

## Introduction – Review

- You are God's daily delight. We found out on our last session that we were bought with a price.

### 1 Corinthians 6:20 (NKJV)

<sup>20</sup> For **you were bought at a price**; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

- The question today is: **What was that price?**
- What did it cost to purchase His delight – you?

### Matthew 13:44 (NKJV)

<sup>44</sup> "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and **sells all that he has and buys that field.**

- The Bible says that Jesus sold everything He had to buy the whole world so that He can get His treasure, the church (or all those that would love Him back, that would receive His love).
- He gave up everything in heaven to come down and then He gave up His own life. He allowed Himself to be brutally tortured and that's what we're going into today.
- **What did Jesus allow to happen to Himself to pay for us?**

### John 10:11 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd **gives His life** for the sheep.

### Ephesians 5:25 (NKJV)

<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and **gave Himself for her.**

- So, in simple terms we could say that what it cost Jesus to get us it was Himself.

## The Cost of Purchase

### Matthew 26:36-44 (NKJV)

<sup>36</sup> Then Jesus came with them to a place called **Gethsemane**, and said to the **disciples (11)**, "Sit here while I go and pray over there."

<sup>37</sup> And He took with Him **Peter** and the **two sons of Zebedee (James and John)**, and He began to be **sorrowful** and **deeply distressed**.

<sup>38</sup> Then He said to them, "**My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death**. Stay here and **watch with Me**."

<sup>39</sup> He went a little farther and **fell on His face**, and prayed, saying, "O My **Father**, **if it is possible**, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, **not as I will, but as You will**."

<sup>40</sup> Then He came to the disciples and found them **sleeping**, and said to Peter, "What! **Could you not watch with Me one hour?**"

<sup>41</sup> Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

<sup>42</sup> Again, **a second time**, He went away and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, **Your will be done**."

<sup>43</sup> And He came and found them **asleep again**, for their eyes were heavy.

<sup>44</sup> So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.

- **v. 36** - "Gethsemane" means "olive press". The word "Garden" in the expression "the Garden of Gethsemane" means "guarded". So, the garden of Gethsemane would translate now into "the guarded place of the olive press". It was guarded usually because growing olive trees was a business which would need protection.
- What is an olive press? There are different types, but one type would look like a big stone hollowed on the interior, in which they would dump the olives and then they would have this other large stone like a wheel roll around and crush these olives. All the juice out of the olives would flow down out of a hole into a vat and there they would allow the separation of the water and oil.
- Another olive press method would be multiple baskets full of olives put on top of each other where the weight of the baskets would crush the olives and allow for the oil to flow.
- I don't think it is a coincidence that Jesus comes this night into this guarded place, a place that evidently had some walls around it, and it was a place of "pressure". As we will continue to read, we will see that that's exactly what happened to Jesus.
- **v. 37** – I should stop at this juncture and tell you something interesting about the Bible that you should always remember: THE BIBLE NEVER EXAGGERATES. An exaggeration is a form of a lie, because when you stretch the truth, now the truth is no longer the truth. It's been stretched, compromised. So, when the Bible uses extreme words like "sorrowful, deeply distressed", that's really how it was.
- **v. 38** – In other words, Jesus is saying: Inside I have such pressure, such sorrow in my heart, that I feel like I'm gonna die. Why would He feel like that? Because not too long from now, there was going to be a mob of people coming to arrest Him, to brutally torture Him until the next morning when He's crucified on a cross and dies with one of the worst forms of execution known to men. Can you imagine if you knew that's gonna happen and anytime now they are going to come and get you?

- He knows this is what's going to happen and this is what He came for, but He's still a human being.
- Many people have this idea that when Jesus was on the cross, it didn't really hurt Him, because He was God. But that's not true at all. He really became a human being. He didn't have rubber hands hanging there on the cross and He wasn't acting pain like in a drama. He was really bleeding and suffering.
- And it's not just a physical pain, but the sins of all world (past, present, and future) were brought to this one place in time and put on this one man at one time. How would that feel like? We would have no idea.
- "Watch with me" – Why did Jesus say that to the disciples? Because He didn't know exactly the moment when the mob would come, even though He was God. This is not a script being played out, this is really happening.
- v. 39 – Jesus collapsed down to His face. HE felt the same emotions that you and I would feel. Why would I want to die, or be tormented, or be tortured? So the first thing that He says to His father is: Let this cup (assignment) pass from me if it's possible.
- Now this is the record of the gospel of Matthew. However, Luke, who was a physician, brings up a detail that the other gospels don't mention:

#### Luke 22:44 (NKJV)

<sup>44</sup> And being in **agony**, He prayed more earnestly. Then **His sweat became like great drops of blood** falling down to the ground.

