

Heartbeat

INDIAN HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH

March 27, 2016

It happened on the Jewish festival called Passover. Jesus was arrested in the garden where He had been praying. The disciples were afraid and fled. Later, even Peter denied knowing the Lord.

Jesus stood before the high priest and Sanhedrin. He was beaten, mocked, and spit upon. Roman soldiers flogged Him with a multi-thong whip, embedded with bits of bone, glass and metal, which tore at His flesh.

A crown of thorns was beat into His brow. He walked to Calvary, the cross heavy on His back. Blood dripping from His body, He stumbled beneath the load.

Roman soldiers drove nails into His feet and hands. Crucified between two thieves, Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

His body hung on the cross while those passing by sneered and mocked Him.

The sky grew dark, the earth trembled, and He who knew no sin became sin for us. Holy God who will not abide with sin, poured His wrath on His Son, the perfect sacrificial lamb, who cried out, "My God, My God. Why have you forsaken me?"

Knowing that all things had been accomplished to fulfill Scripture, Jesus said, "It is finished!" He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

Jesus the Christ, the Lord of glory, the only begotten Son of God, the only perfect man, died on the cross of Calvary. At the moment of His death, the veil of the Temple separating sinful man from Holy God was torn from the top to the bottom.

Satan must have thought he was victorious and that he had destroyed the Son of God.

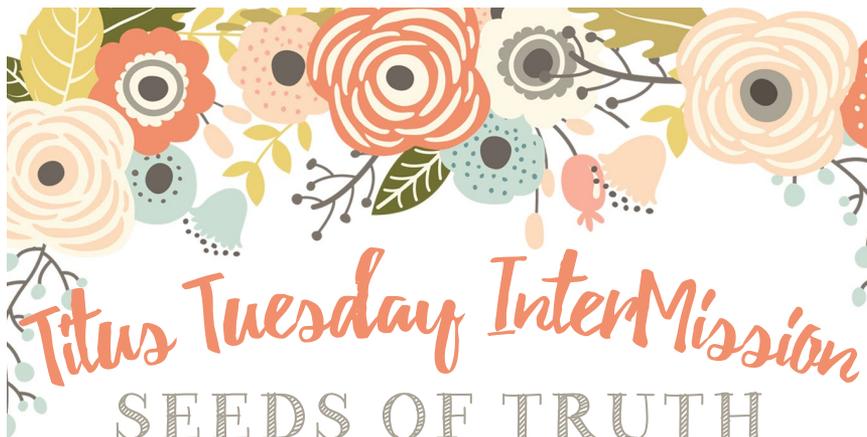
But God wasn't finished yet.

It was dawn on the first day of the week. Women came to prepare Jesus' body and discovered that an angel of the Lord had rolled away the stone and sat upon it. The guards posted at the tomb to keep the body from disappearing shook from fear and became like dead men.

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid. I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said.

The lamb that was silent before the slaughter is now the resurrected lion from the tribe of Judah. The crucified/resurrected Christ defeated death, sin and the grave.

God's grace is poured out on all who look to the crucified lamb of Calvary. Grace is freely given to all who believe Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for sin, was buried and then rose from the dead. Jesus is alive!



Titus Tuesday InterMission

SEEDS OF TRUTH

Tuesday, April 12

6:30PM



SPEAKER

Tami Coffin

SPECIAL FEATURE

Barb Nichols

PAPER FLOWER DEMONSTRATION

PLEASE BRING A SALAD OR DESSERT TO SHARE



FREE NURSERY THROUGH KINDERGARTEN
INTERPRETED FOR THE DEAF

INDIAN HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH | 1000 SOUTH 84TH ST. | LINCOLN, NE



Christ Died for Our Sins According to the Scriptures

by Gil Rugh

The first and most important fact of the gospel Paul preached was that “Christ died for our sins” (1 Cor. 15:3). The reality and purpose of His death are stated clearly over and over in Paul’s epistles.

Christ’s death for our sins is the most basic fact of the gospel. But, you say, millions of people have died throughout history. In fact, every person who has ever lived has died or will die, with just a few exceptions. Many also were crucified. On the day Christ died on the cross, two other men were crucified, one on each side of Him. What, then, is significant about the death of Christ? Simply, it is that He died for our sins.

We call this concept “substitutionary atonement.” Christ died instead of us. He didn’t die for Himself; He died in our place, as our substitute, to atone for our sins and allow us to enter into a right relationship with a holy God.

The death of Christ as our substitute is the heart of the gospel. It’s not just that He died, but that He died for our sins.

