

Morning Worship

April 23, 2017

Pastor — Allan Lane	Organ --- Alva Lou Schottel	
Worship Leader — Tim Waters	Piano — Sharon Waters	
As you enter for worship, please silence your cell phones.		
(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)		
Scripture Reading	Psalm 95:1-7	Tim/People
Hymn #14	<i>Praise to the Lord, the Almighty</i>	Tim/People
Worship Prayer		Allan Lane
Welcome and Fellowship		Allan/People
Chorus # 213	<i>We Will Glorify</i>	Tim/People
Hymn # 424	<i>Heavenly Sunlight</i>	Tim/People
Hymn # 430	<i>Sunshine In My Soul</i>	Tim/People
Offering Prayer		Fred Kerns
Tithes and Offerings		People
Offering Music		Sharon Waters
Solo		Don Beavers
Children's Worship		(Children are dismissed)
Scripture Reading		Allan/People
Message	<i>The Innocent Savior</i>	Allan Lane
Hymn # 312	<i>Softly and Tenderly</i>	Tim/People
Prayer Concerns		Allan/People
Chorus # 533	<i>He Lives</i>	Tim/People

The Innocent Savior

Luke 23:33-43

Luke's Gospel, sometimes referred to as the *Gentile Gospel*, presents a scientific and historically accurate account of the birth, life, suffering and death of Jesus. He did so with an open mind and yet a reverent spirit.

Introduction: Major Themes

- a. **Salvation History and God's Sovereign Rule**
- b. **The Kingdom of God**
- c. **The Holy Spirit**
- d. **Christology**
- e. **The Great Reversal - Last Shall Be First**
- f. **The Call to Salvation**
- g. **The Christian Life**
- h. **The Atonement**

1. The Desperate Need of Forgiveness.

"Father, forgive them." It was beyond the power of those who had a hand in Jesus' crucifixion to comprehend fully the enormity of their sin. They could not possibly recognize, at this time, how greatly they needed the forgiveness of God.

a. Examples of those needing forgiveness.

Judas, the betrayer, needed forgiveness.

The **Jewish leaders**, who in proud, prejudiced self-righteousness were gloating in success over Christ's death, needed forgiveness.

Herod, the puppet king who considered Jesus as a worker of magic and who requested the performance of a miracle, was in need of forgiveness.

Pilate, the conniving, cowardly politician who had delivered an innocent man into the hands of a malicious mob needed forgiveness.

The **cruel Roman soldiers** who, in total indifference to his sufferings, gambled for his robe while he suffered indescribable agony needed forgiveness.

The **millng mob** that came by to curse and revile and taunt the suffering Savior, was greatly in need of forgiveness.

The **disciples** who, in fear for their lives, had fled during the night because of their personal peril needed forgiveness.

b. Everyone needs forgiveness.

All of us stand in need of forgiveness, for all of us are sinners. We have broken God's holy law. We have fallen short not only of the divine standard but of our own human standard and ideal. Honesty would require of each of us that we admit, "I am a sinner and in need of forgiveness."

2. The Meaning of Forgiveness.

Perhaps Jesus was interceding to hold back the wrath of God upon those who were unjustly crucifying an innocent man. Perhaps Jesus was praying for them to have a full opportunity to repent and to experience the cleansing of forgiveness.

a. To have personal guilt removed .

To experience forgiveness is to have an indictment based on **personal guilt removed and canceled**.

b. To have a relationship restored .

To be forgiven is to **have a warm relationship restored** that has been broken because of sin. In the parable of the prodigal son, which in reality is the parable of the waiting father, Jesus exhibits the meaning of forgiveness. It is to receive the wayward son home with a welcome. It is to hold his sin against him no longer. It is to restore a warm relationship.

Jesus was concerned about sin to the extent that He was eager to forgive those who had driven the spikes into His hands and feet.

3. The Consequences of Forgiveness.

In the midst of his indescribable sufferings, the Savior was expressing the hope and the prayer that his crucifiers might experience the joy of forgiveness.

a. Enjoy the love.