- **Medical Doctor Explains Gethsemane (Dr C Truman Davis).** The physical passion of Christ began in Gethsemane. Of the many aspects of His initial suffering, the one which is of particular physiological interest is the bloody sweat. Interestingly enough, the physician, St. Luke, is the only evangelist to mention this occurrence.

Every attempt imaginable has been used by modern scholars to explain away the phenomenon of bloody sweat, apparently under the mistaken impression that it simply does not occur. A great deal of effort could be saved by consulting the medical literature. Though very rare, the phenomenon of hematidrosis, or bloody sweat, is well documented. Under great emotional stress, tiny capillaries in the sweat glands can break, thus mixing blood with sweat. This process alone could have produced marked weakness and possible shock.

#### Matthew 26:45-47 (NKJV)

<sup>45</sup> Then He came to His disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners.

<sup>46</sup> Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand."

<sup>47</sup> And while He was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, with a **great multitude** with swords and clubs, came from the chief priests and elders of the people.

- By this time we see that Jesus had been strengthened, He was determined.

#### Matthew 26:57-67 (NKJV)

<sup>57</sup> And those who had laid hold of Jesus led Him away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled.  
<sup>58</sup> But Peter followed Him at a distance to the high priest's courtyard. And he went in and sat with the servants to see the end.  
<sup>59</sup> Now the chief priests, the elders, and all the council sought false testimony against Jesus to put Him to death,  
<sup>60</sup> but found none. Even though many false witnesses came forward, they found none. But at last two false witnesses came forward  
<sup>61</sup> and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.' "  
<sup>62</sup> And the high priest arose and said to Him, "Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?"  
<sup>63</sup> But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, "I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!"  
<sup>64</sup> Jesus said to him, "It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven."  
<sup>65</sup> Then the high priest tore his clothes, saying, "He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we have of witnesses? Look, now you have heard His blasphemy!"  
<sup>66</sup> What do you think?" They answered and said, "He is deserving of death."  
<sup>67</sup> Then they spat in His face and beat Him; and others struck Him with the palms of their hands,

#### Matthew 27:22-26 (NKJV)

<sup>22</sup> Pilate said to them, "What then shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said to him, "Let Him be crucified!"  
<sup>23</sup> Then the governor said, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they cried out all the more, saying, "Let Him be crucified!"  
<sup>24</sup> When Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather that a tumult was rising, he took water and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You see to it."  
<sup>25</sup> And all the people answered and said, "His blood be on us and on our children."  
<sup>26</sup> Then he released Barabbas to them; and when he had **scourged Jesus**, he delivered Him to be crucified.

- How many of you have watched "The Passion of the Christ"? That particular movie does an outstanding job of depicting Roman scourging. Sometimes is called flogging. So what they would do is take a prisoner and tie him to a wiping post and then a soldier, that was trained to do scourging, would take one of the instruments and in most cases the scourging would be done by something called a "cat of nine tails". It was a handle that would have about nine leather straps coming out of it and at the end of those straps there would be sharp objects of bone, metal and glass. And he would take this weapon and he would have different techniques as to how he could punish this victim.
- And by the way, Roman crucifixion had a primary purpose: to let everybody know they should not mess with the Romans. Romans were not allowed to be crucified. In other words, this is what was going to happen to you if you challenged the Romans.
- So this soldier could take this weapon and just scrape it on your back or on the sides so that those sharp objects would tear apart flesh.

#### Matthew 27:27-28 (NKJV)

<sup>27</sup> Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him.

<sup>28</sup> **And they stripped Him** and put a scarlet robe on Him.

- Remember that this person was the Creator, the One who created all the flavors and scents.

#### Matthew 27:29-30 (NKJV)

<sup>29</sup> When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!"

<sup>30</sup> Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head.

- Notice in v. 30 that it doesn't say that one person spat on Him, but they all did in turns.

#### Luke 22:63-65 (NKJV)

<sup>63</sup> Now the men who held Jesus mocked Him and beat Him.

<sup>64</sup> And having blindfolded Him, they struck Him on the face and asked Him, saying, "Prophecy! Who is the one who struck You?"

<sup>65</sup> And many other things they blasphemously spoke against Him.

#### Isaiah 50:6 (NKJV)

<sup>6</sup> I gave My back to those who struck Me, and My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting.