The first thing Jesus said regarding the ministry of the Holy Spirit was that He would convict the world of sin (John 16:8). As a result, we are able to recognize

that we are sinners, and can in turn comprehend our need for Christ to die in our place to pay our penalty. “He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree” (1 Pet. 2:24). In short, He died for our sins.

Multitudes of people think they are saved because they go to church and do good works. Unfortunately, they just don’t understand the fundamental truth that “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23). They also don’t understand that someone has to die because the penalty for sin is death (see Rom. 6:23). “Without the shedding of blood there can be no forgiveness” (Heb. 9:22). This is why Jesus Christ came and died.

The following passages focus on Christ’s substitutionary atonement.

2 Corinthians 5:14: “For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this that one died for all. Therefore all died.” This verse obviously talks about a substitutionary death—Christ died for us.

2 Corinthians 5:21: “He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” Jesus Christ came to pay

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the penalty for your sin. Until you come to grips with the fact that you are a sinner, separated from God and under His condemnation, you cannot be saved. The penalty for your sin is not church membership, baptism or anything else. It is death.

Galatians 1:4: The Lord Jesus Christ is the One “who gave Himself for our sins so that He might rescue us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father.” He gave Himself for our sins; He paid the penalty and provided atonement.

Galatians 3:13: “Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law.” How did He do it? By “having become a curse for us, because it is written, cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.” He came under the condemnation of sin. He became a curse and took the judgment that was due us by paying our penalty.

Romans 5:6-8: “For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” This is the amazing message of the gospel in a nutshell—Christ died for us.

The next phrase in 1 Corinthians 15:3 says that Christ died for our sins “according to the Scriptures.” Paul was not referring to any particular Scripture, but to all the Old Testament Scriptures that emphasize God providing a Savior who would die and pay the penalty for sin.

Earlier in this letter, Paul alluded to one such Old Testament passage when he said, “For Christ our Passover has been sacrificed” (1 Cor. 5:7). The death of Christ was our Passover lamb being sacrificed.

The concept of a Passover lamb refers back to the Old Testament Book of Exodus. The nation Israel was in bondage in Egypt, and God was going to slay the firstborn of every family in Egypt. He told the Jews to kill a lamb, and put the blood of that lamb over the doorposts and on the lintel of the house.

Later that night, when He went to slay the firstborn, if He saw blood on the doorposts and lintel of a home, He would pass over it. He would accept that blood as an indication that a death had occurred to take the place of that family’s firstborn (see Ex. 12).

This event foreshadows the time when God would provide His Son as our Passover lamb. When John the Baptist introduced Jesus to the nation Israel, he said, “Behold the

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Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world” (John 1:29). His announcement declared that Jesus is the ultimate sacrificial lamb, the only One who can pay the penalty for sin. Therefore, all the sacrifices of the Old Testament looked forward to the coming of Christ.

The theme of the Book of Hebrews is the superiority of Christ in replacing all the Old Testament systems, sacrifices and ceremonies. The Old Testament sacrifices, under the Law, were a reminder of sin year by year (Heb. 10:3). Hebrews 10:4 says, “For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.”

Clearly the problem with the sacrifice of animals was that they couldn’t take away sin.

Because of this, the next verse states: “Sacrifice and offering you

have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me” (Heb. 10:5). The writer, in a fitting summary, explained that Jesus Christ was born into the human race so that He could bear the sins that the animals could not. He is our Passover Lamb.

Lastly, in Isaiah 53:11, the prophet wrote, “By His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, as He will bear their iniquities.”

Then, note the second half of verse 12: “He poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He himself bore the sin of many, and interceded for the transgressors.”

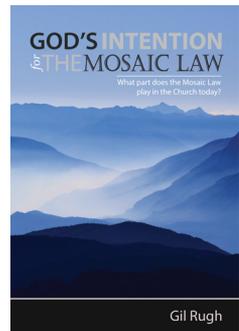
The purpose of Jesus’ death could not be any clearer. The message resounds throughout the Old and New Testament. He died in our place to provide atonement and forgiveness and pay the penalty for our sins once and for all.

God’s Intention for the Mosaic Law

When we think of God, we think of His great love. And yet, there is another aspect of God’s character that is just as great—His holiness.

Join Pastor Gil Rugh as he considers the question, “What part does the Mosaic Law play in the Church today?”

God’s Intention for the Mosaic Law is free and available in the lobby book racks.



The Land of Israel

Donald Goertzen

Recently, on March 16 our Wednesday Night study, Issues in our Contemporary World, reached the milestone of the fiftieth lesson. This series on Eretz Israel began in early September 2014. The premise of the study was Psalm 24:1 “The earth is the LORD’S, and all it contains, The world, and those who dwell in it.”

