

Prayer:

Slide # 1

Theme: *Christ the King*

Outline:

- Chps. 1-2 The Advent of the King. (Proving His LEGAL right to the throne by His genealogy.)
- Chp. 3 The Forerunner of the King and the King’s baptism.
- Chp. 4 The Test of the King. (Proving His MORAL right to the throne by not yielding to temptation; and exhibiting His kingdom resume.)
- Chps. 5-7 The Pronouncements of the King. (Proving His JUDICIAL right to the throne as seen in the wisdom of His kingdom teaching.)
- Chps. 8-10 The Power of the King. (Proving His PROPHETICAL right to the throne by fulfilling prophecy.)
- Chps. 11-12 The Rejection of the King.
- Chp. 13 The Parables of the King.
- Chps. 14-16 The Revelations of the King.
- Chps. 17-20 The Instructions of the King.
- Chps. 21-23 Formal Rejection of the King.
- Chps. 24-25 The Predictions of the King.
- Chps. 26-27 The Passion of the King.**
- Chp. 28 The Resurrection of the King.

Matthew 27 presents the record of the death and burial of Christ. Here we find Christ on trial. We find that there were 3 religious trials followed by 3 civil trials in which the Jews pushed for the death penalty. Finally, Pilate gave in to their demands and gave the order for Christ to be crucified.

The activity surrounding the cross was essentially that of MOCKERY. Pilate mocked Jesus by putting a sign over His cross “This is Jesus the King of the Jews”. Those passing by blasphemed Him challenging Him if He was the Son of God to come down from the cross. The chief priests, scribes, and elders were all mocking, saying if He is the King of Israel let Him come down from the cross and we will believe in Him. They mocked His trust in God saying in effect that if truly was the Son of God – then God would deliver Him. And even the robbers who were crucified with Him also reviled Him (although one of them later repented). (Mt. 27:35-44)

Christ was on the cross for 6 hours – from 9 AM in the morning until 3 PM in the afternoon. The first 3 hours it was light and the emphasis is on the rejection of and mockery of men. For the last three hours, darkness enveloped the land and the emphasis is on God’s wrath being poured out on Jesus as the One Who was judged for the sins of the world.

Our study day involves the last 3 hours of Christ on the cross where the experience of the cross comes to a climax and conclusion (cf. Mt. 27:45-50; Mk. 15:33-37; Lk. 23:44-46; Jn. 19:25-30).

Matthew 27:45–50 (NKJV)

45 Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was darkness over all the land.

The Jews calculated the day differently than did the Romans. Matthew, Mark, and Luke use the Jewish time calculations. And for the Jews the Daylight hours were measured from 6 AM to 6 PM – so the sixth hour was NOON and the ninth hour was 3 PM in the afternoon.

Mark 15:25 indicates that it was at the 3rd hour (9 AM) that they crucified Jesus. So the sixth hour was NOON and Jesus had at this point been on the cross for 3 hours. It was DARK over all the land from noon until 3 PM in the afternoon at which point Jesus gave up His spirit and died.

The darkness spoken of here was supernaturally imposed. Passover was always a full moon – never a time of a solar eclipse. So this darkness was totally a God-thing.

Darkness in the Bible is often associated with God’s judgment (cf. Isa. 13:10-11; Joel 2:2, 31; Amos 5:20; Zeph. 1:14-15).

Slide # 2

Exodus 10:22 (NKJV)

22 So Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven, and there was thick **darkness** in all the land of Egypt three days.

Isaiah 5:30 (NKJV)

30 In that day they will roar against them Like the roaring of the sea. And if one looks to the land, Behold, **darkness** and sorrow; And the light is **darkened** by the clouds.

The Bible speaks of an especially bad category of demons who are held in chains of darkness (2 Pet. 2:4; Jude 6). Jesus repeatedly spoke of divine judgment ultimately in terms of “outer darkness” (cf. Matt. 8:12; 22:13; 25:30).

This darkness at the cross in effect pictured God turning His back upon the Son Who became sin for us (2 Cor. 5:21). Hab. 1:13 says that God cannot look upon sin – in the sense that He can have no fellowship with it. This period of darkness portrays Jesus being the sin offering for the world – the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world (Jn. 1:29).

