

The Greatest Cry Ever Heard

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Bible Text: Matthew 27:45-50; Luke 23:46

Preached on: Thursday, September 13, 2012

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I am just a beggar, a sinner saved by grace. Are you? Isn't it wonderful that you're a beggar? And then not only that, we have got something to look forward to.

Take your Bibles, if you will, and turn to Matthew chapter 27 verses 45 through 50 and then we are going to look at Luke chapter 23 and 46. Matthew 27:45-50.

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? Some of them that stood there, when they heard that, said, This man calleth for Elias. And straightway one of them ran, and took a sponge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink. The rest said, Let be, let us see whether Elias will come to save him.

Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.¹

Now Luke chapter 23 just one verse, verse 46, because our subject tonight is the greatest cry ever heard on this planet. And now turning to it, verse 46 we read:

“And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.”²

Shall we pray?

Our Lord, tonight as we look into thy Word and see again what you have done for us and why you have done it, our hearts are melting and we bow before you and say, “Lord Jesus, who are we that you should love us like we do and that you reached down and saved us.” But, oh, dear God, we know you have and we can't get over it and we can't serve you enough and love you enough and tell people enough about you. And oh, dear God, how we praise you again for this church. Keep thy hand upon it. Watch over it. Protect it. Provide, prosper and promote it as only thou art able and, Lord, may this

¹ Matthew 27:45-50.

² Luke 23:46.

church be the means for an awakening in this vicinity. Now direct us as we study together we ask, Lord Jesus, for thy sake. Amen.

Thank you. You may be seated.

Today we are going to look at the greatest cry ever heard on planet earth. This cry is not appreciated, nor known by the vast majority of individuals who call themselves Christians or the rest of mankind. Yet this cry is the greatest and the most important cry ever uttered by a human being. And our lesson will fall into these simple categories. We are going to look, first of all, at the cry of anguish and then we are going to look at the second one, the cry of absolute victory.

Now the cry that the Lord Jesus uttered which is the greatest cry in the universe was these words.

“It is finished.”³

And I will tell you right now. He uttered that with a loud voice. It reminded me of a... you might say some one playing football. When they score a touchdown what happens? Thousands of people cry out and exaltation. But I will tell you right now. Jesus was hanging on the cross of Calvary and when he was all through he looked around and he {?} he cried out:

“It is finished.”⁴

Because the last {?} that he had to do he looked around and went through the Scriptures and he found out that there was one Scripture that hadn't been fulfilled. And what was it?

“I thirst.”⁵

And so he said:

“I thirst.”⁶

And you know what happened. He bowed his head, he gave a great cry:

“It is finished.”⁷

And the when that cry was done he said:

“Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit.”⁸

³ John 19:30.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ John 19:28.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ John 19:30.

And he gave up the ghost.

Now this is the cry of the Lord Jesus and I think myself. I may be as wrong as {?} you are going to have to prove me wrong or {?}. I believe the Lord Jesus Christ was {?} when he finished and when he said these words.

“It is finished.”⁹

Now if it was me, I would like to add another word to it. Hallelujah. Amen? All right. Now let’s look at the Lord Jesus Christ for just a few moments tonight. Our lesson will fall into these two categories. First of all, the cry of anguish examined. Go back if you will to Matthew chapter 27 verses 45 and 46. Listen again to what it says.

“Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.”¹⁰

Now how come? God shut down the sun and in Luke chapter 23 it will tell you. The sun quit shining and God turned that sun out. In other words, this world was in complete darkness and if it had been much longer it would have become a ball of ice. {?} carefully.

“And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”¹¹

Here is the cry of anguish and let’s examine it. Number one, if we look at it and we see very clearly, I see in this the Lord Jesus Christ a picture of an awakened sinner. Now we talk about an awakening and when we talk about awakening we are talking language that the 95 percent of the so called Christians today don’t understand it. But I want to tell you very kindly. The Lord Jesus Christ has to awaken a sinner for that sinner to get saved. My brother brought that out so clearly last time and we find when the Lord Jesus Christ, hanging here on the cross, he is the picture of an awakened sinner.

Notice, number one, naked. Number two, sinful. And we find sinful in the sight of both God and man, because the Lord God of heaven or, yes, made the Lord Jesus to become sin for us, he who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Do you know what I am talking about? Oh, I hope and pray that you do. The second thing about it was this. He was not only naked and sinful in the eyes of God and man, but we see him there condemned and helpless before the Lord. Now you get this. The Lord Jesus Christ did not lose any of his deity on the cross of Calvary. He didn’t lose any of it. And we find {?} how it happened. He hung there, because I will tell you what it was. Love held him there, did it not? And we find he hung there as a picture of a sinner shortly

⁸ Luke 23:46.

