

Gains and Losses In Following Jesus

This week – The Lord Jesus teaches us the cost of our salvation – His death on the cross.

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame.

Hebrews 12v2.

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Mark 14v17-31 (The Lord’s Supper, One would betray)	
Monday	Mark 14v32-50 (Watch and Pray, Judas betrays Christ)	
Tuesday	Mark 14v53-65 (Christ falsely accused and tried)	
Wednesday	Mark 14v66-72 (Sadly, Peter denies his Lord)	
Thursday	Mark 15v1-20 (Degraded by Romans, Humiliated by Jews)	
Friday	Mark 15v21-39 (Christ gives His life to save sinners)	
Saturday	Hebrews 12v1-17 (Looking unto Jesus as Saviour)	

Important Thought for us Today: Why do Christian believers take Communion? The Lord Jesus ordained that His death and resurrection should be remembered until He comes again. (See Mark 14v22-24, Matthew 26v26-28, Luke 22v19-21, 1 Corinthians 10v16-17).

It is a very simple service which **only** believers who have a clear testimony of repentance and faith in the Lord’s death should take part in. It is not for children or nominal believers. As the Lord said, the bread is a symbol of His body broken, and the wine a symbol of His blood shed. At no time do these symbols change into the actual body or blood of Christ, nor is Christ re-crucified, (**He died once**). Taking the symbols cannot achieve any spiritual benefit for the participant – they have no special, or ‘magical’ properties. The service, also called ‘The Lord’s Table’, is a time for prayerful reflection and thanksgiving for the wonderful substitutionary death of the Saviour on Calvary’s Cross.

Hymn 363 - recognising the cost to the Saviour of dying to save sinners like us:

1. ‘All ye that pass by, to Jesus draw nigh,
To you is it nothing that Jesus should die?
Our ransom and peace, our surety He is:
Come see if there ever was sorrow like His.
3. He died to atone for sins not His own,
Our debt He has paid and our work He has done,
So we may receive the peace He did leave,
Who made intercession – ‘My Father forgive’.
4. For sinners like me He prayed on the tree,
Through His intercession the sinner goes free,
That sinner am I, who on Jesus rely,
And come for the pardon God will not deny.
5. His death is my plea, my Advocate see!
And hear the blood speak that has answered for me:
He purchased the grace, which now I embrace;
O Father, Thou know’st he has died in my place!

EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

The Cost of Our Salvation.

- **The Lord Jesus foresaw the cost of Calvary in Garden of Gethsemane.**
 - He knew exactly what was going to happen to Him. He came to die to save.
 - Although ‘exceedingly sorrowful’ He willingly faced death for our sakes.
- **The Lord Jesus knew the total cost of our salvation to Him:**
 - **Betrayed by a ‘friend’** – Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus with a ‘kiss’, causing the Lord much heartfelt pain. What a disloyal and treacherous act!
 - **Deserted by His friends** – He was left alone to endure this all by Himself.
 - **Unjustly condemned** – The sinless Son of God is accused of blasphemy!
 - **Deserted by the crowds** – A week earlier, as He entered Jerusalem, they shouted ‘*Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord*’ John 12v13. **Now** they hatefully cry out, ‘*Crucify Him, Crucify Him*’.
 - **Degraded by the Romans** – Scorn and derision was poured out on Him; He was spat upon, buffeted whilst blindfolded, scourged (whipped with leather thongs interlaced with metal). They dressed Him in purple robes, placed a crown of thorns on His head, and mock worshipped Him.
 - **Humiliated by the Jews** – Rejected as the promised Messiah. Barabbas, a murderous thief, was preferred to Him. They jeered at Christ on the cross.

What treatment for their Creator, the Lord of Glory! What hatred for the Friend of sinners!

- **Nailed to the cross** – Crucifixion is a very cruel, slow, and agonising death.
- **Separated from God** – taking the deserved eternal punishment for His People’s sin. ‘*My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?*’ Mark 15v34
- **Finally, He gave up His life after 6 hours – ‘It is finished’.** **What a Saviour!**
- **Despite ‘drinking this cup of sorrow’, The Lord gained joy and satisfaction:**
 - Christ’s selfless, and successful act bought eternal salvation for His People, as planned by the Godhead, (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), in eternity past.
 - Total victory over sin and the Devil, bringing the honour and glory due God. **“That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow.”** *Philippians 2v10*
 - Eternal praise and joy for all eternity in Heaven for such a Saviour!
- **What is the greatest tragedy in the world?**

It is to have heard of the Saviour’s determined love to save sinners but reject it. Let us answer like the hymn “**Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.**”

Isaiah wrote, “Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He hath put Him to grief: when Thou shalt make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see his seed, He shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied: by His knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for He shall bear their iniquities. 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.

Isaiah 53 v10-12.