To be forgiven is **to enjoy the love** of the Father's heart and home (Luke 15:20). The father in Jesus' parable had been eagerly waiting the day with loving compassion when his wayward son would come to his senses and forsake the way of life that disappoints and brings destruction.

b. Experience divine son-ship.

To be forgiven is **to experience the prestige of divine son ship**. "But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet" (Luke 15:22).

To recognize the consequences of divine forgiveness is to understand why David rejoiced and praised God for the assurance of forgiveness following his confession of sin (Psalm 103:1 – 3).

4. The Conditions for Receiving Forgiveness.

Luke's gospel, which alone records this prayer of intercession for forgiveness, majors on the offer of forgiveness through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ.

a. Repentance is necessary.

Repentance is necessary for one to enjoy the blessings of forgiveness. God is eager for people to receive forgiveness, as the Savior's prayer on the cross indicates.

Jesus insisted, as had John the Baptist, that people must repent or perish (Luke 13:3, 5). Before people will repent, they must recognize that they are sinners in need of forgiveness. The scribes and Pharisees were guilty of believing that they had already received the favor of God and had no need of repentance. In irony Jesus had said to them, "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (5:32). In the parable of the waiting father, Jesus emphasizes that there is more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who feel no need for forgiveness (15:7, 10).

b. Faith is necessary.

Faith is necessary for one to receive the consequences of forgiveness. When four friends brought a paralyzed man through the crowd to the Great Healer, his first reaction when he saw the combined faith of the five was to say, "Friend, your sins are forgiven" (Luke 5:20 NIV). The faith of their hearts, which he detected in their eyes and which they had proven by their efforts, made it possible for him to bestow the blessing of forgiveness on the man who was looking to him alone in his time of need.

It was the faith of the prostitute in the forgiving grace of God through Jesus Christ that made it possible for her to receive the gift of forgiveness (Luke 7:50). Because of the blessed benefits of forgiveness, she had within her heart an immeasurable love for the Savior that manifested itself in a lavish display of gratitude (Luke 7:44 – 47).

c. They are inseparable .

Genuine repentance and saving faith are two inseparable sides of one coin.

They are so inseparable that at times the call to conversion comes in the form of a challenge to repent. In other instances, it is an invitation to trust. Genuine repentance and saving faith — the two parts of the human response to the good news of God's love — are as inseparable as a man and his shadow in the brightness of the sun at noon.

Conclusion:

In the midst of his awful agony on the cross, the suffering Savior manifested God's concern for sinners by praying for his crucifiers. Do you qualify to be included among those who receive the benefits of forgiveness? Have you sinned? Are you willing to admit it? Are you sorry for it? Listen to this prayer from the cross, believe that he loves you in spite of your sin, and come for forgiveness now.

Come for Forgiveness!

Why I Believe in the Afterlife Part 1

Why I Believe by Chip Ingram

Sunday Night

Evidence for an Afterlife:

1. Nature .

Plato said, "I'm not sure what's after death, but nature seems to give us a picture of what it will be like, some kind of life after death."

2. Anthropology .

Every culture believes in a life after death

3. Psychology .

No matter what man accomplishes, it isn't quite enough – hoping for more

4. Ethics .

In our world evil is punished, good is rewarded - Justice demands a heaven

5. Philosophically .

There has to be more to this life – Man's thinking is beyond his ability

6. Science . – “Near Death Experiences”

8 million Americans claim to have had a NDE – How do you explain it?

7. Jesus and the Bible.

In history, Jesus is the only religious leader who claims to have died and come back to life.

Conclusion

The cumulative evidence makes belief in an afterlife the most rational, plausible, and intellectually defensible conclusion to the question ... “Is there life after death?”

What Does the Bible Teach about the Afterlife?

Four Summary Statements

- 1. At death, every person’s soul/spirit enters immediately and conscienciously into eternity.**
 - ◆ **Jesus’ Paradigm of the Afterlife - Luke 16:19-31**
 - ◆ **Paul’s Paradigm of the Afterlife – 2 Corinthians 5:1-8**
- 2. Every person will one day be resurrected and live forever.**
 - ◆ **Acts 24:14-15**
 - ◆ **Revelation 20:11-13**
- 3. Every person will be judged and granted the “extended capacity” to fulfill in eternity the deepest yearnings and desires of their hearts while on earth.**
 - ◆ **Hebrews 9:27**
 - ◆ **John 5:25-27**
- 4. Every person will spend eternity in heaven with Christ and fellow believers, or in hell separated from God forever.**

Reflection

How does this teaching about the afterlife change your priorities?

