



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Messenger

“PROCLAIM CHRIST, MAKE DISCIPLES, SERVE THE LORD”

625 W. Gibson Road, Woodland, CA * Phone 530-662-1935 * March 2020

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

I love the old song *Were you There When They Crucified my Lord*. There is not much to the song. Somewhere between the words, the tune, and tempo the songs moves me.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
O sometimes it causes me to tremble! tremble! tremble!
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Each verse changes by only a few words but it causes me to consider the scene that it is talking about. No, I was not there, but in asking the question I ponder the cross. I consider what it is that Christ has done for me. I consider the great sacrifice that I cannot repay. John 3:16 *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.* We see here, God loves us... that by believing, by faith we have salvation. The Cross is our hope and salvation.

It causes me to tremble. It causes me to look inward at the attitudes of my heart. I have nothing to offer but my thanks and praise for what God has done for me.

Often when I consider the John 3:16 I like to continue with the next verse John 3:17 *For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.* God wants us to be saved. God's plan is our salvation. This great love and amazing Grace causes me to consider things I would not have considered otherwise.

This Lent season take some time to ponder, the cross. Consider the sacrifice Christ has made for your soul, and spend some time in prayer and the Word of God to get a small glimpse of his great love for us all.

Happy Lent and joyous Easter blessings in Christ,

Pastor David Hardin