From Creation we followed the Land in the plan of God to provide an eternal kingdom over which His Son the Messiah will reign. We traced the land through the Old Testament, New Testament to modern times. Many of us were living in the days of Israel’s independence (May 15, 1948) and have personally watched the fascinating development of the Jewish, the Christian and the Secular streams of history flowing to a confluence resulting in the miraculous event. This series is available on the church website in both audio and video formats.

We will conclude this season with a complementary study, The Geography of the Land. This will be a photographic series based

on our visits to the Holy land. If you have interest in visiting the Land, we are planning a tour in the months of May and June 2017. Please indicate your interest and request further information.

We pick up this illustrated series the first Wednesday after Easter in Room 1414 in the Bible Learning Center. The lectures are from 7-8 p.m. Donald Goertzen is the presenter teacher. There is coffee and cookies for fellowship. We start on time—be there on time. All are welcome.

Heartbeat

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Water Baptism



*Joshua Mertens was baptized
March 20, 2016.*

I was born and raised in Lincoln, Nebraska where my family attended Indian Hills. I was taught the Word of God every Sunday and Wednesday through the myriad of child and young adult programs. I fell deep into the trap of self-righteousness and thought that because I was a “good” kid or I never did anything “too” bad that I would be fine on the Day of Judgment.

My junior year of high school I joined the military and shipped off to boot camp where my so called “faith” was easily broken. When I got back I indulged in much sin although I still maintained my “good kid” standards at school and at church. This double life continued for many years. I constantly lived for the flesh and then I would go to church to make sure my parents and my friends still thought I was a “good person.”

This was until October 1st of

2015. I was sitting in Alpha Omega Sunday School, when the Holy Spirit started “hammering” me with the Truth. The Truth that I wasn’t saved, I wasn’t a “good” person, I was a sinner, and I was on my way to Hell. The whole day He was constantly convicting me and forcing me to deal with an issue I had ignored and denied that I even had. That night I grabbed my sister after the evening service. God forced me to put aside my pride, my self-righteousness, and give my life to Him. I realized my sinful condition before Christ and that no matter what my good works were, my sin would result in death and ultimately Hell. I recognized my need for the Savior, Jesus Christ, God who came in the flesh, who suffered and died on the cross for my sins, and who rose again on the third day—promising us hope in the resurrection of the dead. So I trusted in His finished work and I accepted through grace His great salvation and His Lordship over my life.

Since then, I have a new found love for God’s people and His Word. I want to understand the Word. I no longer have the negative attitude toward life and the mean antagonistic spirit that often consumed me. Through recent trials I have seen God’s Sovereignty in my life. I am trusting in God to guide me through this new life and I look forward to seeing His will worked out through me.

The next baptism service will be held Sunday evening, April 24. If you are a believer in Jesus Christ and have not yet been identified with Him through water baptism, pick up a copy of *Baptism: Truth or Tradition* and call the church to make a baptism appointment.

Family News

Birth. Joel and Rachelle Pelton are the parents of a boy, Stryder Michael, born March 17, 2016. Grandparents are Mike and Jo-Anna Sheets and Jim and Sandy Pelton.

Birth. Ben and Angie Duval are parents of twin boys, Jett Frederick and Bode Charles, born March 22, 2016.

Hospitalized. LoRee Peery was a patient at Lincoln Surgical Hospital.

Hospitalized. Joyce Pool was a patient at St. Elizabeth.

Death. Larry Sharp's mother, Harrietta, died March 14, 2016.

Children's Studies

Sunday School. The children studied the Resurrection, part 2.

Children's Church. The children studied the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Information

Promotion Sunday. All students (K through high school) are promoted to the next grade on Sunday, June 5.

VBS Workers meeting will be held Sunday, April 10 at 4:30 p.m. in the chapel. Everyone involved with this year's VBS should attend.

Senior Recognition & Banquet for our high school seniors will be held Sunday, May 1.

Easter Evening. We will not meet for Sunday Night Church tonight (Easter Sunday).

Dessert Social sponsored by Boys of Faith will be held Sunday evening, April 10, immediately following Sunday Night Church. Cost is \$3 / person or \$10 / family.

Parents of Incoming Freshmen.

A short meeting for parents of incoming freshmen will be held Sunday, April 24, immediately following the morning worship service. Meet in the high school room.