Slide # 3

Isaiah 53:6 (NKJV)

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; **And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.**

The bystanders naturally interpreted the darkness as God’s judgment (Am. 8:9). While they likely thought the judgment was against Jesus (as if He were a heretic), in light of His later resurrection [believers] came to see the darkness as judgment against the sin that Jesus became on our behalf (2 Co. 5:21). - **HCSB**

When it says there was darkness over all the land there is discussion over whether this was just locally or whether it was universal over all the earth. The word land (Gk. ge) can be understood either way. God is sovereign and He could supernaturally make the darkness either local or universal.

Extrabiblical literature would suggest that it was worldwide. One Roman historian wrote, “the day turned into dark night, so that the stars of heaven were seen; and there was an earthquake.”

It would seem that God with this darkness was making a universal statement that at the cross He was judging sin.

Slide # 4

Isaiah 53:10 (NKJV)

10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When **You make His soul an offering for sin**, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.

46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”

It seems that “Eli, Eli” was probably spoken in Hebrew and then “lama sabachthani” was Aramaic. This is a quote from Psalm 22:1.

Slide # 5

Psalm 22:1 (NKJV)

1 My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning?

What David felt like in his experience was supremely experienced by Jesus at the cross. Psalm 22 is commonly called the crucifixion Psalm as it so often connects with and portrays Christ’s experience on the cross.

This was not an intellectual question because Christ knew exactly what was happening and WHY (cf. Mt. 16:21; 20:18-19, 28). This was a human expression of feeling abandoned and estranged from God the Father. It was a human cry of anguish and despair.

To “forsake” (Gk. egkatelipes) means to abandon, to desert, or leave behind. There is great mystery here that no one can comprehend: “God forsaken of God? Who can understand it?” (Luther)

This was the worst part of the cross-experience. Jesus had forever always known only the closest of intimate fellowship with the Father. But now as He became SIN for us, and the Father could not be in fellowship with that reality. Here Jesus had to go all alone. This was when God the Father made “His soul an offering for sin”. As Galatians 3:13 says this is when Christ became “a curse for us”. This is the cry of HOLY one experiencing the curse of sin.

Jesus’ torment, despite his anticipations of it in Gethsemane, was surely inconceivable in advance. – **ESV Study Bible**

The pain was absolutely unbearable. In fact, it was literally beyond words to describe; they had to invent a new word: *excruciating*. Literally, excruciating means “out of the cross.”

– **Alexander Metherell, M.D., Ph.D.**

This was the black night of the soul that is HELL! Jesus in effect took our hell on the cross! Hell is separation from God! The wages of sin is death and death means separation (Rom. 6:23). When we die physically our soul is separated from our body, but eternal/spiritual death will be eternal separation from God in the lake of fire. To die in our sin is ultimately HELL – eternal separation from God.

This is the equivalent of what Jesus suffered and experienced on the cross. He took our hell- the separation from God that we deserve!

We have violated infinite justice and we being finite beings owe an infinite debt! We as finite beings could never pay the debt. God could because He is infinite, but it wouldn't be just because He is not a member of our race.

So that's why God became a man through the virgin birth. God and man met together in one. Jesus never ceased to be God and He will never cease to be man. He's the one and only God-Man!

Because of Who He is as the God-Man He could pay the infinite debt we could never pay. That's the message of the gospel.

– Edited from Dave Hunt

Note that in this experience of becoming sin Jesus addressed the Father as "God" without calling Him "Father". This is the only place in the Synoptic Gospels where that is the case.

As taking the place of the sinner, in that condition, He was treated as a sinner (although He Himself was without any personal sin). And sinners don't know God as their Father. Paul describes sinners as "having no hope and without God in the world" (Eph. 2:12); and again as those who are "alienated from the life of God" (Eph. 4:18). The cry of Christ here in Matthew 27:46 is reflective of Him being in the position of the sinner.

The Father forsook the Son because the Son took upon Himself "our transgressions,...our iniquities" (Isa. 53:5). Jesus "was delivered up because of our transgression" (Rom. 4:25) and "died for our sins according to the Scriptures" (1 Cor. 15:3). He "who knew no sin [became] sin on our behalf" (2 Cor. 5:21) and became "a curse for us" (Gal. 3:13). "He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross" (1 Pet. 2:24), "died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust" (1 Pet. 3:18), and became "the propitiation for our sins" (1 Jn. 4:10).

– John MacArthur

In this cry the horror of the world's sin and the cost of our salvation are revealed. -**D.A. Carson**

The experience of hell is to be completely God-forsaken. It is to be all alone in your misery forever separated from God. People in their depraved arrogance and ignorance talk about wanting to go to hell so they can party with their buddies. This just in – there is no party in hell! They will all be together in the experience of God-forsaken isolation with no way out.

