

Let's Visit

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At Calvary

In John 12:32, we have these words of Jesus recorded for us, "*And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.*" The "if" in this passage is not to be taken as expressive of doubt. In the very next verse we read, "*this he said, signifying what death he should die.*" At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus knew he would be crucified. The crucifixion was near when Jesus spoke those words. The shadow of the cross was already casting its gloom upon the life of Jesus.

The cross suggests for us the depths of sin. We have all seen the deep, ugly and ghastly wounds that sin has made. We have all seen lives and families ruined by sin. Through all the ages, sin has been the most cruel breaker of hearts.

Sin brought havoc into our world. It was sin that crucified Jesus. It was there, at the cross that sin struck its most treacherous blow. It was on the cross that the innocent died for the guilty, the perfect died for the imperfect and the pure agonized for the impure. At the cross, we see sin at its absolute worst. True enough, we sometimes look at sin and see its alluring nature. However, God points to the cross and says look at sin. Here is sin in its true light. Here is what sin will do.

Yet, while the cross suggests the depths of sin, it also pictures the breadth and mercy and height of God's love. "*God so loved*" is what the "Golden Texas" says in John 3:16. At the cross, mercy became universal in its application. The law had been given only to a single race of people. The cross made God's mercy for all men. John would write, "herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent His son into the world to be a propitiation for our sin."

The attraction of the cross was and is Jesus Christ. Jesus ws attractive in his life. Men left their occupations for Jesus. Matthew and Zacchaeus both gave up a lucrative occupation as tax collectors to follow Jesus. Peter and Andrew left their father and their nets and followed Jesus. Men were willing to leave the strongest ties of nature to follow the Lord. Yet, there were some, though attracted to him, who refused to follow him. There was that wealthy young man who came running to Jesus asking what he must do to inherit eternal life. When Jesus told him to go and sell all that he had, give the money to the poor and come follow Jesus he went away sorrowful.

Just think of the things that made Jesus attractive. His manhood made him attractive. His sympathetic nature made Him attractive. People told him their troubles, he listened and helped. The woman caught in adultery found Jesus to be sympathetic. The multitude he had compassion on and fed in Matthew 15 found Jesus to be sympathetic.

We are told about the cross on the pages of the New Testament and we are also told about the cross in song. Dr. R. A. Torrey was a well known preacher of another era. He served as president of Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. One day he received a letter from a distressed father. The man

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In Search Of The Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry
KSLA 12 – Shreveport -7:30 a.m. Sunday
DISH channel 239-6:00 a.m. Sunday
DIRECT TV channel 307 -6:00 a.m. Sunday

Gathered Here and There



Today's Sermon

“The Perfect Father”

Our text comes from Luke chapter 15. Jesus tells us the story there of a perfect father of a wayward son. The father in the story represents God. It is the familiar story of the Prodigal son.

FOR THE PANTRY....

Peanut Butter

At Calvary – continued from page 1

had a prodigal son named Bill. The young man was always breaking his fathers' heart. Imagine that, an unruly "preacher's kid". The man wanted Dr. Torrey to let his son enroll at Moody.

Dr. Torrey told the man that he certainly sympathized with him. He could not however let the boy enroll at Moody. Moody was a Bible Institute, not a reformatory. The man wrote back doubling his entreaties. Finally Dr. Torrey agreed. However, the boy had to meet with him daily and he also had to abide by the rules.

At first, the arrangement did not go well. Actually, Dr. Torrey thought the experiment was hopeless. The boy had serious problems. He seemed torn apart by turbulence. But, the boy did keep the rules. Day by day he vented his frustrations to Dr. Torrey. It turned out he was attentive to Dr. Torrey's answers.

Later, William R. Newell was a beloved professor at Moody. In the late 1800's (1895) he began thinking about his life. He wanted to put what God meant into verse form. The idea rolled around in the back of his mind for several weeks. One day, on the way to lecture, the lines came to him. He quickly ducked into an empty classroom.

