

(Transal) -
Brentley Jan 29, 92
Prayer Meeting -

WHAT CHRIST DID ON THE CROSS

Col. 2:13-15

INTRODUCTION:

Overlooks

Water - Day
Blind - 2 -
Find Blind -

Many are known by one distinctive act.

History - overlooks -

1. (JOHN BUNYAN) - little known as preacher with Baptist Convention in 17th Century - England. Jail, wrote Pilgrim's Progress, for over 300 years known for one thing.
2. (PAUL REVERE) - Silversmith in Colonial America. Long-fellow wrote - "listen, my children and you shall hear of the midnight ride of Paul Revere, on the eighteenth of April, in seventy-five; Hardly a man is now alive who remembers that famous day and year."
3. (ALVIN YORK) - Mountain boy - World War I made sargent. Known around world single-handed captured a great number of the enemy. Book written, movie made.
4. (JESUS) - Many experiences. The cross one act of mighty force. Col. 2:13-15.

Visitors get unforgettable experience on the Blue Ridge Parkway, mountains, streams - luxurious forests - scenic overlooks.

Paul provides us with some (spiritual overlooks) - see what Christ did on the cross.

Three majestic views:

1. Salvation From Viewpoint of (Death and Trespass)
2. Salvation From Viewpoint of (Financial terms)
3. Salvation From Viewpoint of (Military world)

I. FORGAVE OUR COMMITTED SINS - V. 13

Imagine standing before this overlook - what did Christ do on the cross?

1. Dead - Describes man's spiritual condition. Morally.
2. Uncircumcision - Figurative - Symbol - Alienated from God because of our nature. Our sinful nature not compatible with God's holy nature.

Something had to be done to bring us back to God. Morally uncircumised.
3. Trespass - Violate God's command. To know right and do wrong. Live in rebellion. Fall aside, to slip. Describes our acts of sin.
4. Quickened - This explains you are dead in sin "made alive" in the cross.
5. Forgiveness - How? By the cross. Does this overlook move us!

William Booth said, "If he could he would finalize the training of every Christian by suspending him for 24 hours over Hell. Give him a vision of sinfulness.

No time for God - church - prayer.

*I love the story of Scottish Physician - noted for skill - apuleia - Booth - several accounts
Rehabilitated - Forgiveness - 700 poor to pay.
Prayerlessness ends in barrenness. Dead beyond human help,
His wife - different denomination "these accounts must be paid" - angel for the money
but not God.
Judge asked - is this your husband's hand writing in real ink?
She replied - yes
Judge - No tribunal on the earth that can obtain the money where he had written
Jesus writes down our account and Forgiveness judges in heaven - Forgiveness*

II. CANCELLED OUR DEBTS - V. 14

The second overlook survey financial terms. A bond or I. O. U.
Proof of ones indebtedness.

We are credit-crazy today. We can understand a note at the bank. Installment contract.

We are in debt to God - legal demands.

The requirements of God are against us.

We know we have sinned. Personal awareness of failure.

We are without funds of righteousness to pay. Bankruptcy and desperate need is met by the riches of salvation - God provides.

What did Christ do on the cross?

✓ 1. (Blotting) - wipe out - erase, rub out. Put us in right standing. Handwriting in law books.

The debt was against us.

STORY - James Carter of Louisiana - 9 years old and friend, drug store, 10¢ get refreshments. On stools - air conditioned. Make order. Pictures of choices - good for eyes - ordered ice cream soda. No idea what it cost. If ever there was a case of oversell, that was it. The drink was great. Got ticket, he nearly died!

Place got hot - soda turned sour. Ticket was for 50 cents and each boy had 10.!

No idea what to do - a man's hand reached between us and picked up the ticket. "That's all right boys; I'll take care of this."

The benefactor was unknown.

He paid the debt and rescued the boys.

That is what Christ did on the cross - he blotted out a valid debt of our sin.

✓ 2. (Nailed) your debt to the cross. He takes it away, sets it aside.

X it out - cancelled.

John the Baptist - John 1:29. ("The lamb of God that bears away the sins of the world.)

Complete removal - Business men file cancelled accounts. No evidence exists. Nailed - destroyed.

III. CONQUERED OUR ADVERSARY - V. 15

Overlook one - Committed Sins Forgiven

Overlook two - Cancelled Debts Cancelled

Overlook three - Conquered Adversary Destroyed

Our last overlook - what did Christ do on the cross?

He destroyed the power of our enemy - V. 15.

How did Christ destroy the power of Satan?

1. (Spoiled) - Is the word he used.

Jesus stripped evil and death of its power.

2. (Openly)

Made a dramatic spectacle of it.

3. (Triumphing) - Military word.

Described the triumph of a Roman Emperor

Streets lined with expectant people.

First would come the Legions, then Calvary with soldiers on beautiful horses.

Second, the charioturs and the chariot of the conqueror.

Third, dramatic parade of trophies of war. Slaves would bear the wealth of the conquered city or nation.

Fourth, the captured people. The idea of disgrace. Once proud people, shoulders bent, faces down cast, spoils of victory.

A reminder they had been defeated and disarmed.

Christ made a public spectacle of the powers of sin and Satan.

(Disarmed) the wicked force.

In the cross Jesus openly without the help of angels triumphed over all powers of sin.

(Early 1972) Shoichi Yokor was captured in the jungles of Guam. Rather than surrender to the American enemy, he held out for 28 years in the jungle. He lived in a tunnel - eating coconuts, snakes, rats livers, shrimp, frogs, fish. He kept tract of time marking a tree trunk every full moon.

He was aware of Japan's surrender in World War II from leaflets and newspapers scattered - but he refused to surrender.

Modern Parable - people not recognize the victory on Calvary
- over the powers of evil.

You cannot know until you come out of hiding to the light.

What did Jesus do on the cross? He gave forgiveness of sins,
He cancelled our debts of sin, He gives us victory.

This was done for you.

The question is, then - How are you and I living today?

The terrors of Hell are real and souls are dying every day.

Is your life God directed - then begin crying out to God.

Stop shirking His will and begin working under its direction.

Permit the view of this overlook possess you.