



The Glory of the Grace of God

- ▶ On Good Friday we asked the question, "Why the Cross?"
- ▶ 3 Reasons
 1. Because God is Holy
 2. Because humanity is Sinful
 3. Because the Glory of The Grace of God is seen in the suffering, humiliation and crucifixion of Christ!

The Glory of the Grace of God

- ▶ In conceiving a universe in which to display the glory of His grace, God did not choose a plan B. Good Friday was the moment for which everything in the universe was planned. There could be no greater display of the glory of the grace of God than what happened at Calvary. Everything leading to it and everything flowing from it is explained by it, including all the suffering in the world.
- ▶ Today, it is Because of the Cross! Lk.23:50-24:12

Because of The Cross

- ▶ In the fullness of time God sent His Son into the world to suffer in the place of sinners. Every dimension of His saving work was accomplished by suffering. In the life and death of Jesus Christ, suffering finds its ultimate purpose and ultimate explanation: suffering exists so that Christ might display the greatness of the glory of the grace of God by suffering in Himself to overcome our suffering.
- ▶ Everything that Christ accomplished for us as sinners, He accomplished by suffering. Everything that we will ever enjoy will come to us because of His suffering.

Because of The Cross ...

1. Christ absorbed the wrath of God on our behalf and He did it by suffering on the cross.
 - ▶ Gal.3:13 – Christ redeemed us from the curse by becoming a curse for us ...
2. Christ bore our sins and purchased forgiveness and He did it by suffering and dying on the cross
 - ▶ 1 Pet.2:24 – He bore our sins in his body ...
 - ▶ Isa.53:5 – He was wounded, crushed for our sin

Because of The Cross ...

3. Christ provided a perfect righteousness for us that becomes ours in Him and He did it by suffering
 - ▶ Rom.5:19 cf. Phil.2:7-8
4. Christ defeated death and He did it by suffering and dying on the cross then rising again
 - ▶ 1Cor.15:55-57 – Where o death is your victory...
 - ▶ Heb.2:14-15 – that through death He might destroy him who has the power of death ...

Because of The Cross ...

5. He disarmed Satan – and He did it by suffering
 - ▶ Col.2:14-15 – The record of our debts were nailed to the cross, disarming Satan. The only weapon Satan has that can damn us to hell is unforgiven sin. He was disarmed at the cross. This is the glory of grace and it could only come by suffering
6. Christ became our advocate – by rising again
 - ▶ Rom.8:31-34 – Christ is at the right hand of God interceding for us!

Because of The Cross ...

7. Christ purchased perfect final healing through the cross
 - ▶ Isa.53:5 – The chastisement brought us peace ...
 - ▶ Rev.7:17 – God will wipe away every tear ...
8. Christ will bring us to God, and do it by suffering
 - ▶ 1 Pet.3:18 – Christ suffered to bring us to God
 - ▶ The ultimate achievement of the cross is not freedom from sickness but fellowship with God. This is what we were made for: seeing and savoring and showing the glory of God. This is the glory of grace, and it could only come by the Cross and Jesus' Resurrection.

The Cross Is the Ultimate In Grace

- ▶ The ultimate purpose of the universe is to display the greatness of the glory of the grace of God. The highest, clearest, surest display of that glory is in the suffering of the best Person in the universe for millions of undeserving sinners. Therefore, the ultimate reason that suffering exists in the universe is so that Christ might display the greatness of the glory of the grace of God by suffering in Himself to overcome our suffering and thereby bring about the praise of the glory of the grace of God.