

"The Lord's Supper" CJDV - KYL - CFCW. - Mar. 29/64

(1). "The Thirst of God" ..or "The story of a sponge of Vinegar".

Intro:- (1). Of all the seasons of the year..this one, together with Xmas season..greatest in X'n calendar. One tells of miracle or virgin birth of our Lord..truth of His marvellous incarnation..Deity come to dwell in guise of man. This one of His vicarious death, atoning blood, payment for sins of humanity..and His victorious, glorious resurrection. This triumphant day is so vital. Rom.1:4 "Declared to be the Son of God with power,,by the resurrection from the dead". This is the supreme challenge to all other religions. To Mohammed..dead! To Confucius..dead! To Buddha...dead! To Zoroaster..dead! Sect-leaders of more modern days..dead! All dead! Declared to be mere men..women..by death! But ONE MAN AROSE FROM DEAD..ALIVE EVERMORE..God the Son.

Illus:- Men wanted start new religion..replace X'nty.. "Easy. Get self crucified and rise again from dead"?? (2). This is our triumph day. WE X'ns challenge world, flesh..very devils of hell..with THIS. "He is risen"! Deny it, deride it, scoff at it..rage at it...but FACT REMAINS to baffle and overwhelm every opponent. The tomb is empty! I stood within it. "Disciples stole body away" ..Where to? Nowhere! The soldiers took "large money" and lied a paltry lie. O, Yes, that crucified body WAS seen again. Found! Outside tomb..on Emmaus road..in a home..up in Galilee..Jerusalem..closed room..Olivet.. BUT ALIVE FROM THE DEAD..handled..seen..heard..ALIVE! Last of all..seen in heaven by Stephen..and by Saul of Tars and by John the beloved Apostle. And soon by ourselves! Cherish the bones of your dead leaders who lead no longer! We have the Living Christ. Conq. of sin, death, hell..ALIVE And this is our special day of remembering and rejoicing.

I. Our Lord Jesus asked us to remember these things, espec.

(a). On night before Calvary..took unleavened bread..wine.. said:- "This is my body..this is my blood..this do in remembrance of me". Paul added that we are to do this "till he come"..until resurrected, ascended One returns for us...

We are to remember Calvary..the heart-beat of X'nty..for all Bible is full of it..The scarlet thread runs through..

(b). How fully it is foretold and foreshadowed in O.T.! First pronh ever given tells of Calvary..Gen. 3:15..God said to serpent-deceiver.."I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed: it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel". The seed of the woman is Christ Jesus..the bruising of His heel was cutting off of earthly walk at Calvary. Yet HE AROSE..

^{Baruch} declared to be the Son of God with POWER" to someday crush the serpents head..put down all his authority and rule forever And here is wond. story of Abraham offering his only son Isaac on Mt. Moriah. What a foreshadow of Calvary later to be enacted in same place..when God the Father offered His Son for our sins And in figure Abr. rec'd Isaac back from dead..as our Lord.... Here is the mighty Isaiah saying of the coming Saviour.. Isa. 53:5-6..and this:- "He was cut off out of the land of the living..He made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death". Yet in same chap.."He shall prolong his days..He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied...He shall divide the spoil with the strong". Death..resurrection again! Multitude of other prophecies... And all fulfilled in NT..at Calvary..and in that pre-empted to We are to remember all this today...and every day.

II. But let me press matter ~~bit~~ farther. Into personal realm.

(a). Few today foolish..reckless enough deny historical facts.. But let me ask..Are you personally involved in Calvary..resurre What relationship to God is engendered in soul by these things Does God expect some response from my heart..yours? What?

(b). And to und. this..want look with you at some amazing truth bound up in actions of God and men on Calvary's hill.

FIRST ONE:- is the stastling, almost unbelievable THIRST OF GOD! When Jesus, God the Son, came near end of His fearful sufferings, agony.."I THIRST"! Well, why not? Any crucified, dying man thirsted, as blood ebbed away. Exactly! Any MAN would! But GOD??? Creator? Person who built Universe? Create all Oxygen, Hydrogen..made them capable of uniting into water? Who made seas, oceans, rivers, clouds, raindrops, lakes, snow? Sparkling mountain springs? Always able..yet "I THIRST"...? A THIRSTY GOD! God unlimited became God the limited! ^{John 19:28}

(c). Here is the mystery of the incarnation. Bethlehem is essential to Calvary. He who became a man..is still God..yet He thirsted..dependant upon man He created. Why? That He might TEST THE RESPONSE OF MAN TO HIS NEED. A thirsty God..waiting to see what man will do. He still is a thirsty God. * Unsatisfied as yet..longing for the fellowship..the response of the men He loves. And some of you..nev. yet lifted soul to God..thanked Him for life..food...or for CALVARY....what He did God still thirsty..waiting. Only YOU can satisfy Him.... Some of you X'ns...just saved..no more..God waiting..... He has made Himself dependant on you..for His work on earth....

III Look again at Calvary...See attitude of men to thirsty God.

