

“God Tearing Three Curtains at Calvary”

Matthew 27:45–54

13 August 2017

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. Blinds versus curtains—which side are you on?

APOLOGETIC

2. Hebrews 10:19–22 speaks of Christ’s flesh as a “veil” (or curtain). In what sense did Christ’s flesh serve as a curtain? Why is it important for us to understand the truth that this picture communicates?

INTO THE BIBLE

3. Read the following Scriptures, which speak of Christ purchasing our redemption. What was it that actually secured the forgiveness of our sins: his blood, his suffering, or his death?

Colossians 1:13–14—He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of his love, in whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins.

1 Peter 3:18—For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit.

Romans 4:24–25—It shall be imputed to us who believe in him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

GOING DEEPER

4. Keith and Kristyn Getty’s widely loved song, “In Christ Alone,” contains the following line: “Till on that cross as Jesus died the wrath of God was satisfied.” A few years ago, a large American denomination excluded this hymn from its official hymnal because of the word “satisfied.” Do you agree with the words of this Getty song? Why, or why not?

5. If we believe that salvation is only by the grace of God, and that people are incapable of responding to the gospel apart from sovereign grace, why do we share the gospel with others?

If we truly believe that humans are incapable of believing the gospel on their own strength, with what attitude must we approach evangelism?

6. Why is the cross of Christ central for Christians—for sanctification? assurance? perseverance? hope? trials? death?

PRAYER ITEMS

Prayer Psalm: 119:57–64

Response to the Word: The salvation of loved ones; a greater appreciation of the gospel in our church

Church Families: Doug & Jill Van Meter; Katy, Lydia & Jessica Van Meter

Special Needs: Ashleigh Grainger; Hannah Murphy; Roger Tobler; Andrew Vermeulen; Derrick Brown; Elma Quevauvilliers; Jimmy Guthrie; Unemployed & underemployed

Expectant Couples: Andrew & Sandhya Lear; Gareth & Debbie Payne; Angelo & Nikita Tokalon; Quintin & Denna Starkey; Ryan & Nadia Butterworth; Michael & Gillian Varughese

Adoptions

Ministry: Shepherd's School; Counselling Conference

The Great Commission:

- Laban Mwashekele—Namibia

- Sweden—The church of Sweden is no longer a state church. There are many serious problems, including widespread rejection of the Bible as the authoritative Word of God. Pray that the church will be shaken out of error and become a source of life in the Spirit.

- Unreached Focus: China (1.35 billion people; officially atheist; 3–4% Christian)

- Increasing marginalisation of Christianity in India

Sister Churches: Robertson Reformed Community Church (Cape Town)—Mark Lillie

Our Country: Economic Development—Mr Ebrahim Patel

As you do your regular grocery shopping, please remember to add something to your trolley to donate to the Food for the Family ministry. Regularly used items include: rice (1kg or 2kg); juice; washing powder (auto or hand wash); cooking oil (750ml or 2-litre); peanut butter; syrup; jam; tea; coffee; sandwich spread; pilchards; tuna; cake flour; baked beans; butter beans; mixed vegetables; tomato and onion mix; other canned foods; Cremora or long life milk; pasta; noodles; condiments (tomato sauce, mustard), etc.; sugar (1kg or 2.5kg); mielie meal; bath soap; deodorant (roll-on); toothpaste. Speak to Patson Ngidi for more information.