

AFTER CALVARY

Scripture:

5:20-
Romans 6:1-4, 1:3-4
Luke 24:49
Mark 16:15

Introduction

The Calvary experience has been described as the greatest and most important human experience. For it is here that humanity first knows direct communion with God.

Calvary brings men into fellowship with God, but what happens after the Calvary experience determines whether the cross has had its proper effect on our lives.

I. The purpose of Calvary

A. To demonstrate God's love

1. Its magnitude

The Lord is...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:9

And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

Ephesians 3:19

2. Its effect

Illustration:

Man says, "String him up, it'll teach him a lesson!"

But God says, "Forgive him, it'll teach him a lesson!"

I. The purpose of Calvary

B. To impart God's love

1. We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.

1 John 3:14

2. 1 Corinthians 13

C. To Destroy sin

For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:8b

1. The conquering work of Christ

Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

3. (Now he that ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth.

Ephesians 4:8-9

a. Descended into Sheol as conqueror

b. Wrested the keys to death and hell from Satan's grasp

2. Its result

Oh death, where is thy sting? Oh grave, where is thy victory?

The sting of death is sin.

1 Corinth. 15:55-56a

II. The responsibility of the Calvary experience

A. Become Spirit empowered

1. More than just speaking in tongues

2. Having signs following

See Col. 2:13-15

II. The responsibility of the Calvary Experience
B. Become a witness

Conclusion

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

Looking unto Jesus the author and FINISHER of our faith....

Hebrews 12:1-2a