

Four Points To The Cross

Luke 22:37; Isaiah 53:12



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FOCAL Read Responsively Luke 22:37 For I say unto you, that this that is written must yet be accomplished in me, And he was reckoned among the transgressors: for the things concerning me have an end.

Isaiah 53:12 Therefore will I divide him *a portion* with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

All of Israel was celebrating. One of their most holy of days was at hand, **the feast of Unleavened Bread, also called "The Passover"** (Luke 22:1). The Passover was a feast that God gave Israel on the night He saved them from Egypt. The Lord told Israel to **kill a lamb without spot or blemish and collect its blood. The Blood was to be placed on the two side posts and the upper post of the house where the lamb was to be eaten. The lamb was eaten whole, roasted with bitter herbs. The bread was unleavened, and the Jews were to be fully dressed and ready to go. The whole point of the meal was *haste*.**

Exodus 12:11-12 And thus shall ye eat it; *with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD's passover. [12] For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all*

God's judgment was coming. Those who were under the Blood were free from judgment, for the **Lamb was slain in their place**. Those who were not under the Blood would experience death in its most horrible form.

The Passover broke the back of Egypt, and released God's people from bondage. God established the Passover to Israel as an **"ordinance to thee and thy sons forever"** (Exodus 12:24).

Several hundred years later the Lord - speaking through Isaiah - prophesied of the Coming of Messiah. When Messiah came the Lord said:

FOCAL **Isaiah 53:12** Therefore will I divide him *a portion* with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong ...

The Messiah would be **exalted by God, and He would be given a Name which is above every Name**. The Apostle Paul wrote:

Philippians 2:5-11 **Christ Jesus: [6] Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: [7] But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: [8] And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. [9] Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: [10] That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things**

under the earth; [11] And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Jesus Christ - Eternal and Unending God (**being in the form of God**) lowered Himself. Our Messiah came from the glory of Heaven, was born in the flesh to a nondescript couple in a nondescript town called Bethlehem. Jesus Christ grew up in Nazareth, a place with the popular motto **"Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" (John 1:46)**. Jesus Christ **humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death**. For this reason **God gave Him a Name that is above every Name**. That was what Isaiah prophesied.

The other day I did something at the hospital that I rarely like to do. I watched television. As I watched one of the awful shows that passes for entertainment today I was startled by the number of times people use the name "Jesus" or "Jesus Christ" as a curse word. They did it without even thinking - but it got me thinking. If all the other "gods" and "goddesses" that people worship have validity, why is it you never hear their names used as curses? Why isn't the Muslim "Allah" abused like the Name of Christ is abused? Why isn't "Buddha", "Confucius", "Moroni", "Diana", or one of the other hundreds - nay, thousands - of gods and goddesses that are worshiped in this world blasphemed? The answer is quite simple. When you use the name of Jesus then you are **using a Name which God has exalted above every name**.

Why did God exalt the Name of Jesus? The Lord says

through the Prophet Isaiah:

FOCAL **Isaiah 53:12** because He hath poured out his soul unto death: and He was numbered with the transgressors; and He bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Jesus Christ is the Son that all else orbits around. Caesar Clark said "**Jesus Christ is the speech of eternity translated into the language of time**". It is no wonder that people use His Name as a curse. His Name is above every Name, and God has made it so. His Name is above every Name, for He alone has given permanent peace to those who have believed in Him.

"Jesus has turned more sighs into songs, more gloom into glory, more fear into faith, more dark nights of despair into days of bright hope".

Just as there are four points to the Cross, there are *four things* that Jesus Christ has done for us. He (1) poured out His soul unto death, (2) was numbered with the transgressors, (3) bare the sin of the many, and (4) made intercession for the transgressors. Let's look at these four points.

1. Jesus Christ Poured Out His Soul Unto Death

FOCAL **Luke 22:37** For I say unto you, that **this that is written must yet be accomplished in me...**

FOCAL **Isaiah 53:12** ... He hath poured out his soul

unto death

The penalty for sin is death. God tells us:

Ezekiel 18:20 **The soul that sinneth, it shall die.**

From the very beginning God made it clear that sin is no light thing. Today men count sin as if it weighs no more than a feather, but God counts sin as if it has the weight of a blacksmith's anvil. God will not forgive sin without first requiring a full payment for sin. A full payment for sin can only be satisfied by **the shedding of blood unto death**. The Blood of the innocent must be shed. When God wrote His Law the *very first thing He explained* was something He called "**atonement**". God told His Israel

Leviticus 1:3-4 **offer a male {of the herd} without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD. [4] And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering; and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him.**

The word for "**atonement**" is the Hebrew word KAWFAR (כפר pronounced *kaw-far'*), and - if you listen to the word - it means what it says. KAW-FAR, to COVER.