(a). Look espec. at soldiers there. Representative of humanity "Brutal". Sometimes. So are all men. Some soldiers in Bible called "devout..good..chosen". Yet some calloused, hard, able crucify helpless men..beat him..kill him. But just humanity.

Psalm 69:21 "In my thirst they gave me
vinegar to drink." Proph. of Messiah

John 19:28 "After this, Jesus knowing that all
things were accomplished, that the scripture
might be fulfilled, saith, I THIRST."

"And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar".

(b). Now I want you to see what a group of these men did, and then what one man did. (per. two or three together).

Group first:- Gospel of Luke only mentions thirst of X by implication. No record of cry "I thirst". But what a fearful implication! Lk. 23:36. Und. this? These men saw His raging thirst..heard cry...then came to Him..and OFFERED Him vinegar..MOOKING Him with it. Not giving it to Him..but offering it to crucified man whose hands nailed to cross..nearly crazed with thirst..Set it bef. eyes! What desperate wickedness! BUT HAVE I EVER MOOKED SON OF GOD..By keeping just out of His reach that for which He

so longs..my love..worship..adoration..service..dedication

(c). But look again. something happened among that band of coarse soldiery. ONE MAN MOVED..and per. one or two other helped him..(Gospel of John says "they"). Matt. 27:48..49

"And straightway one of them ran, and took a sponge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink. The REST said, Let he, let us see whether Elias will come to save him". Here is indeed an unknown soldier..heroic in deed..whose memory will never fade..sacred page

See what he did:- (1) He RAN. In a hurry. He saw the need of God..thirst of God..RAN. Saw the urgency..time short. If to help, must help at once. No time to waste. PROMPT

(2) Acted PERSONALLY. One against rest. Dared stand out for right. Not with crowd. (3) Acted PERSISTENTLY..Mark indicates others tried stop him as cried "Let he, let us see whether Elias will come". He replied "Let alone: let us see whether Elias will come". He said: "Let me alone..then we will see about Elias". Persisted..gave X vinegar

(4) Acted PRACTICALLY..took what available. Vinegar was already there. c/f Women of Jerus compassionately prepd vinegar and Gall for crucified victims..to alleviate suff. X refused mixture..for much to be done, said on cross..but extra jar of vinegar there. Often used as thirst quencher.."sour wine". Saw a reed growing.."Hyssop"..3 or 4 feet long..plucked...And then "Took a sponge". From where? Per. from John..women..not allowed go near cross..But ready to wipe face..cleanse body. This man contrived way to get vinegar to him..instead of offering it mockingly..

(5) He supplied PLENTIFULLY.."filled sponge FULL"..drinking easily accessible..ready for Master's use (6) He acted PRO*VIDENTIALLY..Just in time. Last opportunity to do something for dying Saviour. Jesus rec'd..and "gave up the ghost". Last tribute..last act of compassion..last friend on earth.

Conclus:- 1. Three days, three nights later..Crucified Man was alive again! How think that soldier felt when he

heard news? How others feel, after mocking Him? Are they thirsting in hell today? Did this commissions soldier find Him out...seek Him? Or did Saviour find him..thank him? Where is he now? How you like to be in heaven..known as this one who slaked Saviour's thirst..helped Him over last moments of that rugged road on Calvary? Worth while?

2. Is application necessary? God is still thirsty!

Thirsty for our love..adoration..trust. Thirsty for missionaries to carry His Word to ends of earth. Thirsty for Pastors..SS teachers. Thirsty for good stewards of His goods..use for Him.

Thirsty for prayer warriors. AND YOU AND I CAN SLAKE HIS THIRST TODAY..Time to be Prompt..Personal..Persistent.. Practical, in using what we have for Him..Plentiful, in giving Him all we have..and Providentially in time. IN TIME! Not much left bef. He will cry again.."It is finished"..close books..come for His church. I want to be known in heaven as one who "Did what he could"..for God. Don't you? Y.P..Berean is built and is

carried on that you may be what God wants you to be..trained for His work..using what you have for Him..and doing it NOW. 3. Our thirsty God! He lives again..yet still thirsts. What will YOU bring Him? First:- your love, trust, as Saviour.. Gosrel. Then X'n:- your life..all..given to Him who loved you and bought you with His own blood. God help us all..

- "You're not home yet"

to Lt. Gordon's
reserve. Red
bear sweet fruit

with whole
in eternity

Clareholm Tel. Bch. Mar. 26/78
Rosa Haven B. Camp - July 16/72
Kendrick, N.Y. - Apr 6/69
Berean B. Coll - Chapel - May 8/69
Pentecost C.M.A. B. Camp - Aug 24/69
Arrowwood - Mar 29/70 (Easter Sun)
Prince George BC - Ex. free - May 14/70 \$44,300.00
Ottawa - Met. Bible Ch. - June 7/70
South Alka B. Camp - July 12/70
Naz. Churches of Belgium - Apr 9/71 (Good Friday)

* Many things changed when X - rose. No more bonds (saddles -
gears) but rent open. - But Christ's name (not Pharaoh)