The abandoning was not a splitting of the Person of God but was the segregation of the holy from the sinful to the degree that the Son could not sense the presence of and communion with the other Members of the Godhead. ...

God neither broke off His essential being from the Son nor stopped loving Him: but the Father did turn His holiness away from participating in the Son's human experience at this time of sin-bearing. – **John MacArthur**

At the same time, we cannot say that the separation between the Father and the Son at the cross was complete. Paul made this clear in [2 Corinthians 5:19](#): *God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself* at the cross. – **David Guzik**

How wonderful is this: Because the Son was forsaken by the Father we as believers will never be forsaken by God. Jesus took our hell of separation for us so that we will NEVER experience it!

Slide # 6

Psalm 23:4 (NKJV)

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; **For You are with me**; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Matthew 28:20 (NKJV)

20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, **I am with you always**, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Hebrews 13:5 (NKJV)

5 Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, **"I will never leave you nor forsake you."**

Slide # 7**Romans 8:38–39 (NKJV)**

38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,
39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, **shall be able to separate us from the love of God** which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

47 Some of those who stood there, when they heard that, said, “This Man is calling for Elijah!”

“Eli, Eli” sort of sounds like “Elijah” so when Jesus quoted from Psalm 22:1 some thought He was calling for Elijah.

48 Immediately one of them ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and offered it to Him to drink.

There is some discussion over whether this was more mockery or an act of mercy. Possibly the person’s intention was to help Christ clear His throat so that He could speak more distinctly and clearly because they were trying to understand what He was saying.

It would seem that what is happening here corresponds with John 19:28-29 where Christ said, “*I thirst*”. The sour wine in view here is not to be confused with the mixture of wine and gall offered earlier as seen in verse 34.

Perhaps here we have another allusion to Psalm 69:21...

Slide # 8**Psalm 69:21 (NKJV)**

21 They also gave me **gall** for my food, And for my thirst they gave me **vinegar [sour wine – ESV] to drink**.

49 The rest said, “Let Him alone; let us see if Elijah will come to save Him.”

Elijah in the OT had a ministry that was uniquely accompanied with great miracles. In 2 Kings 1 when king Ahaziah sent 50 men to bring in Elijah he called down fire which consumed them all. When another delegation of 50 men came the same thing happened.

The third commander of the third delegation was not so dumb. He didn't come making any orders but rather fell down on his knees and pleaded for his life. So perhaps they were thinking that such an appearance by Elijah would result in fire from heaven burning up the enemies of Christ and Him being delivered.

The Jews had long been waiting for Elijah to come and part of the Messianic fervor of the day was that Elijah was to come on the scene before the Messiah. If Jesus was the true Messiah – where was Elijah?

Slide # 9

Malachi 4:5 (NKJV)

5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.

Again, the Jews believed (correctly) that before Messiah can come Elijah must come first. To this day most Jews do not believe that Jesus was the true Messiah so they are still waiting for Messiah to come.

And to this day the Jews are still waiting for Elijah to come. At Passover they set an empty chair for him, and then during the meal someone will go and see if he is at the door.

Slide # 10



Well, YES he actually is, but it will be in the Day of the Lord right after the rapture of the Church. The Jews are still expecting Elijah to come before the Messiah comes. And in this they are right. They just don't understand that "Elijah" is coming in reference to Christ's SECOND Coming!

John the Baptist was a type of Elijah who came in the power and spirit of Elijah (Lk. 1:17; Matt. 11:14; Mk. 9:13) but he was not Elijah (Jn. 1:21). As it turns out Messiah must have a forerunner Who prepares the way before Him. John the Baptist was this forerunner at Christ's first coming (Isa. 40:4-5) and Elijah will be this forerunner at His Second Coming (Mal. 4:5-6).

Slide # 11

Matthew 17:11 (NKJV)

11 Jesus answered and said to them, "Indeed, Elijah is coming first and will restore all things.

Slide # 12**Malachi 4:5–6 (NKJV)**

5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.

6 And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.”

Where John the Baptist failed (no fault of his) to bring the people to repentance, Elijah will succeed. I believe that one of the two special witnesses in the Tribulation Period will be Elijah and, in my view, the other one is probably Moses.

