

Pastor's Pen

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen. Galatians 1:3-5

When Paul penned Galatians, he was extremely troubled by what the Judaizers had been teaching. The Judaizers were false converts, wolves in sheep's clothing, that were trying to pervert the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In the opening verses of the epistle to the church in Galatia, Paul starts by affirming the true Gospel of Jesus Christ, that is, salvation comes by faith in Jesus Christ alone.

Paul describes exactly who Jesus Christ is by telling us what the Lord did and why He did it. Jesus gave Himself up for the sake of the elect. Paul uses this language about Christ's death on the cross repeatedly in his letters (1 Timothy 2:6; Ephesians 5:25; Titus 2:14). Nobody took Jesus' life from Him against His will. He gave it up freely (John 10:17-18). It's true that the Jewish religious leaders called for His death and that the Romans executed Him, but they could not have done so without Jesus' willingness to be sacrificed.

So, why was He sacrificed? He did it so that we could be free from the bondage of sin and made co-heirs with Christ. Jesus died for our sins and willingly gave Himself up to death on the cross to appease the wrath of God. He became our substitute on the cross, paying what we owed. We deserved God's wrath, but were shown grace and mercy.

Why did He pay such a heavy price to reconcile us to God? In part, He did it "to deliver us from the present evil age." Humanity is trapped in a world built from our own sinful choices. Jesus paid the only exit fee, the ransom, to make it possible for us to escape the second death. Unless the Lord returns, everyone of us will die. But those who have made Jesus their Lord and Savior will never see the second death and be cast into the lake of fire. It is the lake of fire where those who died without Christ will suffer day and night forever and ever (Matthew 25:26, Rev 14:10-11)

He also gave Himself "according to the will of our God and Father." Jesus' death on the cross was an act of submission to the plan and purpose of God. The gift that God has given to us who believe in the Son for our salvation is the hope that is not seen (Romans 8:24-25). It is knowing that we will be with God, glorying and enjoying Him forever. We will be there with every other believer who will ever confess with their mouth and believe in their heart that Jesus is the Son of God. Our savior who suffered, died, was buried, and rose from the dead on the third day.

Your shepherd,
Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

Sin has robbed us of six jewels By William Dyer

"Christ died for the ungodly." Romans 5:6

Certainly the misery of man was very great, that man should need such redemption as this. Oh, what a breach had sin made between God and us, that the Son of God must come from Heaven to earth to suffer all this. Oh sirs, mischievous sin has undone us. Sin has robbed everyone of six jewels, every one of which is of more worth than Heaven and earth. Would you know what jewels they are, which sin has robbed us of? I will tell you, and then you will agree that we were in a very miserable case indeed.

Quote of the Week

"Christ went more willingly to the cross than we do to the throne of grace." -Thomas Watson

1. Sin robs us of the image of God. Was not this a precious jewel? I say, sin robbed us of the image of God, and drew the devil's picture in us. Malice is the devil's eye, oppression is the devil's hand, blasphemy is the devil's tongue, hypocrisy is the devil's cloven foot.

2. Sin robs us of our divine sonship, and makes us . . . slaves to the devil, slaves to sin, slaves to the world, slaves to ourselves. This is another jewel we have lost.

3. Sin robs us of our friendship with God, and makes us . . . enemies to God, enemies to Christ, enemies to our own souls, enemies to all that is holy.

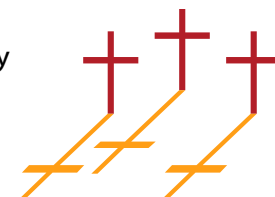
4. Sin robs us of our communion and fellowship with God, and makes us strangers and aliens to God.

5. Sin robs us of our rights and privileges of Heaven and heavenly things, and makes us children of wrath and heirs of Hell.

6. Sin robs us of our honor and glory, and makes us vile and miserable; as you may see in Isaiah 1:6, "There is no soundness in us, but only wounds, and bruises, and putrefying sores."

Now sirs, put all this together, and then see whether or not we are miserable, and whether we needed a Savior to come and deliver us from this misery into which our souls were plunged. Now here is our happiness, Christians: in Christ we have these jewels back again, which we lost in the old Adam.

The glorious image of God, our divine sonship, our friendship with God, our fellowship with God, our heavenly privileges, our glory and honor, we have regained all these by Jesus Christ!



Weekly Gatherings



Bible Classes

New Testament
Sunday School
Sunday Morning @ 9AM-9:45AM



Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM
Men's Zoom Bible Study



Job Study

Wednesdays @ 7PM
Teaching Series



Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and forgot to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address.



Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study
AWANA @6:30PM-8PM



Service Times

Sunday Service 8:30AM & 10:30AM
Children's Church @10:30AM

Giving from service on 08.30.20

Total 2,580.00

Attendance ... 158 present

Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org
Maintenance-maintenance@ghbcva.org
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org
Security-security@ghbcva.org



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Grace Harvest Baptist Church

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