Garage Sale Outreach. IHCC will have a booth at the Mother of All Garage Sales held at the Lancaster Event Center April 1 and 2. We will have Gil's booklets, Sound Word's used books, and Clothing Outlet items available in our booth. Pray for opportunities to present the Gospel and that the truth of God's Word will be planted in many lives.

Issues in Our Contemporary

World. Join Donald Goertzen for a pictorial study of the Holy Land, including its geographical and historical sites on Wednesdays from 7-8 p.m. in room 1414. Everyone is welcome.

Sonshine Kids will be singing on the evening of April 17. If your child (age 4-K) will be singing that evening, please be sure they join us for our remaining rehearsals on Sunday evenings at 6:30 in the Sonshine Kids room.

Door-to-Door Evangelism meets Monday at 6:15 p.m. Meet at IHCC.

Titus Tuesday. Ladies, please join us Tuesday, March 29 at 9:30 a.m. (arrive at 9:15 a.m. to pick up brunch items and settle in) as Nancy Butterfield teaches the Bible class, “Self-Control Is Wise.” Heather Willet will be teaching the second hour class on “Simple Cake Decorating.” Child care and a home school class will be provided.

Coats, Scarves, & Mittens. Check the southwest lobby for winter gear you may have left at the church. Any clothing that has not been claimed by April 3 will be going in the April Clothing Outlet.

Remember the date: Branson trip will be November 8–11. Come and have a great time with us. More information to follow.

Teacher Needed for a short gospel lesson one Sunday each month at The Waterford (Alzheimer’s Unit) on South 27th Street. A musician/singer is also needed. If you can spare one hour a month, contact Tom Price at 402-792-9331.

Several workers are needed to care for children in the beginning walker’s room during the second hour on Sunday mornings. Please contact Jennifer Lenzen at 402-435-0877 if you are interested in serving in this way.

Hospitalizations. Please call the church, 402-483-4541, and notify Pastor Aaron Nicholson for all hospitalizations and births.

Home Bible Studies. If you are looking for a Home Bible Study, or are interested in hosting a study in your home, contact Matt Sherman at 402-465-8030.

Weddings & Funerals. Please call the church, 402-483-4541, and ask for Pastor Duane Nelsen or Pastor Aaron Nicholson for wedding and funeral arrangements.

Used Book section is available at Sound Words. You may contribute to or make purchases of discounted and hard-to-find books. Our shelves are growing and the stock is constantly changing in both the fiction and non-fiction categories.

Welcome Bags are available for first time visitors. If you brought a visitor today, be sure to visit the information center with them so they will receive their Welcome Bag.

Worship Service Online. If you are unable to attend church on Sunday and would like to worship with us through the internet, log on to www.ihcc.org and click on Resources at the top of the page. Then, click on Live Stream. The services start at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Last Week’s Message

March 20 AM. Gil Rugh. GRM 1151. *God’s Appointed and Anointed Ruler.* Psalm 2

March 20 PM. Gil Rugh. GR 1946. *Stewardship of God’s Grace Gifts.* 1 Peter 4:10

This Week's Events

Sunday

No Sunday Night Church

Monday

Door-to-Door Evangelism 6:15 p.m.
Sisters 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Titus Tuesday 9:30–11 a.m.
Mansion Builders 7–9 p.m.

Wednesday

Girls' Choir 5–6:15 p.m.
Orchestra 6–7:30 p.m.
Awana 6:45 p.m.
Junior High 6:45 p.m.
Issues in Our Contemporary World
Choir 7–8:30 p.m.
Mansion Builders 7–9 p.m.

Thursday

Alpha Omega Study 7 p.m.

Friday

Outreach Garage Sale
at Lancaster Event Center

Saturday

Outreach Garage Sale
at Lancaster Event Center

April 15, 16

AO Spring Retreat

April 17

Sonshine Kids Sing

April 23

Men's Breakfast

April 24

Parents of Incoming Freshmen
Meeting 11:35 a.m.
Congregational Meeting 5 p.m.
Baptism

April 29, 30, May 1

Boys of Faith Spring Campout

May 1

Senior Recognition/Banquet

May 13

Christian Businessman's Lunch
Junior High Banquet

May 26–29

Girls of Grace Camp

June 5

Promotion Sunday

June 13–18

Senior High Camp

July 11–15

Vacation Bible School

August 6–9

Boys of Faith Camp

August 10–13

Junior High Camp

November 8–11

Branson Trip

Future Events

April 10

VBS Workers Meeting 4:30 p.m.
Boys of Faith Dessert Social

April 12

Titus Tuesday InterMission
(Brunch Break) 6:30 p.m.