



THE 3 C'S OF EASTER

"The Cross"

Matthew 27

March 24, 2013

What the Cross Showed Us

- ✓ Christ's Suffering & Sorrow
- ✓ Christ's Sacrifice
- ✓ Christ's Selfless Love
- ✓ Christ's Staggering Forgiveness
- ✓ Christ's Separation
- ✓ Christ's Steadfast Submission

What the Cross Did for Us

- ✓ It Satisfied...
 - Prophecies
 - Punishment & Penalty for Sin
- ✓ It Settled our Debt
- ✓ It Secured Our Salvation
- ✓ It Set Us Free
- ✓ It Sealed Satan's & Death's Fate

What the Cross Says to Us

- ✓ It Stands as a Testimony to God's Undying Love for Humanity
- ✓ It Shouts to a Lost & Dying World – There Is HOPE!
- ✓ It Says to Surrender

Our Response:

1. Has there ever been that moment where you made the clear and conscious CHOICE to ask Christ in your heart? Would you do that today? It is as simple as **ABC!** **Admit** to God you are a sinner, **Ask** for His forgiveness, **Believe** Jesus is God's Son & Died on that Cross just for YOU, **Confess** Him as Savior & **Commit** Your Life to Him as Lord. (the Boss of your life)
2. Have you asked Christ into your heart but never made it public. Have you not been baptized? You can come & make that decision today public today.
3. Are you a part of a church family? If not, you need one! Is the Lord calling you to Petal FBC today? Why wait any longer? Step over the line and join us in reaching this community with the gospel of Jesus Christ!
4. Believer, would you spend time this week as we head towards the remembering of the Cross and his amazing and incredible sacrifice for you and me! Think about what the Cross Showed Us and What It Cost Christ to redeem your soul and mine! May we thank Him, praise Him and may it make a difference in our lives this week.
5. Would you make you share with someone this week about the Cross that SHOUTS – There is Hope! Would you invite a friend to be with you next Sunday for Easter Worship?
6. Would you SURRENDER to His call on your life today? Where is He calling you to surrender in your life? The Choice is ours: The question is will surrender?
7. May we BELIEVE that the Lord is going to do great things in and through us next week; that our friends will come and hear the good news; that many will respond to the call of Christ; and lives will be forever changed!
8. Let us REJOICE in the fact that our debt has been paid, our salvation is secured today, and that we have been set free! May we live according to those incredible truths this week!

THE 3 C's OF EASTER

“The Cross”

Matthew 27:27-66

March 24, 2013 AM Service

Review quickly – The 3 C's – The choice, today, the cross and next week the crown – Easter Reminders quickly

Who Was Involved

- ✓ **Barabbas**
- ✓ **Pilate** – His wife
- ✓ **Pharisees & Sadducees** (Jewish Religious Rulers)
- ✓ **The Crowd** (Jews and Gentiles alike – gawking and watching)
- ✓ **Simon of Cyrene**
- ✓ **Disciples & the Women**
- ✓ **Mary his Mother**
- ✓ **The Two Thieves**
- ✓ **The Soldiers – Centurion**
- ✓ **Nicodemus / Joseph of Arimathea**
- ✓ **Us** – Where Do You Find Yourself – Everywhere

What the Cross Showed Us

- ✓ **Christ's Suffering & Sorrow** – Physical suffering beyond our wildest imagination of pain and suffering (Elaborate) and worse than that – bearing the sin of the entire world!!
- ✓ **Christ's Stunning Sacrifice** What He Gave Up – Heaven, face to face relationship with the Father & Holy Spirit – gives His life for mankind – the sinful, thankless people that we were before we met Christ!
- ✓ **Christ's Selfless Love** “Amazing Love” – can there be any greater love? “John 15:13 “Greater love has no man than this than He would lay down his life for his friend.” He calls us His friends – got any friends you would die for? How about family? How about your enemies? Even more would you give your son for those enemies?
- ✓ **Christ's Staggering Forgiveness** forgive those who crucified him – there is simply no greater act of forgiveness than this! We have seen through the years since that time countless others who have forgiven in the face of great persecution and even death.

ILLUS: Iranian Pastor in Prison

- ✓ **Christ's Stressful Separation** God couldn't look on sin
- ✓ **Christ's Steadfast Submission** – Going all the way – Satan
It is Finished...

What the Cross Did for Us

✓ **It Satisfied...**

Prophecies from the Old Testament – the Savior and His Sacrifices had been told over and over again from Genesis throughout Israel's history – Savior is coming, Emmanuel, the Lamb of God – countless numbers including those of the cross, even as we talked about last week Jesus telling them Himself He was going to die!

Punishment & Penalty for Sin God's Justice – Leviticus – Sin had to be punished and a penalty had to be paid – the Sacrificial system was all about that – but now Christ had come to finally fulfill that sacrifice once and for all! Which leads to the next...

- ✓ **It Settled our Debt** Paid in Full, **"He Paid a Debt"**
- ✓ **It Secured Our Salvation** – and it secured it forever!!
- ✓ **It Set Us Free** – The Guilty Go Free and the INNOCENT are condemned
- ✓ **It Sealed Satan's & Death's Fate** – Christ now holds the keys to death, hell, and the grave. Death and the grave have been defeated – it's why Paul is able to say in **1 Corinthians 15** – oh death where is your sting, oh grave where is your victory! What was once feared is no longer! And one day Satan will be locked forever more in hell for eternity!

What the Cross Says to Us

- ✓ **It Stands as a Testimony to God's Undying Love for Humanity**
- ✓ **It Shouts to a Lost and Dying World – There is hope!**
- ✓ **It Says to Surrender**
- ✓ **There is Power in the Cross... Song: The power of the Cross**

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