⁹ John 19:30.

¹⁰ Matthew 27:45.

¹¹ Matthew 27:46.

before that sinner gets saved. But then helpless before both God and man. And my Lord did that deliberately. You and I do it also as the Holy Spirit of God opens our hearts and leads us, because I will tell you right now. No individual outside of an individual being awakened by the Holy Spirit, no individual is going to take this kind of a place before man or God, because man is too much of a coward individual.

And then the third thing about it was this. Not only was he condemned and helpless before the Lord, but the third thing was that he was conscious of his separation from God. Now I hope you see and I will give you this truth and think on it if you will. The Lord Jesus Christ was always the eternal Son of God. Daily and in the counsels of eternity the Lord Jesus Christ was daily the delight of the Father. But here on the cross of Calvary God the Father turned his back upon the Lord Jesus Christ. Do you know why? I will tell you why. Listen to it. God cannot look upon sin. And the Lord Jesus Christ was made sin for us on that tree and he hung there condemned and helpless and hopeless and I even use this term, hapless. But it was {?} by him and by the rest of the godhead and we see it set forth, all right. The Lord Jesus was conscious of the separation between him and the Lord God of heaven.

Then we find the second thing. Not only was there was a cry of anguish on the part of the Lord Jesus as a {?} sinner, but we have also here Christ crying the torments of the damned. Now hold your seat again. I want to tell you point blank. If you die without Christ you are going to hell. No ifs, ands and buts about it. And don't think you won't. And I know people today don't describe hell. They don't like to talk about it, but I will tell you right now. It is real. It is absolute. It is eternal and it is reserved for the devil and his angels and every unsaved individual that has ever been converted.

Are you going to heaven or are you going to hell? You think that on that tonight. Now these are facts. And keep that in mind. So many times they say, "Well, you know, you are talking about these thing and we just don't understand them." No, sir, my friend. There are some facts that need to be set out tonight. And what is it?

Number one, every individual is born a hell bound sinner when he comes into this world.

You will say, "Preacher, what are you talking about?"

We are hell born, we are hell bent and we are hell deserving. And that this the way we are. And people don't like to hear that, but it is true. And we find when my Lord was hanging on the cross of Calvary, I will tell you right now. He was crying out the torments of the damned, separated from the Lord God of heaven forever and ever and ever. That will be your... that will be your sins. That will be your situation.

And then he {?} he was cursed.

You say, "Preacher, what are you talking about?"

The Lord Jesus Christ is going to do one of two things {?}. He is either going to receive you and save you, or he is going to let you go. And if he lets you go, put it down, you are going to stand before him one day and the Lord Jesus Christ is going to look at you and you will say these words.

“Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.”¹²

And the angels of God will pick you up and hurl you into the lake of fire and you will be there forever and ever. And I want to tell you something. I am speaking to you the truth. I don't want you to go to hell. And I pray and I preach for you to you for many years and you are still not saved. Well, you are guilty of unbelief. And what is that? All right. What is it?

Number one, heaven is real. My wife said it today. She is singing the praises of the Lord and I think she is singing even some of the songs that she wrote as she is praising the Lord, all right? She is waiting for me to come and join her which we hope to do in the near future.

Now you say, “Why do you tell us?”

It is because these are realities. I don't care whether people don't believe it or not. It doesn't change it one iota. There is a heaven to gain. There is a hell to shun and every individual that has got any sense whatever ought to sue for mercy on the basis that Christ died for sinners {?}.

Well, you might say, “Well, preacher, I don't feel like I am that big a sinner.”

Too bad. You were born that way. You are on your road to a {?}. You are hell born and hell bent, hell bound and hell deserving. And we find when my Lord hung on the cross of Calvary he cried out and said:

“My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”¹³

That is the cry of an individual suffering the torments of the dead. And we find {?} because why do I tell you this? Well, let me just {?} something if I may. Hell is a dark and dismal region where men {?} of the light of God's countenance and tormented with the presence of the devil, held up to everlasting contempt and become the burden of their own thoughts, falling to remembrance their past sins, having an active sense of their present faith and knowing the reality of the eternal {?}.

The wicked shall be turned into hell and all the nations that forget God. And I will tell you right now. That includes America. I love this country and I am praying all the time. Lord, save America.

¹² Matthew 25:41.

¹³ Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34.