Slide # 13**Revelation 11:3 (NKJV)**

3 And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.”

“John the Baptist had come in the spirit of Elijah. If they had accepted Jesus as the Messiah, John would have been the fulfillment of the prophecy. However, since they did not accept Jesus as their Messiah at His first coming, the prophecy of Elijah as His forerunner would be fulfilled at His second coming.” – **J. Vernon McGee**

When you put all the “Elijah” references together (cf. Mal. 3:1, 4:5-6, Mt. 11:11-14, 17:10-13, Mk. 9:11-13, Lk. 1:17, Jn. 1:19-23) it is clear that a double reference to Elijah is in view in the Scriptures.

John the Baptist was a TYPICAL fulfillment. He was the forerunner who came in the spirit and power of Elijah and had Israel accepted Jesus as their Messiah at that time all those “Elijah prophecies” would have been fulfilled in him.

However, God knows all things and knew they wouldn’t. Hence, there is yet another literal fulfillment of Elijah as the forerunner to the Second Coming of Messiah.

So with Jesus claiming to be the Messiah, you can understand why the people were quick to make the association that perhaps He was calling on Elijah since the ministry of Elijah and the coming of Messiah are closely linked.

50 And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.

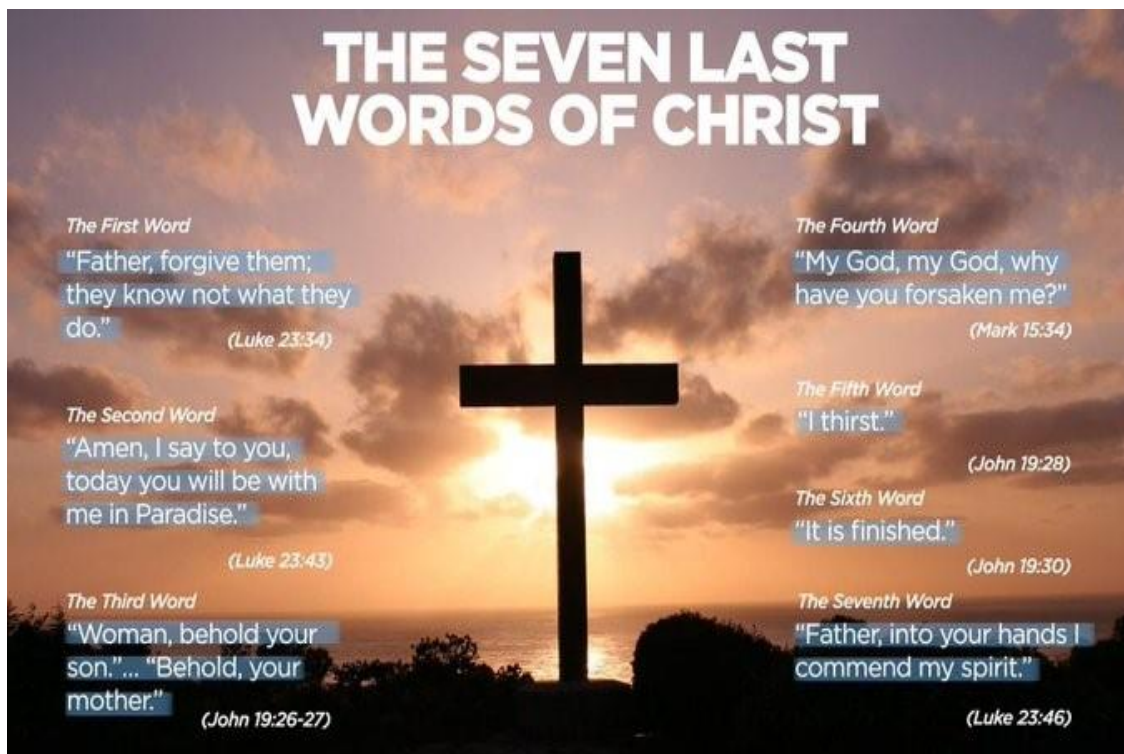
This was not the voice of a man whimpering on His way out. This was the strong voice of triumph! This was a trumpet cry announcement that echoed far and wide. It was LOUD!

That He still had a loud voice is remarkable, for people who died of crucifixion usually did so in such a weakened condition that they had no voice left. – ***The Moody Bible Commentary***

I think this may well have been one of the things that contributed to the centurion confession: “Truly this was the Son of God!” (Mt. 27:54)

We have recorded 7 sayings of Christ from the cross.

Slide # 14



It seems the last two sayings were almost spoken in the same breath. Basically, with His last breath, Christ cried out “It is finished” and then said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”

We believe the LOUD voice was especially related to “It is finished!”