He jotted down the words on the back of an envelope. Hurrying to class he met Dr. Daniel Towner. Dr. Towner was director of music at the institute. He handed the lines he had written to Dr. Towner. He suggested they could use a good melody. When Dr. Newell finished his lecture, the tune was ready.

Dr. Towner told him he was taken with the poem he had written. He felt it could be the best song either would ever write.

Yet, Dr. William R. Newell felt had he not gone through his trouble years, he might never have fully understood the importance of Calvary.

You might find the lines of his poem familiar:

*"Years I spent in vanity and pride,
Caring not my Lord was crucified,
Knowing not it was for me He died
On Calvary.*

*By God's word at last my sin I learned,
Then I trembled at the law I'd spurned
Till my guilty soul imploring turned
To Calvary.*

*Mercy there was great, and grace was free;
Pardon there was multiplied to me.
There my burdened soul found liberty
At Calvary*

It's song number 53 in our book.

tp

On The Lighter Side....



WE'VE ALREADY HEARD THIS ONE

Miscellaneous



September 12, 2021

Invite your family and friends
and plan to be here!

* * * * *

Stop being
afraid of
what could
go wrong
and start
being
excited
about what
could go
right!

*Every time I think of how humble I am,
I feel so proud.*

Gossip: Ear pollution.



Those To Remember In Prayer

Jerry Pate is scheduled for surgery
July 23 in Houston.

Melvin Williams had a heart procedure on
Tuesday and is making good progress.

THOSE WITH ONGOING NEEDS:

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Roxie Bostick, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden,
Sue Hagler, Alice Hall, Ted and Joyce Holt, Betty Miller,
Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Melvin Williams

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Mitchell Anthony (LaResa Livingston's brother)
Donna Boullion (Ted and Joyce Holt's niece) **Gil Boullion**
(Ted and Joyce Holt's nephew) back surgery **Cody Butler**
(Debra Pate's grandson) **Peytin Cook** (Betty Miller's great-
granddaughter) **Gracie Elam** (6 month old baby recovering from
heart surgery) **Keeth Fontenot** (Debra Pate's son) undergoing
tests for suspicious knot on his neck **Dalton Hendrix** (Joyce
Holt's great-great nephew) **Laurie King** (Co-worker of Mike
O'brien,) cancer **Liam Martinez** (11 months old in Childrens
Medical Center) **Lamar McCormick** (friend of Sarah Fletcher,
multiple health issues) **Calvin Smith** (Debra Pate's uncle)
heart and blood pressure issues; **Jared and Natalie Tate**
(Mike and Roxie's son and daughter-in-law) **Pat Tate** (Jana
O'Brien's mother) **Jo Windham** (Betty Miller's sister-in-
law)cancer.

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Amanda Bradshaw, Leland Bradshaw, Michele Bradshaw
and Lucas Tate

If you want someone added to the prayer list, please fill
out a card and put it in the offering plate.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

9:45 a.m.

"Paul's Prison Epistles - Colossians"

Mid-Week Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening

"The One Word Bible Study"

Please come and join us in these
weekly activities.



Across The Preacher's Desk

Faith is a common denominator in all of our lives. We daily express faith in something. In fact, we cannot live a single day without exercising faith. To be sure, we have faith in the physical world.

When you woke up and went into the bathroom this morning, you flipped a switch and you had faith the light would come on. When you get in your car, you have faith that it will start. When you mail a letter, you have faith the postal system will get it to the right address. When you go to the pharmacy, you have faith that the pharmacist will give you the right drugs. When you get in an elevator in a high rise building, you have faith in the low bidder on the construction project.

In his first epistle, John writes of victory in overcoming the world. The world to which John refers are those things which are in the world. John writes in I John 5:4-5, "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world; and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God."

Our faith must be a faith that leads us to live Jesus' kind of live, His way. Jesus said, "Not every one that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 7:21)

Faith in Jesus that leads to victory must come from the Word of God. We must spend time letting God speak to us through His word and speaking to God through prayer. There can be victory in overcoming the world. This victory is the victory of faith.

it's something to think about....lbp

**Commitment
Builds
Great
Churches!**