

death by love

3. The Sound of Forsakenness

Mark 15:21-41

- “God forsaken by God—who can understand it?” – Luther
- “The most agonising protest ever uttered on this planet” – Sproul
- Only time Jesus doesn’t call God ‘Father’ - Why? Three strands:

1. Forsaken because of Sin

- Why forsaken? v33 – darkness: the sign of judgment. Amos 8:9-10
- Sinless one is being judged for sin
- Not his, but ours – Isaiah 53:5,6; 1 Peter 2:24; 2 Cor 5:21; John 1:29
- Sin separates from God – Isaiah 59:2; Habakkuk 1:13
- The awfulness of sin—not an inconsequential thing. It brings forsakenness
- Help for the Christian fighting sin – Ask yourself: “Is this sin really the answer to Jesus great cry?”

2. Forsaken because of Punishment

- Ultimate proof that God will not turn a blind eye
- The concentrated wrath of God is falling on Jesus—this is Hell
- 2 aspects:
 - a) **Punishment means the removal of every blessing**
 - All intimate communication with God is cut
 - All comfort, strength and help is removed
 - All expression of love is removed
 - b) **Punishment means the bearing of wrath**
 - Bearing God’s curse – Galatians 3:13
 - Bearing all Satan & his demons could throw at him – Luke 22:53
 - Bearing God’s wrath – Nahum 1:6
- Nothing will ever compare with this in the history of the universe
- Here is the utter awfulness of Hell

3. Forsaken because of Love

- The Father did not hate the Son—All of this was born out of love—love for rebels like us
- He was forsaken so you wouldn’t have to be
- It takes this to rescue a person from Hell—see the folly of self effort
- You are the ultimate answer to Jesus’ agonised cry
- Here is the greatness of God’s love—both Father and Son
 - The Father’s love: forsaking his beloved Son to offer forgiveness to us
 - The Son’s love, in bearing wrath in order to win forgiveness for us
- Here is the certainty of salvation—the temple curtain is torn open
 - The way is open between God and man
 - “Payment God will not twice demand, first at my bleeding Surety’s hand, and then again at mine.” – Augustus Toplady

Milford RPC

www.milfordrpc.org

Sabbath 11th January 09

Notices

- | | | |
|----------------------|--|-----|
| Sab 11 th | Evening service at Mark & Judith’s
Discussion time on this mornings sermon | 8pm |
| Wed | Pre-Communion service | |
| Sat 17 th | Presbytery youth event - 10 Pin Bowling @ Pennyburn Bowling Alley, Derry
Back to Faughan church for supper. Cost is €4. | 8pm |
| Sab 18 th | Communion service - please speak to Mark if you have any questions about taking part | |
| 6-8 Feb | Adult Conference - Portrush
Theme - Developing a Vision for Mission - Rev Warren Peel
Application forms available | |

Application forms for the Summer missions (GO) teams are available.

If you would like to receive bible reading notes for this year there is a sign up sheet for Let’s worship God (Airdrie RP Church’s own reading notes). Also some sample copies. €15 for the year. Notes can also be freely downloaded from www.airdrierpcs.org/pubs.php

Christianity Explored

A 6-week course designed to let you find out the facts about Jesus, or to refresh your memory, and to find answers to your questions about Jesus, the Bible or Christianity.

- You don’t need to know anything about the Bible
- You won’t be asked to read, pray or answer questions
- You will be given every opportunity to ask your own questions

If you’re interested in finding out more, or having one in your home for friends to come to - speak to Mark

Sabbath 18th - The Cries from the Cross - Luke 23, John 19

Opening Psalm: 85A

Minister: Mark Loughridge Tel: 074 9123961 email: mark@milfordrpc.org
Interim Elders: Fergus Marshall: 048 7139 8351 Samuel Buchanan: 048 7134 2685