

2009 #16 GOSPEL OF JOHN – THE REMEDY FOR SIN

John 19:1-27,37,41

Today's graphic scripture moves us to the conclusion of Jesus' life,
It reveals the cruelty and depravity of the human heart
We saw to what extent a person will go to cover his depravity.
But we also saw how it revealed the ultimate remedy that God had for sin.

A few years ago I was going to a Large Church conference in Iowa,
And halfway there my check engine light came on in my Grand Cherokee.
Nothing get you to sit up and take notice than a check engine light on vacation.
So when I got to DeMoins Iowa,
I took it to a mechanic,
He checked on his diagnostic machine and said I needed my plugs changed.
So \$96.00 and two days later I picked up the car and headed home.
I breathed a prayer of relief.
And about 2 miles out of town.
The "check engine" light came back on.
I drove it home.
And then began a series of misdiagnoses.
On the suggestions of a mechanic I changed oxygen sensors
Then vacuum hoses,
Took it back to the dealer ,
And they said I needed new spark plugs.
I said I just had them changed two weeks ago.
Then I made a deal with them that if they changed them,
And they didn't work I want the old ones put back in.
They agreed.
After \$96 dollars and 6 blocks up the street
the check engine light was back on.
I went back to the dealer the next day
They had conveniently thrown out the old plugs.
After checking with another mechanic they
suggested I replaced the Computer.
That's got to do it.
Over \$150 and 7 blocks later the light was back.
Finally... in frustration,
I replaced the car.
What do you with your car when the experts are wrong?

What do you do when the Medical experts are wrong?
You get the wrong diagnosis.
the wrong prescription,
Or the wrong surgery in a hospital,
It happens more than we like to know,
Because we are faulty human beings.

But what is worse is the spiritual malpractice going on,
In church and across the media,
Where young people can get a wrong diagnosis
From the Spiritual experts and take the world prescribed treatment and

End up coughing their life and lungs into an eternal
Darkness of sin and death.

THE EXPERTS OF THE LAW GOT IT WRONG.

I. THE PHARISEE HAD MISDIAGNOSED JESUS.

To their eternal destiny.

Satan has blinded their eyes and deadened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts, nor turn—and I would heal them. John 12:40

They missed that he was the son of God.

They never looked at the manual.

They never consulted the scriptures.

These men who spent time in the Temple,
forgot to pray and seek Gods will and word,
in the power of the Holy Spirit concerning Jesus.

Because they misdiagnosed.

They saw Jesus as a threat and not a remedy.

Jesus diagnosed the Pharisee correctly.

In Matthew 15:7 Jesus called them hypocrites.

In Matthew 16:4 Jesus called them “A wicked and adulterous generation.

The Chief Priest and Pharisees were power hungry, greedy, arrogant

Jesus looked at them and said

John 8:44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is not truth in him.

They were full of lies and deceit.

John the Baptist had diagnosed the Pharisees and Jews correctly

“You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?” Luke 3:7

Apostle Paul called them Vipers in Roman, a bunch of snakes.

Most of us are afraid of a vipers, or snakes.

My mother bought a house in Olivet, SD

What she didn’t know was that she also bought a brood of snakes.

Mom was a farm woman and not afraid of a challenge.

She dealt with sloths in her garage,

Skunks in her garden,

But the worst was snakes in an old well right outside her front door.

When she would come outside there would be snakes.

Most women don’t like snakes

It must go back to the Garden of Eden.

Mom declared war on them.

She stopped taking count of them when it went over a 100.

They just kept coming out of that old well..

It was kind of weird to see my 80 year old mother chasing snakes

Around her front yard.

The Vipers John was talking about had fangs.

Poisonous fangs that could

That could poison souls

And destroy lives,

And kill bodies.
 Those were the Pharisees.
 Jesus went so far as to demonstrate what they needed,
 By cleaning the temple out two times to show them physically,
 What God the Father wanted them to do spiritually.
 They were unclean,
 they had a disease,
 They were dying and
 Jesus had the remedy.

Jesus had also diagnosed Pilate correctly.
 Pilate was a crowd pleaser.

Pilate, wanting to gratify the Jews,

¹Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. John 19:1

Beaten

Turned over to the soldiers.

And placed a Crown of thorns on his head and mocked..

The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They clothed him in a purple robe John 19:2

Put a imperial purple robe on him,

Matthew 27:29 says they

Put a reed in his right hand and they bowed before him,

Struck him,

and went up to him again and again, saying, "Hail, king of the Jews!" And they struck him in the face. John 19:2-3

And spit on him.

"And they spit upon Him, and took the reed and smote Him on the head" (Mt 27:30).

The word spit upon him is translated they covered his face in it.

Then Pilate brought Jesus out suggesting punishment was already given.

⁴Once more Pilate came out and said to the Jews, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no basis for a charge against him." ⁵When Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" John 19:4-5

But the Jews resisted.

As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw him, they shouted, "Crucify! Crucify!" John 19:6

Jesus knew it was a lost cause dealing with Pilate,

Because he did not have his own mind.