How can you "**cover**" sin? Only by shedding the Blood of the innocent. In the Old Testament prior to the Coming of the Messiah the animal was killed and its Blood was **poured out** to make atonement for the

people. The Bible says:

Hebrews 9:22 ... all things are cleansed with blood, and **without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.**
NAS

The sins of the Israelite was laid on the animal, and its Blood was shed and **poured out** so that God could forgive their sins. Yet every year the Israelite had to do the same thing over and over again. Why? Because the sacrifice of animals was only a temporary solution for sin. The Bible says:

Hebrews 10:4 ... **it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.**

An animal cannot make payment for a man's sin. A man would have to make payment for man's sin. A Perfect Man - the Messiah - would have to come and be willing to be **poured out unto death** for us.

This man is Jesus. The Lord Jesus said on the night of the first Lord's Table:

LUKE CONTEXT **Luke 22:15** ... **With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer:**

Jesus knew that He was going to suffer as no man ever suffered. Isaiah prophesied:

ISAIAH CONTEXT **Isaiah 52:14** **Just as there were many who were appalled at Him, His appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man and his form**

marred beyond human likeness. ^{NIV}

Jesus willingly gave Himself to the Cross for us. He was not a leaf falling from a tree, controlled by season and gravity. Jesus willed the Cross.

He willed the horror of our sin upon Him. He willed the beating and the bruising. He could have called on His Father and been spared the suffering and the pain, but Jesus *willingly* **poured out His soul unto death** for you and for me.

2. Jesus Christ Was Numbered With The Transgressors

FOCAL **Luke 22:37** **For I say unto you, that this that is written must yet be accomplished in me, And he was reckoned among the transgressors...**

FOCAL **Isaiah 53:12** ... **He was numbered with the transgressors ...**

The word translated "**transgressors**" is the Greek ANOMOS (ἀνομος pronounced *an'-om-os*), which means "**those who are lawless**". In the Hebrew it is the word PASHAH (פּשָׁה pronounced *paw-shah'*), which means "**those who break away from just authority**".

Jesus was numbered with the lawless. He did not hang out with the self righteous, nor did He eat with the

religious. Like a Physician Jesus did His business among the sick. The Pharisees accused Jesus of being a "drunkard, a glutton, a friend of tax collectors and prostitutes" (Matthew 11:19). They said:

Mark 2:16 ... How is it that he eateth and drinketh with publicans and sinners?

Jesus said:

Mark 2:17 ... They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

A Doctor will not place an advertisement in the paper saying "If you're healthy, give me a call". The Doctor seeks out the sick. Jesus sought out the *spiritually sick*. He Who is **holy, holy, holy** sat down with those who were **wicked, sinful, and evil**.

Messiah stooped to save the lowest willing sinner, be she a whore thrown down at His feet or a half breed adulteress at a well in Samaria.

When Jesus was dragged before Herod and Pilate He was treated as if He were a common criminal. When the crowd cried out for His crucifixion even Pilate asked "**Why? What evil has He done?**" (Matthew 27:23).

As He was nailed to the Cross it was no special Cross that held Him, nor special Nails that pinned Him. He was stripped naked, and His belongings gambled away. The

Bible says:

Mark 15:24-28 And when they had crucified him, they parted his garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take. [25] And it was the third hour, and they crucified him. [26] And the superscription of his accusation was written over, **THE KING OF THE JEWS.** [27] And with him they crucify two thieves; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left. [28] And the Scripture {of Isaiah 53:12} was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors.

3. Jesus Christ Bare The Sin Of The Many

FOCAL Isaiah 53:12 ... and **He bare the sin of many** ...

Though Jesus Christ's soul was poured out unto death, and He was numbered with the transgressors, He did not die on that Cross for His own sins. **Jesus Christ bare the sin of many.**

The word translated "**bare**" is the Hebrew *Qal Perfect* of NASAW (נָשַׂא pronounced *naw-saw'*), which means "**to lift them up, to carry them away**".

There were many different Jewish sacrifices - such as the **Burnt Offering (Leviticus 1:4)**, the **Peace Offering (Leviticus 3:2)**, or the **Sin Offering (Leviticus 4:4)** - to name a few.

