.

4. **Good Friday is good because the innocent went punished, and the guilty can be forgiven.**
 - The thief on the cross had no merit or righteousness of his own.
 - But paradise was opened up for him because of the work of the Son.
5. **Good Friday is good because it may be the story's climax, but it is not the story's end.**
 - Sunday is coming!
 - Good Friday is good because Sunday came.

Small Group Discussion

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you from the Bible passage and sermon Sunday? What stood out to you? What questions do you have?
2. Who was in control on Good Friday? How do the OT prophecies let us know who was in control? How does Good Friday show us the wickedness of men and the grace of God?
3. What does it mean that Jesus' death is substitutionary? How are we like Barabbas?
4. Discuss how justice and mercy meet at the cross and the implications of that truth. (A few other Scriptures that show this intersection are Psalm 85:8–11, Romans 3:21–26, Romans 5:6–10, 2 Corinthians 5:21, and 1 Peter 2:24.)
5. Would Friday still be good without Sunday? How does Sunday seal the work done on Friday?