He was like a kite in the wind of social acceptance.

Pilate knew Jesus was innocent,

But failed to recognize his part and use his power to protect the innocent.

II. PILATE HAD DIAGNOSED JESUS CORECTLY

Somewhere between meeting Jesus and bringing him out to the crowd.

Pilate CHANGED his mind from guilty to innocent.

He believed Christ was innocent.

Part of it came from knowing the jealousy,

Of the old pompous and proud Pharisees and Chief priests.

Part of it came from his wife and her dream. She said:

Don't have anything to do with that innocent man, for I have suffered a great deal today in a dream because of him. Matthew 27:19

But most of it came from Pilate's own interview with Jesus in the midst of all Pilate had done to him. Pilate had him beaten, mocked and dressed in thorns and robe. The actual beating was done by a man called a "lictor" - a professional in the grim art of torture - whose whip including a piece of wood fourteen inches long with leather thongs and bits of glass, bone or metal attached. a weapon designed to reduce the naked body to strips of raw flesh and inflamed, bleeding wounds.

When Pilate saw the beating Jesus took and how he faced it with patience and meekness

That convinced him still more that Jesus was innocent,

When Pilate heard this saying, he was the more afraid- John 19:8

and he again went forth to declare Jesus innocent.

But the crowd rose up

And Pilate gave up true justice,

He gave up his civil duty

He gave up his own integrity,

And he gave up Jesus

to please the crowd.

When Pilate heard this, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judge's seat at a place known as the Stone Pavement. John 19:13

And Pilate said to them.

Here is your king. Pilate said to the Jews. John 19:14

The chief Priest answered:

"We have no king but Caesar." John 19:15

The Pharisees misdiagnosed their own sickness,

Their own illness.

Their own spiritual condition.

And placed their souls in eternal jeopardy.

And moved to crucify the Son of God.

¹⁶Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified. John 19:14-16

How often have we done the same.

We say, "We haven't sinned." We're not as bad as so and so."

"Were good enough." We claim we have not sinned.

I John 1:9-10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in us.

III. GOD HAD THE CORRECT DIAGNOSIS FOR HIS WORLD

He had the perfect remedy, treatment.

God diagnosed the world as fallen and in great need.

If he had not diagnosed us as a sinner.

As children fallen from God's grace.

As a world in need of a savior

Jesus would not have come.
But the Bible records it for us.

For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23

Because of sin there is death.

The wages of sin is death. Romans 6:23

Because of death we face judgment.

It is appointed unto man once to die and then judgment. Hebrews 9:27

And after Judgment there is the eternal condemnation in the fire of hell.

If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. Revelation 20:19

The proof of our sinfulness is revealed in the power of the remedy.
If you don't believe your cancer is serious,
Then the chemo and radiation treatments will surely convince you
That cancer is a serious illness, it can and will kill you.

The treatment reveals the severity of the sickness.
If you don't think your heart is plugged
Quad bypass will clear your thinking.

If you don't think we were born sinners,
Dying under the curse of death and destruction.
Then remember the Cruelty, the beatings and the punishment of the cross
That God inflicted on the sin of the world that Jesus carried.
The very blood of the Son of God was shed for us.

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. I Peter 1:18-19

Hebrews says: without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. There is no forgiveness available.

From the moment Jesus was slapped and his nose began to bleed,
From the first lash of the whip and the blood began to run.
From the savage thrust of the crown of thorns and the blood began to flow
You were being bought with a price.
Every scourge,
Every nail
Every spear piercing.
Not one drop of blood was lost

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; but his wounds you have been healed. I Peter 3:24

God calls it substitution or atonement.

II Corinthians 5:21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us. That we might become the righteousness of God.

Jesus went to the cross not for himself.
He was sinless,
But he took upon himself your sin and mine.

Isaiah 53: Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows. Yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities' the punishment that brought us peace was upon him and be his wounds we are healed. Isaiah 53:4-5

He was smitten by God,
Stricken By God,
Afflicted by God.
Pierced by God for our transgression.
Crushed by God for our iniquities.
Because God saw our sin,
And he saw the remedy.
He took Jesus and made him a guilt offering
for the sins of the world.

Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life a guilt offering... Is. 53:10

Knowing all this:
And the great sacrifice of Jesus for you,
Will you seek God for your life?
Will you accept the remedy of Jesus blood for your sins?
Will you invite the Spirit of the living God to be in your heart?

It may take some revamping, some rearranging, some remodeling of our lives.

The artist Rodin, one day saw a huge, carved crucifix beside a road.

He immediately loved the artwork and insisted on having it for himself. He purchased the cross and arranged to have it carted back to his house. But, unfortunately, it was too big for the building. So, of all things, he knocked out the walls, raised the roof, and rebuilt his home around the cross (Best Sermons 3, Harper & Row, 1990, p. 115).

That is exactly Jesus calls for your life.
Will you rebuild, rearrange, reconstruct your life around the cross?
That is what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ.