

## Truth for The Final Generation

### Divine Hour Message

# Revival “The Message of the Cross”

#### Scripture Reading:

2 Corinthians 5:14, Romans 5:10, 11

#### Introduction:

The cross of Calvary means much more to the Christian than is commonly understood. God’s love and His manner of dealing with sin stands forever vindicated before the on-looking universe but it is only mankind who need to understand it better.

#### Sin demanded the death of the sinner

Whether a person chooses to believe it or not, thinks it is right or fair all humanity has been affected by Adam’s sin.

*12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: Romans 5:12*

Adams’s sin caused all humanity to pass under the sentence of eternal death because the law of God, the law of love, the law of life was broken. And for God to be just the sentence must be executed on the deserving sinner. Therefore it was only the sinner himself who could be rightly punished for his sin. Fallen and unfallen angels saw a dilemma that seemed impossible to solve.

In the counsels of heaven it was decided that God would give His Eternal Son to pay the ransom for guilty man.

*16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16*

#### The Son of God became The Godman

Scripture is clear that Jesus took upon His divine nature the nature of fallen sinful flesh. In so doing He actually became one with the human family. This truth is amazing!

*14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;*

<sup>15</sup> And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. <sup>16</sup> For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. <sup>17</sup> Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup> For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted. Hebrews 2:14-18

It also qualified Him to take the punishment which was ours that we could share in the glory which was and is His. Praise the Lord!

Christ was treated as we deserve, that we might be treated as He deserves. He was condemned for our sins, in which He had no share, that we might be justified by His righteousness, in which we had no share. He suffered the death which was ours, that we might receive the life which was His. "With His stripes we are healed." DA 25.2

### **What Punishment did Christ endure?**

<sup>3</sup>For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 1 Corinthians 15:3

*For the wages of sin is death; ... Romans 6:23*

### **Sin Caused the Death of Jesus**

Jesus took our sin, guilt and shame and bore them on the cross that we may have a chance at eternal life. But what kind of death did He die?

*1 My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring? 14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels. Psalms 22:1, 14*

Jesus suffered the separation from God that sin causes and would have died forever but He was innocent. He was tempted in all points yet without sin.

But God suffered with His Son. Angels beheld the Saviour's agony. They saw their Lord enclosed by legions of satanic forces, His nature weighed down with a shuddering, mysterious dread. There was silence in heaven. No harp was touched. Could mortals have viewed the amazement of the angelic host as in silent grief they watched the Father separating His beams of light, love, and glory from His beloved Son, they would better understand how offensive in His sight is sin. DA 693.2

## **At any cost to Himself**

The character of God shines on full display in the crowning act of the savior's life. God proved that He would save man at any cost to Himself.

Three times has He uttered that prayer. Three times has humanity shrunk from the last, crowning sacrifice. But now the history of the human race comes up before the world's Redeemer. He sees that the transgressors of the law, if left to themselves, must perish. He sees the helplessness of man. He sees the power of sin. The woes and lamentations of a doomed world rise before Him. He beholds its impending fate, and His decision is made. He will save man at any cost to Himself. He accepts His baptism of blood, that through Him perishing millions may gain everlasting life. He has left the courts of heaven, where all is purity, happiness, and glory, to save the one lost sheep, the one world that has fallen by transgression. And He will not turn from His mission. He will become the propitiation of a race that has willed to sin. DA 690.3

## **God will do all to save and exalt man**

The message of the cross is that God would give all He could give to save His creatures.

By His life and His death, Christ has achieved even more than recovery from the ruin wrought through sin. It was Satan's purpose to bring about an eternal separation between God and man; but in Christ we become more closely united to God than if we had never fallen. In taking our nature, the Saviour has bound Himself to humanity by a tie that is never to be broken. Through the eternal ages He is linked with us. "God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son." John 3:16. He gave Him not only to bear our sins, and to die as our sacrifice; He gave Him to the fallen race. To assure us of His immutable counsel of peace, God gave His only-begotten Son to become one of the human family, forever to retain His human nature. This is the pledge that God will fulfill His word. "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder." God has adopted human nature in the person of His Son, and has carried the same into the highest heaven. It is the "Son of man" who shares the throne of the universe. It is the "Son of man" whose name shall be called, "Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6. The I AM is the Daysman between God and humanity, laying His hand upon both. He who is "holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners," is not ashamed to call us brethren. Hebrews 7:26; 2:11. In Christ the family of earth and the family of heaven are bound together. Christ glorified is our brother. Heaven is enshrined in humanity, and humanity is enfolded in the bosom of Infinite Love. DA 25.3

## **Satan will do all to exalt himself**

The cross exposes the principle of self and by extension satan to be the real problems not God.

*He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. 1 John 3:8*

*<sup>14</sup>Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; Hebrews 2:14*

Satan saw that his disguise was torn away. His administration was laid open before the unfallen angels and before the heavenly universe. He had revealed himself as a murderer. By shedding the blood of the Son of God, he had uprooted himself from the sympathies of the heavenly beings. Henceforth his work was restricted. Whatever attitude he might assume, he could no longer await the angels as they came from the heavenly courts, and before them accuse Christ's brethren of being clothed with the garments of blackness and the defilement of sin. The last link of sympathy between Satan and the heavenly world was broken.

## **Appeal**

The cross shows how good God is and at the same time how terrible self and sin is. The on-looking universe got the message. Do we?

**Yours in the work of Revival**

**Elder Ryan Griffith**