Slide # 15

John 19:30 (NKJV)

30 So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, **“It is finished!”** And **bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.**

Clearly, as recorded by John, essentially the last thing Jesus said was “It is finished” and then He gave up His spirit.

The loud voice was a VICTORY CRY! Jesus had suffered indescribably physically, mentally, and spiritually. He had gone through the God-forsaken experience of HELL in paying for sin, but now it was completed – “It is finished!”

The phrase ***“It is finished!”*** is actually the translation of just one word in Greek. It is the word ***“tetelestai”***. The exact same form of this word is found in John 19:28 where it says, “Jesus knowing that all things were now ACCOMPLISHED”. There it is translated as ACCOMPLISHED! That is the right sense! It is finished – it is accomplished. Jesus had finished what He came to do – namely to be the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world.

Tetelestai can also have the sense of something being finished in the sense of a completed payment made. In Matthew 17:24 it is used in reference to paying the temple tax. In Romans 13:6 it is used in reference to paying taxes.

Tetelestai was a common word used in everyday life in Jesus’ day. When someone paid their taxes or made a purchase they would receive a receipt with the word ***“tetelestai”*** on it indicating that they had “paid in full”.

Jesus on the cross paid for our sin debt in full! IT IS FINISHED! There is nothing else to be done! It is blasphemy to say, “I must somehow make a contribution”. Jesus alone is Savior! His blood alone cleanses from all sin! It is FINISHED and Jesus ALONE FINISHED IT! The sin debt was paid in full by Christ ALONE!

When we get to heaven we won’t say to Jesus, “We did it!” No, we read in Revelation 5 that “ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands” of redeemed people are saying to Jesus, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain” (Rev. 5:12).

No one in heaven is singing their own praises. Everyone is giving all glory to the Lamb. He alone is Savior! He alone died for all our sins! To Him alone belongs all the glory.

Slide # 16

Revelation 7:9–10 (NKJV)

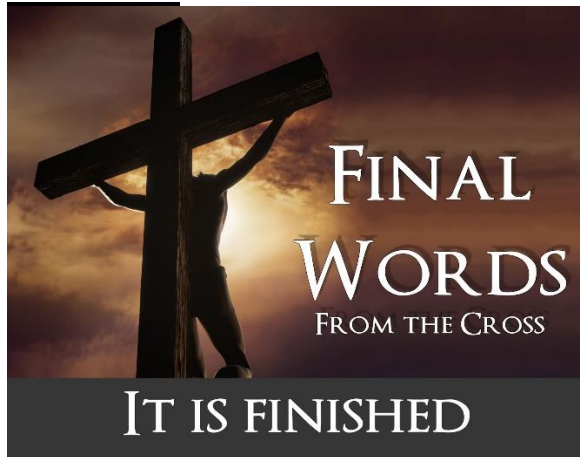
9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands,

10 and crying out with a loud voice, saying, **“Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”**

God alone is responsible for our salvation and all of heaven knows it!

The wages of sin is death and Christ paid our death payment in full (Rom. 6:23)! Indeed, worthy is the Lamb!

Slide # 17



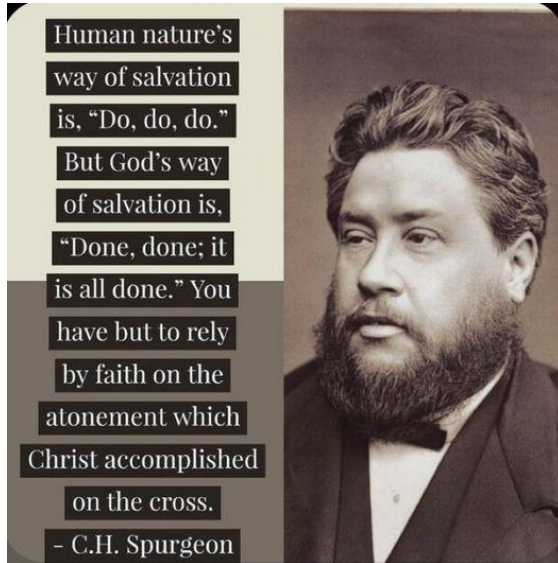
TRUE BELIEF does not add to these final words but rather says, “Amen”.

Horatius Bonar in faith wrote:

**Upon a Life I have not lived,
Upon a Death I did not die,
Another’s Life; Another’s Death,
I stake my whole eternity.**

When you consider what Jesus went through to try and add anything to His finished work is sheer ignorance and unbelief. It is frankly blasphemy to say IT IS NOT FINISHED which what a person is saying when they add anything to the finished work of Christ on the cross. To add good works or religious rituals as a requirement for salvation is to deny the all-sufficient FINISHED CROSS WORK of Christ.

