

F+BC TODAY

U N L E A S H I N G T H E G O S P E L

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ARTICLE

The Day the Earth Stood Still (Part 2)

**Prayer Spotlight
Opening Our Lives**

F+BC

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MAIN SERVICE

| Physical & Youtube |

Sundays 8:45am / 11:15am

YOUTH SERVICE

| Physical |

Sundays 8:45am

SUNDAY SCHOOL

For Ages 3 to 12

(Preschool to std 6)

Physical Classes

8:45am / 11:15am

The Day The Earth Stood Still (Part 2)

This poem was preached as a sermon during the Good Friday Service on 15th April 2022. It consists of four scenes. Part 1, featuring the first two scenes, was published last Sunday.



Scene 3 – On the Cross

The trials now concluded, heaven stood in attention,

The Son of God now facing His execution.

Finally, **the day the earth stood still** had arrived,

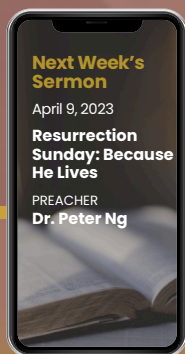
It was plainly what His enemies had connived.

Pilate handed Jesus to them to do as they pleased,

Their glee, you can imagine, was now increased!

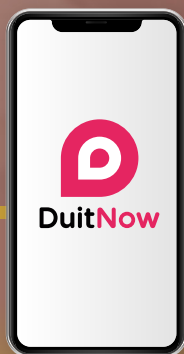
The soldiers took Jesus outside the city wall,

To a hill called the Skull, where His cross would stand tall.



Pulpit Program

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But before the march to the crucifixion site,
Pilate's men couldn't resist showing their spite.
On Jesus, they placed a contemptuous crown of thorns,
On Him, they heaped all sorts of insults and scorns.

His steps through the streets, they weren't easy at all,
Jesus was too weak, that heavy cross to haul.
They forced a man named Simon to carry the load,
With Jesus stumbling in front, on that tragic road.

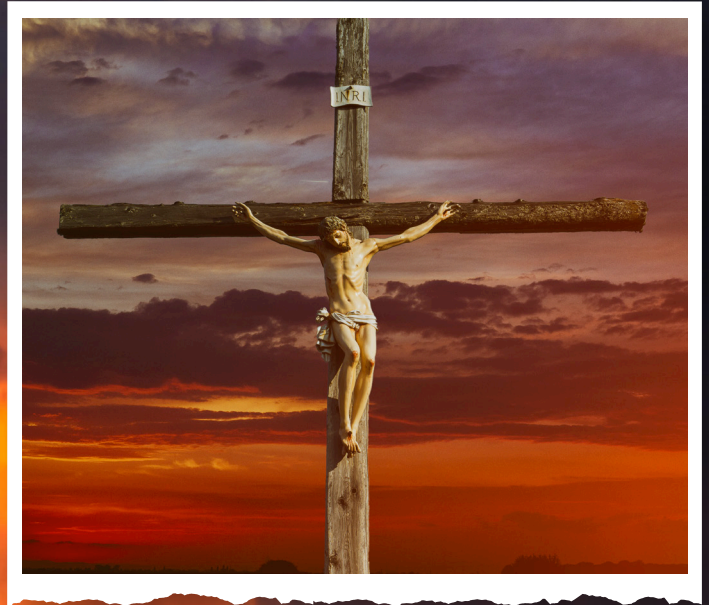
Reaching the spot, they nailed Jesus to the wood,
Imagine how sharp the pain, even if you could!
Two others were also crucified at that scene,
On the left, on the right, with Jesus in between.

The Son of God hanging on the cross for all to view,
With two felons beside - could have been me and you.
A sinless Man sent to die, it was no mistake,
He was numbered with transgressors, for our sake.

The Son of God on the cross, won't you take a look?
A body stained with blood, isn't He just a crook?
The face that was too glorious for Moses to gaze,
Is now so mangled, eyes would turn away in haste!

It was nine in the morning, when the Savior was hung,
They gambled on His tunic, using dice that they flung.
The other garments were divided, those they shared,
It happened exactly as Scripture had declared.

On the cross they placed a sign 'Jesus, King of the Jews',
It's the charge against Jesus, that Pilate chose to use.
But they didn't realize the sign was hardly a curse,
For Jesus is, in fact, the King of the universe!



If He so wished, Jesus could have set Himself free,
He could have summoned a fearsome angelic army.
Even so, "Come down if You're the Son of God," they sneered.
"He saved others but not Himself," at Jesus they jeered.

It was three hours into the crucifixion,
A dreadful darkness enveloped the location.
Was it creation reacting with shudders?
For the sin of the world was on Jesus' shoulders!

But on the Savior, the cross was taking its toll,
The extreme pain was almost beyond His control.
The sufferings brought Him near limits of endurance,
Unable to breathe, death would soon make its entrance.

Three hours past noon, with mere minutes till the end,
The most painful moment for Jesus was at hand.
When the Father turned away from the Son briefly,
Jesus cried, "My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

A moment later, Jesus murmured, "I thirst."
Dehydrated, His condition was getting worse.
He was offered wine vinegar, a most sour thing,
The One who gives living water, now needed a drink!

The next moment, Jesus cried out, "It is finished!"
The work of salvation He had accomplished!
He paid the high penalty for our iniquity,
It's the greatest act of love in human history!

As Jesus breathed His last, as His life reached its limit,
He said, "Into Your hands I commit My spirit."
With those words, the Savior of the world bowed His head,
The Man on the cross now lifeless, Jesus was dead.

Who would have imagined this, the Son of God slain?
Heaven must have been in shock, to see Jesus shamed.
The day the earth stood still, who can understand?
Think about it: man killed God, but God saved man.