He can't bless us the way we are. We are too wicked. And if we find... what happens? He is pleading and he is {} and I will tell you right now. We haven't got much time left. My Lord is coming again. Are you ready to meet him? Wouldn't it be wonderful if he came tonight? If he did, do you know what would happen? All our {} We wouldn't go naked. We would be given a new life. And I will tell you it will be the body like that of the Lord Jesus Christ, because now are we the sons of God and it does not yet appear what we shall be. We know that when he should appear we should be like him for we shall see him as he is.

I want to ask you a question. I am going not heaven. Are you going with me? Oh, you think it. You are if you know the Lord. You are not if you don't know him. {} This is the Lord Jesus crying out the torments of the damned.

And then we will go one step further. There is also a cry here of absolute victory. I believe when the Lord Jesus finished it all off, because I will tell you right now, the last prophecy that he finished it said:

“I thirst.”¹⁴

John chapter 19 verse 28 through 30.

After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst. Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it to his mouth. When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.¹⁵

And then he said these words:

“Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.”¹⁶

He bowed his head and in dignity and majesty that he is, he bowed his head and gave up the ghost and I will tell you right now. His blood was presented in heaven and the veil of the temple was rent in twain. That is the Lord telling us that all the Old Testament sacrifices have been fulfilled.

Now this is the work of my Lord. And we find it was the fulfillment, the cry of absolute history and we find the will of God was absolutely fulfilled. He knew that. And we find also the work of Christ completely satisfied Jehovah God. He knew that also. Then we find also what happened. We see very clearly the satisfaction by his life and the satisfaction of sin and whatsoever {}. And I like that.

¹⁴ John 19:28.

¹⁵ John 19:28-30.

¹⁶ Luke 23:46.

One day my Lord convinced me that I was lost in {?}. I hated by nature. My soul was so defiled. I begged for mercy and {?} I took my place and I kept {?} until he saved me by his grace. And I will tell you right now. You may have all the mansions in glory. You may have all the streets of pure gold. For my eyes will be scanning the heaven looking for the one that saved my soul. I am looking for stars up in heaven, stars {?}, stars that turn judgment for mercy for a hell deserving sinner like me.

Can you say amen to that? I hope and pray that you can, because you see, in the Lord Jesus here was a cry of absolute victory. The will of God was absolutely fulfilled. The work of Christ completely satisfied Jehovah God and there was the completion of God's law and there was the satisfaction of the life of Christ and the sacrifice of sin forever was finished.

And then we find also, what more? There is a complete and eternal deliverance {?}. Now why do I tell you that? Are you listening? When God saved you, he gives us a reality in our soul that our sin has been paid for. Are you listening? He gives {?} and it is so good that at first we can hardly believe it and we find it is a reality. You think of it. Your sin is gone because what happened? Your condemnation is gone. We stand before the Lord, a condemned sinner and then suddenly and positively and mysteriously and wonderfully and indelibly, the Spirit of God comes into our soul and shows us that the Lord Jesus Christ is real to us. And I will tell you right now. Our conviction is gone. Our sin is gone and in its place comes the reality that Jesus Christ is my redeemer. I don't know if he is yours or not, but I will tell you right now. He is mine. {?}

Now this is a cry of victory, of absolute victory, a completion of God's law and the a complete and eternal deliverance was effected. We have been accepted by the Lord God of heaven. It is a reality and nothing can be added to it or take away from it.

Now you think on it and then notice we have accomplished grace and hope manifested. There is no sinner too great to be saved. And I have said this over and over again. When God saved this old sinner it proved he can save anybody. And the you probably feel the same way.

But then I want you to notice. Justification and adoption becomes reality.

And you say, "Preacher, what are you talking out?"

Whereas before we said {?} now what do we say? My father. Why? Because what happened? Because we are sons, the Lord God of heaven has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts whereby we cry what? Abba, Father. Amen?

Now look again if you will. Then we find also that God's justice is absolutely fulfilled in the work of Christ, because always remember one thing. God will by no means clear the guilty, but through the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ there is no more sacrifice of sin possible and we find {?} that the Lord God of heaven is our Redeemer.

Oh, do you know what I am talking about? And we find no wonder my Lord cried out. He cried out:

“It is finished.”¹⁷

And he shouted that cry and I will tell you right now. It has been reverberating down through the {?} of time because it is true. The work that my Lord has done, it is finished. Nothing can be added to it. Nothing can be taken away from it. It is complete, absolute and eternal and when it is applied to our souls, I will tell you right now. We never, never get over it.

