

ORDER FOR THE CORPORATE WORSHIP OF GOD
A Service of Celebration and Covenantal Renewal

MINISTRY OF THE WORD—

Pastors Scott Roley & Scotty Smith

The Message of the Cross: Love So Amazing, So Divine, Pt. 2
What did Jesus accomplish through his death upon the cross?

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM—9:00 AM

Kimberly Beladi

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM—10:45 AM

Ellie Christiansen Kuhn
child of Ross & Kristen Kuhn

INVOCATION

—Elder Johnny Clark

CALL TO WORSHIP

Philippians 2:8-11 (NIV)

⁸And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to death
even death on a cross!

⁹Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰that 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.

WORSHIP THROUGH SONG

Lyric sheets of today's music can be obtained from the ushers upon request

PASTORAL PRAYER

Colossians 2:13-15 - *When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, 14 having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. 15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.*

I. The Cross Frees Us from the Consequences of our Sin

Through the substitutionary death of Jesus we receive...

- The forgiveness of **all** our sins - vs.13, "*He forgave us all our sins*"
- The elimination of **all** our guilt - vs.14a, "*having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us*"
- The removal of **all** future condemnation - vs.14b, "*he took it away, nailing it to the cross*"

"The written code, with its regulations, that was against us can hardly be a reference to the law in itself, since Paul regarded it as 'holy, righteous and good' (Rom 7:12); it must rather refer to the broken law, which on that account was 'against us and stood opposed to us' with its judgment. The word Paul uses for this 'written code' is *cheiographon*, which was 'a hand-written document', specifically a certificate of indebtedness, 'a bond' or a 'signed confession of indebtedness, which stood as a perpetual witness against us'. The apostle then employs three verbs to describe how God has dealt with our debts. He 'cancelled' the bond by 'wiping' it clean and then 'took it away, nailing it to the cross'. Jeremias thinks the allusion is to the *titulus*, the tablet fixed over a crucified person's head on which his crimes were written, and that on Jesus' *titulus* it was our sins, not his, which were inscribed. In any case, God frees us from our bankruptcy only by paying our debts on Christ's cross. More than that, He has 'not only cancelled the debt, but also destroyed the document on which it was recorded'." (John Stott, *The Cross of Christ*)

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MINISTRY OF THE WORD, PART 2

II. The Cross Frees Us, and the Cosmos, from the Power and Presence of Evil

Through his death on the cross, Jesus has secured...

- The full defeat of **all** the powers of darkness - vs.15a – *“having disarmed the principalities and powers”*
- The public humiliation of **all** the forces of evil - vs.15b – *“he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross”*

“When and where were the defeated enemies of God publically humiliated? It was before the holy angles present at Christ’s death. They witnessed the triumph of the cross as Satan’s empire received a blow from which there was no recovery. There God displayed his justice and his love to the irreparable ruin, dismay, and confusion of satanic powers.” (Jerry Bridges, *The Great Exchange*)

SONG OF REFLECTION

How Long

Verse 1

We have sung our songs of vict'ry
We have prayed to You for rain
We have cried for Your compassion
To renew the land again
Now we're standing in Your presence
More hungry than before
Now we're on Your steps of mercy
And we're knocking at Your door

Chorus 1

How long before You drench the barren land
How long before we see Your righteous hand
How long before Your name is lifted high
How long before the weeping turns to songs of joy

Verse 2

Lord we know Your heart is broken
By the evil that You see
And You've stayed Your hand of judgment
For You plan to set men free
But the land is still in darkness
And we've fled from what is right
We have failed the silent children
Who will never see the light

Chorus 1

Verse 3

But I know a day is coming
When the deaf will hear His voice
When the blind will see their Saviour
And the lame will leap for joy
When the widow finds a husband
Who will always love His bride
And the orphan finds a Father
Who will never leave her side

Chorus 2

How long before Your glory lights the skies
How long before Your radiance lifts our eyes
How long before Your fragrance fills the air
How long before the earth resounds with songs of joy

CCLI#48841. 1997 Thankyou Music. Stuart Townend.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD, PART 3

III. For whom did Jesus give himself upon the cross?

¹³ *“When you were **dead** in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ”*

- People who are absolutely helpless to save themselves
- People who are ready to admit their helplessness and trust Jesus for eternal life

SONG OF RESPONSE

RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS—

Howard Bartlett	Zac Hood	Brooks Rutledge
Elizabeth Bartlett	Chuck Ingram	Jennifer Rutledge
Kimberly Beladi	Mandy Ingram	Luke Sloan
Elizabeth Bledsøe	Frank Jandeka	Michelle Sloan
Michael Bledsøe	Jenny Jandeka	Shari Stanley
Joyce Bram	Kirk Johnson	Jill Underwood
Connie Doane	Rebecca Johnson	Keith Underwood
James Doane	Hailey Kirk	Jane Vantrease
Christi Faragalli	Margaret Kirk	Larry Vantrease
Victor Faragalli	Cherry MacPherson	Rob Wilbourne
Aaron Fortner		Wendy Wilson
Kelly Fortner		

BENEDICTION



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION:

1. What had the most impact on you today from our time in God's Word and worship? What was encouraging, convicting, and/or calling for more clarification?
2. Talk about the personal benefits we receive through the work of Jesus on the cross, as listed in this morning's outline. Is this too good to be true? What push back or questions do you have about the 3 things Paul lists in Colossians 2:13-14.
3. Personally, what comfort do you receive as you ponder Paul's affirmation that the death of Jesus has secured the defeat and elimination of all evil? How did the song we sang in response to this affirmation, "How Long?", give voice to the longing of your heart? In particular, what expressions of darkness and evil do you long to see eradicated? How does the gospel propel us to live and love as warriors of grace and restoration in these dark places?
4. Close with a good season of prayer for one another.

FOR NEXT WEEK: "HOW DOES THE CROSS CHANGE ME?"
GALATIANS 2:19-21; 6:14