

Life in Death  
Good Friday Service Online Church  
09 April 2020

**Galatians 3:1** Oh, foolish Galatians! Who has cast an evil spell on you? For the meaning of Jesus Christ's death was made as clear to you as if you had seen a picture of his death on the Cross. (NLT)

The atoning death of Christ was God's greatest gift to His rebellious creatures (Rom. 3:23; Rom. 6:23)

Our incarceration on sin's death row is ended. Our slavery is over. God's wrath is now turned away. We are not guilty simply because we trust in Jesus Christ and his finished work.

This priceless gift came to us at an infinite cost of the blood of Jesus Himself – the sinless Son of God! Grace is free, but it was never cheap. It is a costly grace. This is the grace that saved the brethren in Galatia. Yet, somehow, they were persuaded that they need to fulfil the requirements of the law that Jesus had satisfied, completed, and declared finished at the Cross.

Paul sounded infuriated and disappointed that the Church in Galatia had short-term memory.

**They have forgotten the meaning of Christ's crucifixion.** How did they fail to remember the message that was preached to them by the apostles? How did they fail to remember the message of the Cross that saved them? How did they fail to remember the death of Christ that gave them life?

How could they forget that the Cross is the greatest revelation of God's love? This God of holy love steps into his creation as a human being in order to redeem humanity in its profound dilemma of sin.

**And, so the Cross is not just the revelation of God's love but also the greatest revelation of the sinfulness of humanity.**

In the death of Christ, there is the redemption of man. In his incarnate life, He brought God to man. In his atoning work, he brought man to God. At the Cross, before Jesus gave up His spirit, Jesus in His loud voice, "It is finished." (John 19:30) Christ's sacrifice ended all forms of Old Testament sacrifices. His once for all sacrifice is sufficient. This means no further sacrifices were necessary. All that is left is to acknowledge and receive the work of Christ on the Cross.

**The Cross has a great deal of power** to deliver us from sin and the curse of the law.

Eph. 1:7 – "In Him, we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace."

Gal 3:13 – Jesus was cursed for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.")

**The Cross brings reconciliation and justification.** At the Cross, Jesus removed the enmity/animosity/hostility between God and man. We are reconciled to God in Christ's atoning death. (Col. 1:21-23)

**The Cross destroys the power of Satan.** The waiting Father welcomes us back home. He took our nature so that "he might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil." (Heb. 2:14-15).

**The Cross unites believers with Jesus Christ - Romans 6:7 (7)**  
*For he who has died has been freed from sin. Indeed, there is life in death!*

**Heb. 9:22 – "without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness" of sins**