#### Mark 15:25 (NKJV)

<sup>25</sup> Now it was the third hour, **and they crucified Him.**

- That is 9 o'clock in the morning when they crucified Him.
- **Medical Doctor Explains Crucifixion.** The heavy patibulum of the cross was tied across His shoulders. The procession of the condemned Christ, two thieves, and the execution detail of Roman soldiers headed by a centurion began its slow journey along the route which we know today as the Via Dolorosa.

In spite of Jesus' efforts to walk erect, the weight of the heavy wooden beam, together with the shock produced by copious loss of blood, was too much. He stumbled and fell. The rough wood of the beam gouged into the lacerated skin and muscles of the shoulders. He tried to rise, but human muscles had been pushed beyond their endurance. The centurion, anxious to proceed with the crucifixion, selected a stalwart North African onlooker, Simon of Cyrene, to carry the cross. Jesus followed, still bleeding and sweating the cold, clammy sweat of shock. The 650-yard journey from the Fortress Antonia to Golgotha was finally completed. The prisoner was again stripped of His clothing except for a loin cloth which was allowed the Jews.

The crucifixion began. Jesus was offered wine mixed with myrrh, a mild analgesic, pain-relieving mixture. He refused the drink. Simon was ordered to place the patibulum on the ground, and Jesus was quickly thrown backward, with His shoulders against the wood. The legionnaire felt for the depression at the front of the wrist. He drove a heavy, square wrought-iron nail through the wrist and deep into the wood. Quickly, he moved to the other side and repeated the action, being careful not to pull the arms too tightly, but to allow some flexion and movement. The patibulum was then lifted into place at the top of the stipes, and the titulus reading "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews" was nailed into place.

The left foot was pressed backward against the right foot. With both feet extended, toes down, a nail was driven through the arch of each, leaving the knees moderately flexed. The victim was now crucified.

As Jesus slowly sagged down with more weight on the nails in the wrists, excruciating, fiery pain shot along the fingers and up the arms to explode in the brain. The nails in the wrists were putting pressure on the median nerve, large nerve trunks which traverse the mid-wrist and hand. As He pushed himself upward to avoid this stretching torment, He placed His full weight on the nail through His feet. Again there was searing agony as the nail tore through the nerves between the metatarsal bones of this feet.

At this point, another phenomenon occurred. As the arms fatigued, great waves of cramps swept over the muscles, knotting them in deep relentless, throbbing pain. With these cramps came the inability to push Himself upward. Hanging by the arm, the pectoral muscles, the large muscles of the chest, were paralyzed and the intercostal muscles, the small muscles between the ribs, were unable to act. Air could be drawn into the lungs, but could not be exhaled. Jesus fought to raise Himself in order to get even one short breath. Finally, the carbon dioxide level increased in the lungs and in the blood stream, and the cramps partially subsided.

A sponge soaked in posca, the cheap, sour wine that was the staple drink of the Roman legionnaires, was lifted to Jesus' lips. His body was now in extremis, and He could feel the chill of death creeping through His tissues. This realization brought forth His sixth word, possibly little more than a tortured whisper: "It is finished." His mission of atonement had been completed. Finally, He could allow His body to die.

All of this the Bible records with the simple words, "And they crucified Him."

#### **Romans 5:6-8 (NKJV)**

<sup>6</sup> For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

<sup>7</sup> For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die.

<sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

#### **Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV)**

<sup>2</sup> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the **joy** that was set before Him endured the cross, **despising the shame**, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- Many of you might have replaced in your mind the word “shame” with “pain” in v. 2, reading it like “despising the pain”. But He despised the shame, He was embarrassed, He was proposing and kneeling towards us to tell us that He would be privileged to be with us for all eternity.
- Why did He do it? I heard people say that the joy He was looking forward to was to go back and be with the Father again. But no, that wasn't it. He was always with the Father, He didn't have to come down here. He had to endure this to be with us. Can you think of another word for joy? How about delight? HE DID IT FOR YOU, HIS JOY and DELIGHT.
- If there was only one person, He would still do it for that person.
- Ephesians 5:25-32 says that Christ gave His life for His bride – that was the joy that was before Him.

#### Isaiah 53:4-5 (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup> Surely He has borne **our griefs** and carried **our sorrows**; yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.

<sup>5</sup> But He was wounded for **our transgressions**, He was bruised **for our iniquities**; the chastisement **for our peace** was upon Him, and by His stripes **we are healed**.

- He wanted health and healing for US. He didn't HAVE to!
- THIS IS THE POINT OF THIS WHOLE SERIES: Jesus, He REALLY loved us THAT much. He loves you THAT much!!! He is saying to you: I would do anything to forgive you, to save you.
- He loves ME.

## Memory Verses

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