

Amazing Love

Isaiah 57; Mark 15:1-38

Into the Lesson:

From our “Thru the Bible” reading (March 6), revisit Isaiah 53 to get a sense of the perfect plan of God.

From this sermon series, how does it appear the anger, jealousy and self-righteous indignation of the Sanhedrin seems to be playing right into God’s plans?

How do you suppose the religious elite completely missed the words from Isaiah? (Hmmm, wonder if that points to the value of a regular program of spending time in God’s Word?)

Into the Word:

Before rereading Mark 15:1-15, recount the number of times during the Passion Week narrative the Sanhedrin (who thought they were in control) conspired to put Jesus to death.

How does Acts 5:33-39 appear to be exposing some nefarious game plan of the Jewish Hierarchy?

How does Pilate’s response in verse 10 indicate he at least understood, in part, the “why” for Jesus being there?

From Lane’s sermon, how does verse 15 indicate Pilate’s attempt to “have control” of the situation and the anesthetizing effects of flogging.

With the above observation, will we ever leave Lane in charge of the First Aid kit?

Of course we can only *speculate* what Jesus, *fully man*, was contemplating as we read verses 28-32, but how does this action point to His Amazing Love?

How would the day out for Simon of Cyrene and his boys have been radically altered by the events of verse 21?

What do you suppose would have been the reaction, or attempts to explain the events of verses 33-34 to those in attendance?

From Lane’s sermon, “within the context of Passover” how would this event have been a clear indication, to the Jewish community, of God’s hand in the eternity changing proceedings:

Darkness of the ninth plague-

The blood to be shed by the sacrificial Lamb-

Of all that Jesus, *fully man*, endured, how would you rank verse 34?

Spend some time in Romans 5:3-11 to focus on Paul’s “harmony of the Gospels” and the impact this would have had on the early church.

Into Life:

Aside from a “Lights out” experience (v.33) how do we reach out to a culture that seems OK with living in darkness (John 1:1-4)?

How does Lane’s remark, “**And isn’t that the greatest question that we all have to ask ourselves and deal with today, WHAT SHALL I DO WITH JESUS**” serve as the focal point for all we are about?

How does responding to the above question translate into action with:

Those within our fellowship-

Within the Children’s Ministry or Care Ministry?

Are there ways to serve in the Worship Ministry beyond musical ability?

Or those we encounter daily (but seem so far away)-

“But God satisfies His judgement in the sacrifice of His own Son... Jesus doesn’t die as an example – He dies as a substitute...”

This Week’s Songs:

Hosanna To My King (Valley Original)

O Lord My Rock And My Redeemer (Hymn #174)

Jerusalem

How Deep The Father’s Love For Us (Hymn #223)

This Is Amazing Grace

