



Repentance Tabernacle Church

RepentanceTabernacle@gmail.com
www.RepentanceTabernacle.org (984) 369-5171

Easter Sunday

Subject: Faithfulness!

Scripture: John 19 – Jesus' Crucifixion!

Jesus' faithfulness in going to the cross demonstrated perfect obedience to the Father and self-giving love for humanity, willingly enduring suffering and separation to secure redemption. He remained steadfast, fulfilling prophecy and providing for his mother despite extreme suffering, ultimately declaring "*It is finished*" (John 19:30) signifies the completion of His atoning sacrifice, fulfilling Old Testament prophecies and the divine plan to rescue humanity. Therefore, signify His completed sacrificial mission.

Jesus voluntarily chose to follow the Father's plan for salvation rather than avoiding the cross. He showed immense humility and obedience to the point of death, even death on a cross (Philippians 2:8). He remained faithful while enduring physical agony, mocking, and the unprecedented anguish of being separated from the Father while bearing the sins of humanity.

According to Hebrews 12:2, Jesus endured the cross "*for the joy that was set before him*," highlighting his commitment to the joy of redeeming humanity despite the shame He despised. Even on the cross, Jesus demonstrated love and care for others, when Jesus asked His close friend John, the writer of this Gospel, to care for His mother, Mary, whose husband, Joseph, must have been dead by this time. Why didn't Jesus' assign this task to His brother? As the eldest son, Jesus entrusted His mother to a person who stayed with Him at the cross—and that was John (John 19:27).

The cross is seen as a tangible demonstration of God's faithfulness to His people and a message of love, not just punishment. By staying faithful, Jesus secured victory over sin, death, and Satan, allowing believers to access saving grace. With His death, the complex sacrificial system ended because Jesus took all sin upon Himself. Now we can freely approach God because of what Jesus did for us. Those who believe in Jesus' death and resurrection can live eternally with God and escape the penalty that comes from sin. Jesus' actions serve as the ultimate model for living a life of love and self-sacrifice for us.

When you are questioned or ridiculed because of your faith, remember that while you may be on trial before your accusers, they are on trial before God. Therefore, when we face a tough decision, we can take the easy way out, or we can stand for what is right regardless of the cost. If we know the good we ought to do and don't do it, we sin (James 4:17).

Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus risked their reputations to bury Jesus. Are you a secret believer? Do you hide your faith from your friends and fellow workers? This is an appropriate time to step out of hiding and let others know whom you follow.

Four people were changed in the process of Jesus' death. The criminal, dying on the cross beside Jesus, asked Jesus to include him in His kingdom (Luke 23:39-43). The Roman captain proclaimed that surely Jesus was the Son of God (Mark 15:39). Joseph and Nicodemus, members of the Jewish Council and secret followers of Jesus (John 7:50-52), came out of hiding. These men were changed more by Christ's death than by His life.

They realized who He was, and that realization brought out their belief, proclamation, and action. When confronted with Jesus and His death, we should be changed—to believe, proclaim, and act.

The graphic details of Jesus' death are especially important in John's record because he was an eyewitness. To grasp the full picture of Jesus' crucifixion, read John's perspective along with the other three accounts in Matthew 27, Mark 15, and Luke 23. Each writer adds meaningful details, but each has the same message—Jesus died on the cross, in fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy, so that we could be saved from our sins and have eternal life.