

September 19, 2010  
"Bought at a Price, Bought for a Purpose"  
1 Corinthians 6:20

*When we observe the Lord's Supper we do so to remember our Lord Jesus Christ. We remember Him both for Who He is as our Lord, God and Savior and for what He has done, His death on the cross, the bread being symbolic of His body broken for us, the wine representing His blood pour out for us! Ultimately, understanding what Christ did on the cross can change our lives ...*

I. *Understand this passage in context, Christ died for our sins, therefore we should flee from sin –*

**Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.<sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?<sup>20</sup> For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. (1 Corinthians 6:18-20 NKJ)**

C.H. Spurgeon says this about this passage –

*With what ardor does the apostle pursue sin to destroy it! He is not so prudish as to let sin alone, but cries out, in plainest language, "Flee fornication!" The shame is not in the rebuke, but in the sin which calls for it. He chases this foul wickedness with arguments. See verse 18 he drags it into the light of the spirit of God. What? Know you not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit? Verse 19 he slays it at the cross. "You are bought with a price."*

*This week I spent a little time chasing and swatting flies ...*

*We all need to spend energy either fleeing from or mortifying sin –*

**Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: (Colossians 3:5 KJV)**

**Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. (Colossians 3:5 NKJ)**

*The passage we are considering mentions our bodies being the Temple of the Holy Spirit, O how zealous was Christ to cleanse the Temple –*

**Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.<sup>14</sup> And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the moneychangers doing business.<sup>15</sup> When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables.<sup>16</sup> And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!"<sup>17</sup> Then His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up." (John 2:13-17 NKJ)**

*Yet, we see His real ZEAL in HIS efforts to CLEANSE US (We are His spiritual Temple) as He using His own blood as a cleansing agent, with His blood we are also purchased / redeemed...*

II. *We are bought at a price –*

**For you were bought at a price... (1 Corinthians 6:20 NKJ)**

1. *Being "bought" already implies a price, yet Paul redundantly says "bought at a price." Because He'd have us wonder at the GREATNESS of that price at which we were BOUGHT!*
2. *In what do we see the greatness of this price?*

A. *First we see it in the preciousness of Christ Himself and especially His blood which is worth more than all we can imagine –*

**knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers,<sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. (1 Peter 1:18-19 NKJ)**

B. *We see the greatness of this price when we attempt to MEASURE it in terms of Christ's pains on our behalf –*

- *His prayers and agony in Gethsemane –*

**Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and**

said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there."<sup>37</sup> And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed.<sup>38</sup> Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me." (Matthew 26:36-38 NKJ)

And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. (Luke 22:44 NKJ)

- *The beating and mockery perpetrated by the Roman Soldiers –* So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him.<sup>2</sup> And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe.<sup>3</sup> Then they said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they struck Him with their hands.<sup>4</sup> Pilate then went out again, and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know that I find no fault in Him." (John 19:1-4 NKJ)

- *The physical pains of the cross itself –*

He suffered hours of limitless pain, cycles of twisting, joint-rending cramps, intermittent partial asphyxiation, and searing pain as tissue was torn from His lacerated back from His movement up and down against the rough timbers of the cross. Then another agony began: a deep crushing pain in the chest as the pericardium, the sac surrounding the heart, slowly filled with serum and began to compress the heart.

The prophecy in Psalm 22:14 was being fulfilled: "I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint, my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels."

The end was rapidly approaching. The loss of tissue fluids had reached a critical level; the compressed heart was struggling to pump heavy, thick, sluggish blood to the tissues, and the tortured lungs were making a frantic effort to inhale small gulps of air. The markedly dehydrated tissues sent their flood of stimuli to the brain. Jesus gasped His fifth cry: "I thirst" Again we read in the prophetic psalm: "My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou has brought me into the dust of death" (Psalm 22:15 KJV).

Dr. C. Truman Davis (with help from Psalm 22)

*Yet, these things were likely not the worst part of Jesus' pains:*

(1) *He was made sin for us – 2 Corinthians 5:21*

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJ)

(2) *He was forsaken by the Father – Matthew 27:46*

And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" (Matthew 27:46 NKJ)

*III. We are bought for a purpose –*

For you were bought at a price; **therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.** (1 Corinthians 6:20 NKJ)

1. *We are both created and redeemed to glorify God –*

WSC 1 What is the chief end of man? A. Man's chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy him forever. (WSC 1:1 WCS)

**"You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."** (Revelation 4:11 NKJ)

**1 Corinthians 6:20 (see above)**

A. *Imagine buying something that did not work, a dishwasher that did not wash dishes, a car that would not drive ...*

B. *We are fixer-uppers indeed! See the "The Touch of the Master's Hand" Bulletin cover ---*

2. *Because this is our purpose we cannot be truly happy / fulfilled or blessed if we are not living according to it –*

*Ultimately, Christ's death on the cross, though for God's GLORY is also for our joy ... "and to enjoy Him forever." WSC*

*Jesus, our Good Shepherd died to restore us to LIFE –*

**"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."<sup>11</sup> "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. (John 10:10-11 NKJ)**