

Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: David Key

Opening Prayer: Eddy Dickinson

On the Table: Head - Ralph Burleson
Servers - Billy Box
Greg Lowery
Josh Berryhill

Closing Prayer: Al Corkren

Preparing the Lord's Supper Michelle Lowery

Weekly Service Times

Sunday

Bible Study	10:00 am
Morning Worship	10:45 am
Evening Worship	5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study	7:00 pm
-------------	---------

Visit Our Website

www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Leonard Key / David Key
Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson

Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

Minister: Greg Lowery

Contact Information:
Phone: (205) 465-9142

Brilliant Church of Christ
930 Main Street
P.O. Box 222
Brilliant, AL 35548

Peace That Guards Our Mind & Heart



*The
Brilliant
Beacon*



Jesus: A Man Of Sorrows And Acquainted With Grief

By Perry N. Hall

In dealing with the problems of human suffering, it is deeply comforting to know that we have the help of One Who suffered as no other, and that if we suffer with Him, we will also be glorified together (Rom. 8:17).

In the Old Testament book of Isaiah, Jesus Christ is prophetically portrayed as the Suffering servant of God (Isa. 49, 53). In Isaiah 53:3, it is said of Him that He is “a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief...” Twelve times within the space of nine verses of this chapter, the prophet reiterates emphatically that all the servant’s sufferings were vicarious, borne for man, to save him from the consequences of his sins, to enable him to escape punishment. It was our transgression and iniquity that caused the chastisement of our peace to be upon Him, filling Him with sorrow and grief.

He is uniquely qualified as the “Man of Sorrows”. When we look at this expression, we know there is but One of our race to Whom this title properly belongs. By partaking of our humanity as He did, and being made sin for us, Jesus came into the closest possible contact with the sins, pains, privations, deformities, diseases, and sorrows of mankind. He suffered with those whom He saw suffering. He knew the sorrow of rejection by those whom He came to save. He knew sorrow as the sinless One on Whom were laid the iniquities of the world. He came to know the painful and shameful sorrow of the long-lasting, and excruciating agony upon the cross, when it seemed as if even His Father had forsaken Him. In His earthly sojourn He wept, groaned, and more than once, was troubled. He grew weary and exhausted.

Being touched with the feelings of our infirmities, tempted in all points as we, yet without sin, His divine sympathy enables us to come boldly to the throne of grace for help and mercy in our time of need (Heb. 4:15-16). It was His love for man and prospect of “bringing many sons unto glory” that brought, in the final analysis, joy to the heart of the man of sorrows (Heb. 2:10; 12:2).

When it comes to the problem of human suffering, Jesus has left us a perfect example, that we should follow his steps (1 Pet. 2:19-25).

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Mary Rainey: has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Maylene McWhirter: her blood gases are showing signs of myeloid leukemia, please be praying for her and her family

Jack Waldon: {Linda’s Brother-In-Law} is under hospice care, please keep him and his family in your prayers

Billy Lee: {Carolyn’s Brother} diagnosed with renal failure, please keep him in your prayers

Jimmie Ann Hardy {Carolyn’s Sister}: is in the nursing home in Guin, please continue to pray that her health continues to improve

Arthur Ewing: has lung cancer, please pray that he will be able to receive treatment that can help him

Robeana Green: has been diagnosed with cancer, please be praying that with treatments this cancer can be defeated

Joey Colburn: is taking treatments for cancer, please pray that the treatments will be successful in defeating his cancer

Billy Wayne Burleson: is home recovering from recent surgery, please continue to keep him in your prayers

Don Lawrence: met with doctors concerning blockage with kidneys and they are going to continue to monitor the situation at this time, please continue to keep him your prayers

Winfred York: is home continuing to rehab from hip surgery, please keep him and Vertie Mae in your prayers

Buddy Frazier: undergoing cancer treatments, please keep him in your prayers

Upcoming Events

Today	Tri-County Singing {Tidwell Chapel}	2:00 pm
March 3 rd	Country Place	2:00 pm
March 10 th	Nursing Home	2:00 pm

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Angie Ganey Gardner: has been diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer, please pray that this cancer will be treatable

Amy Weeks {Donna’s Niece}: has asked for prayers to help overcome addictions, please pray that she will turn to God for help and strength

Wyatt Spann: is currently fighting a brain tumor, please pray that with medical help he can win this fight

Connie Autrey: has a brain aneurysm and is also taking treatments for cancer, please be praying that doctors can help her with these serious problems

Bobby Sanderson: continues to fight a bacterial infection in his kidneys and is taking treatments, pray that this infection will be cleared up quickly

Al Corkren: broken tibia from recent fall at work, please pray that this break will help completely with no further problems

Jesus Is Touched With The Feelings Of Our Infirmities

By Billy R. Smith

One of the recurring themes from the life of Jesus is, “When he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them” (Matt. 9:36). He saw the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual destitution of mankind and came to save the world from itself.