At the precise moment the cross consumed Jesus,
The Temple's veil was ripped into two pieces.
The curtain dividing God and man was parted,
Symbolizing our access to God now granted.

To hasten His demise, the Jews could no longer wait,
The legs of Jesus, the soldiers were told to break.
Seeing that Jesus was dead, this they did not to act,
Again, fulfilling Scripture, His bones were left intact.

Instead, with his spear, a soldier stabbed Jesus' side,
Spilling blood and water, spouting a crimson tide.
Yet again, it's what Holy Scripture had foretold,
That the One they had pierced, they would now behold.

From where He hung, they brought down His battered body,
Nearby was a tomb, where Jesus was placed hurriedly.
We traced His tortuous road to the cross, since His arrest,
Now on a cold stone slab, Jesus was laid to rest.

Looking at all this, what should be my one great wish?
The old rugged cross, I shall forever cherish!
For what else in my life can I boast, what thing?
To the old rugged cross, I shall always cling.

Scene 4 – In the Room

We went from the Garden, to the trials, to the cross,
It's time for us to take stock, to take a pause.
Let's revisit the night ere the day the earth stood still,
To the upper room, where Jesus and the Twelve had a meal.



It was also a night of intense conversations,
The Lord left His disciples many instructions.
It was His last night with them, Jesus had much to say,
Words that are directed at us, even today!

On the table were set, the bread and wine, no less,
Their meal, the Last Supper, was well in progress.
It's a beautiful thing that we should emulate,
People of God eating together, sharing a plate.

Halfway through the meal, Jesus prepared some water,
He began washing their feet, one after another.
The disciples, notably Peter, protested,
But on this act of service, the Lord insisted.

It was a lesson He wanted to illustrate,
What He had done, they should also imitate.
He came to serve, not to be served, Jesus said before,
If we do the same, a blessing to us He swore.

With that, a new commandment, Jesus did decree,
"Love one another," the way He loves you and me.
By this display, people around us will find out,
That we are followers of Christ, without a doubt!

While eating, a shocking announcement Jesus made,
"One of you will betray Me," solemnly He said.
The disciples, they reacted with disbelief,
"Surely not me, my Master I will not deceive!"

Peter prompted John to ask Jesus, "Who is it?"
"The one I give this bread to, he is the culprit."
Quietly Jesus passed the piece of bread to Judas,
Quietly the betrayer left, no one made a fuss.

With Judas gone, Jesus' words became more intimate,
"Where I'm going, you cannot come, at any rate."
Upon hearing this, consternation filled their soul,
"Don't let your hearts be troubled," Jesus did console.



"Peace I leave with you," was Jesus' assurance,
Peace that will keep anxieties at a distance!
Here's an advice whenever your worries increase,
Go and seek comfort from Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

He also taught, "If you love Me, keep My commands."
Obedience to Him is what our Lord demands.
If we say we love Jesus, but ignore what He says,
Then our profession of faith is void, in many ways.

He used the image of the vine and its branches,
As a warning to us, Jesus pulled no punches.
Fruitful branches will be pruned, unfruitful ones removed,
Abide in Christ, or else find yourself disapproved.

Many were the instructions that night to them, to us,
How to carry them out? Where to find the impetus?
That's why that night, Jesus promised the Holy Ghost,
To guide us, while The Helper in our hearts we host.

Still in Jerusalem, but fast forward fifty days,
God's Spirit came, and filled all believers in a blaze.
From that day, within our hearts the Holy Spirit dwells,
As Jesus promised, our spiritual growth He propels.

What Jesus taught that night, we must also treasure,
So that our steps of faith will be steady and sure.
For indeed, the word of God is a lamp for our feet,
So that on His path, forward we walk, and not retreat.

We come to the high point of that night's matter,
When Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper.
Using the loaves and the wine on the table,
Each of which was their Passover meal staple.



First, Jesus took the bread, for which He gave thanks,
He broke it, and distributed it among their ranks.
He then told them, "Take it, this is My body,"
Which He would sacrifice, as a ransom for many.

Next, He took the cup, and after He gave thanks again,
They drank from it; its meaning Jesus did explain.
He said, "This is My blood of the covenant,
That I shall shed, to cleanse sinners repentant."

The bread and cup have since become a memorial,
That often we are to mark, not as something trivial.
Jesus said to do it, His death to remember,
That's why this night too, we conduct the Lord's Supper.

Paul once wrote that when these emblems we partake,
It's our unity in Christ too, that we celebrate!
For it's one loaf, one body, one community,
We belong to each other, in God's family.

But bear in mind, our fellowship is based on one thing,
That is, the blood of Christ, poured out for our cleansing.
That paved the way for our reconciliation with God,
That's how we're spiritual siblings, something to be awed.

We've gone through all the events, according to Scripture,
Throughout **the day the earth stood still**, and prior.
Now, as we partake communion, let us reflect,
What Jesus had said and done, let us recollect.

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by Lee Yee Dian

Yee Dian is one of the Elders of First Baptist Church



PrayerSpotlight

Opening Our Lives

Take some time to close your eyes and picture an empty cross, the sign of hope, peace and resurrection. Spend time in silence and in gratitude as you imagine yourself sitting at the foot of the empty cross. Commit yourself to continue opening your life to God's kingdom and living out his hope in your everyday life by praying

Loving God
in our sufferings and joys,
in our relationships and daily lives,
we ask that Your kingdom come.
Open our eyes to Your presence,
open our ears to Your call,
open our hearts to Your love,
open our ways to Your will,
open our actions to Your compassion,
open our pain to Your peace,
and, in doing so, open our world to Your hope.
In the name of Jesus,
Amen

**Taken from *Opening our Lives*, Trystan Owain Hughes,
The Bible Reading Fellowship 2020, pg 190-191**