Slide # 18



This is the gospel of grace. The gospel of law (a false gospel) says it is up to you. The gospel of grace says Jesus paid it all. It's all a gift. It's all of grace.

The emphasis of Christ as our great High Priest with regard to His sacrificial work is that "when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty of high" (Heb. 1:3); and again in Heb. 10:12, "after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God".

In the OT the priests in the Temple NEVER sat down. There were no chairs in the temple. The priest's works was never done. There was always more sacrifices for sins to be offered. All these were shadows and types that looked forward to the ultimate SACRIFICE FOR SIN which was the God provided Lamb as found in the Lord Jesus Christ. Of Him the Bible says...

Slide # 19

Hebrews 10:14 (NKJV)

14 For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

Note He has done it all! By one offering, not two. By one offering. His one offering was all sufficient – never needing to be repeated. By that one offering of the cross He ALONE has perfected forever those who believe in Him. You can't get any better than perfected and you can't get any longer than forever! This is why we sing His praises and give Him all the glory forever and ever – Amen!

And then in essentially the same breath Jesus yielded up His spirit. "Spirit is "pneuma" which would be translated as "spirit" or "breath". In His last breath Jesus said...

Slide # 20

Luke 23:46 (NKJV)

46 And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." Having said this, He breathed His last.

Earlier in the dark lonely experience of becoming sin for us Jesus addressed the Father as "My God" but now having won the battle, He again says, "Father". This encapsulates the idea of dependency on God – a reliance that defined His entire earthly experience in His state of humility.

And yet note that it says He "yielded up His spirit". The word "yielded" (Gk. *aphiemi*) means "to release" or "to dismiss". This language (cf. Mt 27:50 and Jn. 19:30) emphasizes Christ's sovereign control over His death. In this the death of Jesus was different than any other person.

Normally death by crucifixion was a long drawn-out process. It was intended to be a slow, miserable, painful ordeal in which eventually the victim would die of suffocation. But Jesus died quicker than the others being crucified. He died sooner than the Romans expected (cf. Mk. 15:44; Jn. 19:32-34).

No one could take Christ's life from Him. He yielded it up!

Slide # 21

John 10:18 (NKJV)

18 No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.”

Death was on Jesus’ terms. Even in death He is sovereign Lord! Jesus voluntarily yielded up His spirit.

As a pastor I have often heard the death rattle, the gasp for that last breath which we all want so badly. Our Lord didn’t go that way. He dismissed His spirit. He went willingly. – **J. Vernon McGee**

And WHY did He do it? It was LOVE!

Slide # 22

John 15:13 (NKJV)

13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.

Romans 5:8 (NKJV)

8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

We can’t begin to fathom the greatness of this love. There is no way to adequately describe the sheer magnitude of Christ’s love. In Eph. 3:18 Paul speaks of the four dimensions of Christ’s love in terms its breadth, length, height, and depth. This is like trying to measure infinity.

The love of God, which in its length reaches from one eternity to another; in its breadth to all the elect, in all ages, places, and nations; and in its depth to saints in the lowest state of life; and in its height to bring them to an exalted state in glory.

– **John Gill** commentary on Eph. 3:18

At the end of the day all we can do is say THANK YOU!

2 Corinthians 9:15 (NKJV)

15 Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son (Jn. 3:16). And WHY did He give Him? 1 Jn. 4:14 says, “the Father sent the Son as Savior of the world.”

1 John 2:2 (NKJV)

2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

The only question that remains is this: Is He your personal Savior and Lord?

History states that “Christ died”.

Theology explains, “Christ died for our sins” (1 Cor. 15:3)

Salvation by FAITH APPROPRIATES: “Christ died for my sins” and rose again as my Lord!

He is your personal Savior and Lord?

John 1:11–12 (NKJV)

11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

The way we receive Him is by believing in Him! Jesus paid it all – but we must receive Him by FAITH!

Romans 10:9–10 (NKJV)

9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

The essential thing is the HEART! With the heart we believe unto righteousness. This is how we are made right with God. And then the mouth tells on the heart.

What say you? Have you believed in your heart – have you confessed with your mouth? Have you ever told anyone you BELIEVE on Jesus as your Savior and Lord? Now is the accepted time. Today is the day of salvation!

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved (Acts 16:30-31).