

All the Way to God-forsakenness

Promise: Christ bore the consequences of our sins on our behalf

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg

Zech 9:9-12; Ps 31:9-16; Phil 2:5-11; [Mark 15:1-47](#)

(Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion, 3/28/21)

So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified. — v. 15

Lead In – In a certain African village a young boy brought a gift to his teacher. It was an exquisite sea shell. And the teacher asked, “Where did you find such a beautiful shell?” The little boy responded that he found it and collected it himself. To which the teacher exclaimed, “But it is such a long walk from our village to the sea and beach! You walked all that way?” And the boy proudly and affectionately responded with a smile on his face, “The long walk is a part of the gift.” Indeed! And this morning we will contemplate a part of the greatest gift ever given...

I. Why the Extended Attention to the Passion?

- A. Details and proportion of the Gospel Accounts...
- B. The jump from virgin birth to crucified under...
- C. Liturgical reasoning on it being Palm/Passion Su...

II. The Distance Traveled for the Gift

- A. The distance to the exceptional conception...
- B. The distance to grow in wisdom and stature...
- C. The distance to the cry of dereliction...

III. Appreciating the Cry of Dereliction

- A. Shared property of the Incarnation, the God/Man...
- B. The ultimate consequence of bearing our sins...
- C. Distance to encompass all who have forsaken...

Parting Shot – So this week as we contemplate and celebrate the great acts of our salvation, including both Good Friday and Easter Sunday, we recognize the greatest gift imaginable is the victory over sin, death, and the devil. And a part of that gift, in fact, a large part of the gift is the distance our Lord has traveled to deliver this gift. It involves the distance all the way to *God-forsakenness*! That's what we see on the Cross where He secured our salvation.

“The Gospels are essentially passion narratives with extended introductions.” – Upwards to one third of the Gospels are dedicated to Jesus's final week...

2nd Article of the Creed: “...who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.”

Ze 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

John 15:1-47 ESV

Pilate Delivers Jesus to be Crucified

...This reading is too long to include here, look to insert...

Philippians 2:5-11 ESV

Christ's Example of Humility

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Ph 2:6-who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

Lk 2:52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

Mk 15:34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

2Co 5:19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

1Pe 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

Ga 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree.”

1Ti 1:15 The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.

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