All of these offerings had one thing in common. Before the innocent animal was sacrificed **you placed your hands on the head of the animal, and symbolically transferred your sins to it.** The animal bore the sins of the people, then was punished in their place.

Jesus Christ bare the sin of many. He lifts off and lifts up the sin of those who put their hands on His head. Jesus did not die for an elect few as many Calvinists so foolishly believe. The Bible says:

John 3:16-17 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. [17] For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

I have no time for this *Limited Atonement* hogwash that some people try to force into the Scripture. He **died for the WORLD, that the WORLD through Him might be saved.** The Son of God went to that Cross for everyone.

Titus 2:11-14 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, [12] Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; [13] Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ; [14] Who gave himself for us,

that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Do **all men** get saved? Yes, if they believe in Jesus. If they **place their hands on the Head of the Savior and, by faith, transfer their sins to Him.**

When we celebrate the Lord's Table we recognize that Jesus died in our place.

CONTEXT LUKE Luke 22:19-20 And he took bread, and gave thanks, and broke *it*, and gave unto them, saying, **This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. [20]** Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, **This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.**

Jesus' Body was broken and given - by Him - for you. His Blood was shed for you. But His Broken Body and Shed Blood has no value for you unless you - like the ancient Jew - put your hand on the Head of that Sacrifice. You cannot be saved by your own hand. You put your hand on Him, and He will save you.

4. Jesus Christ Made Intercession For The Transgressors

FOCAL Isaiah 53:12 Therefore will I divide him *a portion* with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and **made intercession for the transgressors.**

Jesus **made intercession for the transgressors**. He prayed **for His followers**. At the end of the Lord's Table He told Peter:

CONTEXT Luke 22:31-32 ... **Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: [32] But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.**

Jesus prays for His followers. He **sits at the right hand of God the Father, making intercession for us**. We who are saved are not saved by our own hand, nor are we kept by our own hand.

Dear friend, if you are saved by your own hand you can be lost by your own hand. If you are saved by *His hand*, then you cannot be lost by your hand!

The Bible says:

Hebrews 7:25 Wherefore **He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.**

We who believe in Him are **saved to the uttermost**. He saves us, and keeps on saving us. We who are His by faith *cannot be lost*, for He **makes intercession for us**.

As Jesus walked that final mile before His crucifixion He **prayed for the lost**. He told the women who followed

Him as He walked dragging that Cross:

Luke 23:28 ... **Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children.**

Do not weep for Jesus - Jesus weeps for you! He is bearing your sin, but many of you do not believe in Him.

He is taking your punishment, but like His executioners, you are more concerned with the things of this world than the things of God. As Jesus hung dying on that Cross He prayed for the **transgressors**.

As His executioners focused on gambling away His possessions Jesus prayed for them, saying:

CONTEXT LUKE Luke 23:34 ... **Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.**

We who have believed in Him know what we do. We have cast our sin on Him. We believe He has suffered in our place. We know that His Spirit is in our hearts. We know that - because Jesus Christ was numbered with the transgressors, we shall be numbered with the Children of God.

Do you know this? If not, then call upon the Name of the Lord. Believe that He died for you, and believe that He rose again for you. Believe that He is **the only Way, the only Truth, and the only Life**. It does not matter what Church you belong to, nor the Creed you believe in - if you do not have Christ then you are not saved!

May God touch your hearts with His Word.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Luke 22:1; Exodus 12:11-12; Exodus 12:24; Isaiah 53:12; Philippians 2:5-11; John 1:46; Isaiah 53:12

1. Jesus Christ Poured Out His Soul Unto Death

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FOCAL Isaiah 53:12 ... He hath poured out his soul unto death

Ezekiel 18:20; Leviticus 1:3-4; Hebrews 9:22; Hebrews 10:4; Luke 22:15; Isaiah 52:14

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2. Jesus Christ Was Numbered With The Transgressors

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FOCAL Isaiah 53:12 He was numbered with the transgressors ...

Matthew 11:19; Mark 2:16; Mark 2:17; Matthew 27:23; Mark 15:24-28

3. Jesus Christ Bare The Sin Of The Many

Isaiah 53:12; Leviticus 1:4; Leviticus 3:2; Leviticus 4:4; John 3:16-17; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 22:19-20

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Isaiah 53:12; Luke 22:31-32; Hebrews 7:25; Luke 23:28; Luke 23:34
