The Gospel of Jesus Chrsit (6)

The Promised Gospel (5)

John 19:28-30

The Death on the Cross

4. Crucified Among Criminals

- Prophesied: "For he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors." (Isaiah 53:12)
- Fulfilled: "They crucified two rebels with him, one on his right and one on his left." (Mark 15:27)

The Message & Grace:

- Jesus did not endure the cross in isolation; He hung between two robbers. Though completely holy, sinless, and guiltless, He was counted among lawbreakers and executed as a common criminal.
- He voluntarily stood in the position of sinners to endure the pain, condemnation, and death we deserved. Through His substitutionary sacrifice, we are declared righteous before God and granted eternal life in place of the wages of sin (2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 2:22–24).

The Death on the Cross

5. Interceding for the Transgressors

- Prophesied: "For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors." (Isaiah 53:12)
- Fulfilled: "Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.’" (Luke 23:33–34)

The Message & Grace:

- Surrounded by hostile crowds, mocking religious leaders, brutal Roman soldiers, and taunting criminals, Jesus harbored no hatred, malice, or desire for retaliation.
- In the midst of excruciating physical suffering, He offered intercessory prayer for those actively mocking and executing Him. This fulfilled Isaiah’s prophecy that the Messiah would intercede for transgressors, revealing the unfathomable depth of His love and mercy.

The Death on the Cross

6. Severe Thirst

- Prophesied: "I am poured out like water... my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth." (Psalm 22:14–15)
- Fulfilled: "Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, 'I am thirsty.'" (John 19:28)

The Message & Grace:

- Severe blood loss from brutal flogging, the crown of thorns, and nails driven through His hands and feet caused extreme, agonizing dehydration.
- Throughout His trial and crucifixion, Jesus remained largely silent, enduring physical agony without complaint. Yet, He chose to speak out about His thirst specifically "that the Scripture would be fulfilled." He ensured that every single prophetic detail recorded in the Psalms concerning the Messiah's suffering was publicly demonstrated and fulfilled.

The Death on the Cross

7. Gall and Vinegar

- Prophesied: "They put gall in my food and gave me vinegar for my thirst." (Psalm 69:21)
- Fulfilled:
  a. "There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it." (Matthew 27:34)
  b. "A jar full of wine vinegar was there... When he had received the drink, Jesus said, 'It is finished.'" (John 19:29–30)

The Message & Grace:

- Refusal of Gall: At the onset of crucifixion, soldiers offered wine mixed with gall as a narcotic painkiller. Jesus refused it to endure the full weight of physical and spiritual suffering with an unclouded mind.
- Acceptance of Vinegar: Hours later, as death neared, He drank the offered wine vinegar, fulfilling Psalm 69:21 down to the exact detail. He declared, "It is finished" completing our redemption once and for all.

The Death on the Cross

8. The Ultimate Agony—Forsaken by God

- Prophesied: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Psalm 22:1)
- Fulfilled: "About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, ‘Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?’ (which means ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’)." (Matthew 27:46)

The Message & Grace:

- Physical & Emotional Agony: Jesus endured horrific execution, betrayal by Judas, abandonment by His disciples, and relentless mocking from the crowds.
- Spiritual Suffering: The greatest pain lay in spiritual separation. Bearing the full guilt, curse, and wrath of the world's sin required an inevitable rupture in His eternal, unbroken fellowship with the Father.
- Sonship Laid Aside: Rather than calling out "My Father," He cried "My God, my God," laying aside His sonship so that we might be adopted and given the privilege to call God "Abba, Father."

The Death on the Cross

9. Entrusting His Spirit to God

- Prophesied: "Into your hands I commit my spirit." (Psalm 31:5)
- Fulfilled: "Jesus called out with a loud voice, ‘Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.’ When he had said this, he breathed his last." (Luke 23:46)

The Message

- Even in His very last breath on the cross, Jesus quoted Old Testament Scripture.
- By consciously committing His spirit into the Father's hands, Jesus made it clear that His death was no accidental tragic event or human defeat, but a deliberate act following the sovereign plan and saving will of God.
- From the moment He took on human flesh until the moment He breathed His last, Jesus held a single-minded focus: to fulfill the Word of God for our salvation

The Death on the Cross

10. Not a Single Bone Broken, Pierced by a Spear

Prophesied:

- "He protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken." (Psalm 34:20)
- "They will look on me, the one they have pierced." (Zechariah 12:10)

Fulfilled:

- "The soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man... But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs." (John 19:32–33)
- "Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water." (John 19:34)

The Death on the Cross

Summary—Fulfillment of the Sacred Writings

The Comprehensive Fulfillment:

- From being sentenced under Pontius Pilate, flogged, nailed to the cross, and having His garments gambled for...
- To being crucified among criminals, praying for His executioners, enduring severe thirst, receiving vinegar, crying out under divine separation, committing His spirit, and having His side pierced without a broken bone...
- Every single stage of His crucifixion was written centuries earlier in the Old Testament.

The Risen Christ's Declaration:

- After His resurrection, Jesus confirmed to His disciples: "Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." (Luke 24:44)

The Death on the Cross

Conclusion—The Absolute Sovereignty of Salvation

God's Sovereign Plan:

- From the moment sin entered the world, God established a plan to save humanity. Jesus' cross proves God's unsearchable wisdom, His unfathomable love and grace, and His absolute sovereignty in redemption.

Our Unwavering Faith & Response:

- Everything Jesus accomplished on the cross was done strictly according to Scripture for our redemption.
- Only through faith in Jesus Christ alone can we receive the forgiveness of sins, be declared righteous, and become true children of God.

Reflection Questions

1. Describe the events of Jesus' crucifixion covered in today's sermon and how they were prophesied in the Old Testament. Which of these prophetic fulfillments stood out to you as the most surprising?

2. Through all the suffering Jesus endured on the cross, what did you come to realize regarding His love and grace, as well as God's righteousness and justice?

What attribute of God did you discover through the fact that every detail of the crucifixion was already prophesied in the Old Testament?

Reflection Questions

3. Do you believe that Jesus' cross was meant to atone for the sins of the whole world, and that it served as the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies? If you do, what led you to hold this belief? If not, what makes you hesitate to believe it?

4. Describe the physical, emotional, and spiritual suffering Jesus endured on the cross. How does it move your heart to realize that because Jesus laid aside the intimacy and rights He enjoyed as God's Son to be forsaken by God, you are now able to call God "Abba, Father"? How are you currently walking in and enjoying this privilege of sonship?

Memory Verses

“God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” (2 Cor. 5:21) (1)

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.” (1 Peter 2:24) (1)

“This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.’” (Luke 24:44) (1)