Does thinking about the afterlife create a positive or negative attitude in you?

This week, think about what it means to be a citizen of heaven. Make a list of how it impacts your life.

The Persistence in Forgiveness

A member of a major non-Christian religion said to a missionary to India, “Tell me one thing your religion can offer the people of India that mine can’t.” The missionary thought for a moment and replied, “Forgiveness! Forgiveness!” Unlike the followers of all other world religions, those who put their hope in Christ have full assurance that their sins are forgiven. British Bible teacher David Pawson says, “I have talked to devout Muslims who pray five times a day, have journeyed to Mecca, have fasted during Ramadan, and are more devout than many Christians. But when I ask, ‘Do you know if your sins are forgiven?’ they’ve said, ‘We don’t. We just have to hope for the best.’”

The Christian who daily enjoys the reality of God’s presence in his life is one who daily subjects himself to examination whereby he might make sure that his walk before the Lord is blameless. Forgiveness is surrendering my right to hurt you for hurting me. Forgiveness does not pretend there was no offense; it does not dismiss wrongdoing. It does not say, “Oh, that’s all right; forget it.” True forgiveness is realistic.

The late American Protestant theologian, Reinhold Niebuhr (1892 - 1971) once wrote: “Forgiveness is the final form of love.”

The late great Reformed theologian, Christian author, and ethicist, Lewis Benedictus Smedes (1921 - 2002) gave a great definition: “Forgiving is going to a person either in your fantasies or in reality and saying, ‘I don’t understand. I’ll never understand. It wasn’t OK and it isn’t OK, but I forgive you.’” He also wrote: “You will know that forgiveness has begun when

you recall those who hurt you and feel the power to wish them well."

Forgiving doesn't make a person a doormat. It isn't the same as tolerance. Forgivers don't have to be fools. It is healing yourself of something that happened to you that you cannot tolerate, but you forgive it as the only way to heal the wound that it left you with. You forgive somebody, and you begin to dance instead of wallow. You begin to walk with God. You set a prisoner free, and you discover the prisoner you set free was you.

After sixteen years as a missionary on the continent of Africa, David Livingstone returned to Scotland to address the students at Glasgow University. His body had been ravaged by some 27 fevers that had overtaken him during his years of service. One arm hung useless at his side, the result of being mangled by a lion. The core of his message was: *Shall I tell you what sustained me amidst the toil, the hardship, and loneliness of my exile?* He explained Christ's promise was, "Lo. I am with you always, even unto the end."

Christ's promise isn't just for David Livingstone, it also is for you. He is with the missionary living in a hut. He also is with the Christian living out his or her faith in the business world, in the schoolroom, and in the home. Christ is with every Christian at all times, in all places. So take courage and remain faithful. Be willing to persist in forgiveness.

God Bless You!

Bro. Allan

Opportunities For Service

Living out Your Spiritual Commitment . . . and Fulfilling Christ's Divine Plan

Sunday, April 23, 2017

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Larry McKahan, Isaac Waters, Ken Kirkpatrick, Bill Schottel

Alternate: Ken Nice

Diversicare.....2:30 pm

Evening Worship..... 6:30 pm

Wednesday, April 26

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm

Prayer / Bible Study6:30 pm

Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Thursday, April 27

W Team.....6:30 pm

Sunday, April 30, 2017

Choir Rehearsal.....9:00 am

Sunday School.....9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: ? ? ? ? Ken Nice, Don Sharp, Fred Kerns

Alternate: Isaac Waters

SJBA Semi-Annual

Meeting..... 4:00 pm

Fairport Baptist Church

Van leaves at 3 pm

No Evening Worship.....