I don't know about you, but more than once I sit before the Lord and I have said, “Lord, why in the world did you save this old sinner? I am so dirty and I am so black.”

And then what happened?

“Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.”¹⁸

He took away my is and as the song {?} goes, “In loving kindness Jesus came, my soul in mercy to reclaim. And from the depths of sin and shame, he lifted me. From sinking sand, he lifted me. With tender hands, he lifted me. From shades of night to plains of light, oh, praise his name. He lifted me.”

Can you say that tonight? Oh, I hope and pray that you can. If you can't, as the Lord to show you. Now don't {?} over it. All right. Let's face facts. If some of you here tonight if you are not saved, maybe for the first time in your life you know that. All right. When you are not saved you have one recourse and that is this. Sue for mercy on the basis that Christ died for sinners and you are the sinner.

“All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.”¹⁹

Oh, I love that and I hope you do. And then we find, last of all. Are you listening? There is no other means of salvation.

“...for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”²⁰

And I am going to tell you something else. The voice of Christ will be heard by every individual. When God sets out to save us he doesn't come around and say, “You would make me so happy if you would let me save you.”

¹⁷ John 19:30.

¹⁸ John 1:29.

¹⁹ John 6:37.

²⁰ Acts 4:12.

Now you would think that today. You would think that you are doing God a favor. No sir. I will tell you what he does. He stops you in your tracks. He did it on the apostle Paul. He did it to this old sinner. He stopped me in my tracks and he showed me who I was and shook me until I was under. And I will tell you right now. He put this old sinner under conviction and it was a cry of conviction and I will tell you. I walked up and down this back yard crying unto the Lord. "Lord, is there any hope for me?" And I went down and I sat in a red chair.

Now you may not understand this, but I asked the Lord to send me to hell. I was such a rotten sinner didn't know that I had prayed the same prayer of Job until four years later. And it was in there. And we find when the Lord did save me, I will tell you right now. I never got over it and I never will. The voice of Christ was heard in my soul and he reached down and delivered me and we find also there was a voice of conviction and redemption and assurance and then we find also, I will tell you right now. Every individual is going to hear the voice of Christ, either in this life or at the great white throne of Judgment and we find the Lord is going to say to those, "Depart from me ye wicked into everlasting prepared for the devil and his angels."

Oh, my friend today, aren't you glad that the Lord God of heaven is still saving sinners?

And some of you might say, "Well, preacher, will the Lord ever save me?"

I don't know. I believe he will. He died {?} if he has begun a work in your heart, I believe he will. I don't know when and how long he is going to deal with you. I don't know. But I will tell you right now. You have a responsibility. You need to bow down before the Lord God of heaven, take your place as a sinner and like the publican, what did he do? He smote himself upon his breast and he cried out, "God, be merciful to me the sinner." And what happened? Jesus said, "I tell you. This man went down to his house justified."

Oh, you know what I am talking about. Oh, I hope and pray that you do. And we find {?} if I can because this is a great portion of the Word of God and we find the voice of condemnation is what we heard at the great white throne judgment and I will tell you right now. The voice of God {?} for his salvation, I hope {?} even tonight.

Oh, listen. It is the greatest thing that can happen to you if and when it does, because I will tell you. To know the Lord Jesus Christ is the greatest experience you will ever have this side of eternity. And my Lord when he hung there on the cross, you think of this. He cried out and I believe he was as happy as he could be when he did it.

Now I may be wrong or {?}, but I believe that when my Lord hung on the cross and he {?} and it was all done and he said.... we know he took a little bit of vinegar and then he bowed his head majestically and said:

“It is finished.”²¹

And he gave up the ghost. But I will tell you right now. He cried out with a loud voice.

“It is finished.”²²

And then he said quietly:

“Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit.”²³

And then he died and he went to glory. He went to hell, as you know, and he went to glory also and he presented the Lord on the mercy seat and I will tell you right now. There was no work, no more blood needed to be shed. Yes, as we sung tonight. One drop would have been sufficient, but he shed it all. He shed it all for me as he shed it all for you. Oh, I hope and pray that you have. And I like what the song goes like this.

He saved me by his wondrous grace. He gave me joy and peace within. I am resting in his {?} grace, since Jesus came and took me in, since Jesus came and he took me in, since Jesus and he took me in. He cleansed my soul from guilt and sin. Hallelujah. Jesus came and took me in.

Do you know what I am talking about? I hope and pray that you do.

Preacher, it is all yours.

²¹ John 19:30.

²² Ibid.

²³ Luke 23:46.