In becoming flesh (John 1:14), Jesus is able to identify with all the human experiences life brings. He knows what it is like to be hungry, thirsty, tired, lonely, angry, ill, hurt, betrayed, accused, berated, misunderstood, denied and deserted. He knows the heart-break that comes with separation from those you love and especially the pain that accompanies the loss of a loved one.

And, in going to the cross, Jesus is able to identify with the reality of death and dying, of relating to both its fears and demonstration of faith. The cross, therefore, accomplished more than our salvation from sin; it also provides proof that we possess a Savior who can identify with our every problem, pain and possibility. He has been there.

When you wonder if God cares that you suffer, remember Jesus on the cross; when you suffer the loss of a parent, a mate, or a child, remember then that Jesus knows. When life presents you with an unexpected turn, remember then that Jesus has experienced each of life’s emotions and activities. Not only is He able to identify with our infirmities, He is also able to strengthen us to endure them. Well did the Hebrews writer say: “For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin” (Heb. 4:15).

Overcoming The Problems Of Loneliness And Discouragement

By Curtis A. Cates

Man that is born of a woman, is of few days, and full of trouble,” observed the perceptive servant Job, the patriarch (Job 14:1). That trouble, which is common to man (1 Cor. 10:13), certainly includes loneliness and discouragement. Sin, the transgression of God’s perfect law of ethics and morality [based upon His very nature] by man [a free moral being, since he is made in God’s image (Gen. 1:26-27)], has brought/brings great problems. However, the way that man handles those problems can bring blessings, strength, and eventual, eternal reward. Christ is our perfect example in loneliness and discouragement.

“Despised And Rejected Of Men”

Though Christ “knew what was in man” (John 2:25) [He knows all], He nonetheless:

partook of the same [flesh and blood]...that through death he might bring to naught him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; and might deliver all them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage (Heb. 2:14-15).

Christ was man’s only hope (Heb. 12:1-2; John 3:16; Rom. 5:8; Heb. 2:9). But, it meant suffering grievously. How the huge heart of the Father must have been broken as His only begotten Son was rejected by those whom He came to save, accused falsely by His enemies, abandoned by those who once followed Him, betrayed by a “familiar friend,” denied by one of His own, buffeted and spat upon and crucified as if a heinous criminal! How deep must have been the pain when His own people shed the blood of innocent animals so lightly, without sincerity and reverence, when the Lord knew that the blood of each was pointing to His being grievously killed on Calvary! How great the hurt must have been to see the temple [the house of God] profaned, when He knew that it was type of the church, God’s house, which He would die to purchase with His innocent blood!

Alone In The Garden

Are you surprised, therefore, dear reader, that our Lord was also at times lonely and discouraged? The Garden of Gethsemane was the site of just one such occasion.

Crossing the Brook Kidron and entering the garden just after instituting the Lord’s Supper [He entered the wilderness to prepare to live (Matt. 4:1-11); He entered Gethsemane to prepare to die], His heart was crushed. His suffering was intense; indeed, Gethsemane means “wine-press, oil-press”. There, “. . .in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became as it were great drops of blood” (Luke 22:44). He cried out in grief as a little child:

who in the days of his flesh, having offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and having been heard for his godly fear, though he was a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered (Heb. 5:7-8).

He was human as we, and He faced the most shameful death known to man. Yet, He endured the cross (Heb. 12:2). The Lord was lonely; the garden was, in addition, one of solitude. He had to be crushed in the wine-press alone; He at times also wanted to be alone, as do we. He went a stone’s throw farther into the garden than did Peter, James and John. What discouragement Christ must have experienced, also. Rejected by virtually everyone, He needed special help from His Father.

Strengthened Through Prayer

With God ever near, Christ was neither totally alone nor wholly overwhelmed by disappointment, loneliness, or sorrow. Gethsemane was a garden of prayer. What better time to reach up to the hand of God than in the midst of such grief. And, to the child of God, the huge hand, the everlasting arms, and the attentive heart of God are always there. It was a garden of humility, as Christ “kneeled down and prayed” (Luke 22:41). Others slept, but the Lord engaged in fervent, persistent, and humble prayer. It was also a garden of submission; His attitude always was, “Thy will be done.” And God’s will was done. When our attitude is patterned after Christ’s, God’s Will will be done in our lives.

Conclusion

The garden became one of victory for the Lord, because “. . .there appeared unto him an angel from heaven, strengthening him.” As the angel strengthened the Lord in His loneliness and discouragement, so will the Lord strengthen us. The Lord can be a strength to us in loneliness and discouragement, for He suffered the same (Heb. 4:14-16). Your suffering likewise will give you the victory and equip you to “Bear ye one another’s burdens” (Gal. 6:2; John 14:1ff; Heb. 5:8-9).