Wednesday, May 3

Youth Bible Study.....6:30 pm
Bible Study.....6:30 pm
Adult Choir.....7:30 pm

Thursday, May 4

G Team.....6:30 pm

Up-Coming Events.....

April 23 — Diversicare 2:30 pm

April 28-30 — Thunder on the Mountain

April 30 — SJBA Semi-Annual Meeting Airport Baptist Church 4:00 pm

May 1 — Food Kitchen 5:30 pm

May 4 — Senior Adult Event, FBC Savannah, 10:00 am

May 14 — Mother's Day

May 22 — Youth Camp Forms are due

May 29 — Memorial Day

GROW Team

Commit to **GROW!** Everyone make a contact! Invite someone to Bible Study and Worship this week. ☺

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Sunday Nights

Tonight we continue with *Why I Believe* featuring Chip Ingram. He discusses **Life After Death** part 1.

Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible Study

This week we begin a new study. Surprise!! Come for prayer and see just what we are doing next. Hope to see you here at 6:30 pm!

North American Missions And Annie Armstrong**Easter Offering**

Envelopes are in the pews

one more week.

Our goal: \$1,500.00

To Date: \$ 1,700.00

Diversicare Nursing Home

Today, April 23, 2017

2:30 pm

Please join us as we

minister to those who can no longer attend their own churches.

Food Kitchen

We will serve Monday, May 1, at 5:30 pm. Please feel free to join us as we show the love of Christ and minister to those in need.

**SJBA Semi-
Annual Meeting
April 30, 2017**

4:00 pm

Fairport Baptist Church, Fairport
The Van will leave from the church at 3:00 pm

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 14, 2017

Youth Camp ...

forms are due on
May 22, 2017.
Youth Camp is June 19-23.

For the Record-

Attendance: April 16, 2017

Sunday School.....	39
Visitors.....	4
Total.....	43
Contacts Made.....	11
Morning Worship.....	90
Children's Worship.....	N/A
Wednesday Night	12

Financial Record:

Weekly Budget	\$ 2,040.52
Offering Received ...	\$ 2,818.03
Annie Armstrong	\$ 1,700.00

Offering Received by Mail:

April Counting Team:

Don Beavers and Jordan Lane

April Van Driver:

Mike Green

Remember to call 232-3747
before 8 am if you need a ride.

April Member Birthdays:

05... Datha Dillon

13... Alice Coats

15... Larry McKahan

25... Jo Mayse

29... Lois Pace

30... Daniel Waters

30... Nikki Garber

April Anniversaries

Joe and Pam Battreal

April 17, 1999

Bill and Juanita Haskins

April 17, 1948

Joseph and Alice Coats

April 29, 2000

Prayer Requests ...

Rosella Davis—Flo Conard's sister

Pat Means—Mary Sharp's Sister

Stephanie and Jason Terpack

Mary Sharp's brother-in-law Jim

Don and Marcia —Don's Health

Troy Griswold—surgery recovery

Rev. A. B. Brown

Tracy Maisel and Tim Ford

Juanita and Bill Haskins—adjustments

Tim Izer

Gary & Peggy Fewins, Byron & Joel

George Ferbert—strength

Nellie Reynolds

Larry Danner—cancer treatment

Cynthia Burdick—cancer recovery

Jim Winans

Karissa and Matt Long and family

Betty Campbell

Lisa Bowers—Jack and Flo's daughter

LoLeta Middleton—strength

Ellen Blanton and Lois Ulmer—

Elvera's daughter & daughter-in-law

Stella Davis and Linda Rails—Doris

Richardson's sisters

Madeline Swink Ann Riddle

Kathryn Beavers Keon McKahan
Louanne Laurence Leona Reynolds
Jozy Winans Kenny Duty
Kevin Duty Buddy Means
Bill Haskins Debbie Sands
Pat Puckett Judy Anderson
Brenda Burgess Roscoe Lane
Carolyn Houts
Missionaries Don and Diane Combs
Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church
David and Deborah Grace
Jeanette Swackhamer—Beja People
Our Nation and Leaders
Our Military Service people
Today's Prayer Requests ...

Our Nation and our Leaders ...

Five More New Families...
