

It is not over yet!

Pastor George/ SOV Angeles/ Sunday April 24, 2011

1. You are probably asking.. What is not over Yet?
 - a. All this week we have had a clear picture of Jesus suffering, carrying His cross, and Jesus dying on the cross a brutal death, and being buried in a grave
 - b. Originally 2,000 years ago, Jesus died and gave up his spirit, and the devil, spirits, the Romans, and the Jews of the Sanhedrin were breathing with relief:
 - i. At Last...We have dealt with the Jesus problem and we have “fixed” it with His death on the cross...
 - ii. But they did not understand: .
 - iii. **1 Corinthians 2:8 says, "None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory."**
 - c. Now with the streets empty of the hundreds or thousands of young men carrying their crosses down the streets with assistants flogging themselves on their bloody backs with homemade whips.
 - d. Now Easter Sunday, it seems like it is business as usual going on with life.
 - i. The crosses are put back into the closet for next year’s use
 - ii. The backs of the cross carriers are hopefully treated to prevent infection from the cuts and abrasions and
 - iii. People go back home putting on their cross necklaces portraying Jesus still on the cross.

2. And now I go back to the original question and answer

a. Everything is not complete without the resurrection!

3. Jesus had made the master plan very plain to his disciples not just once but many times:

a. That is why: Luke 18:31-33 Jesus took His apostles aside & said, "I have something important to tell you. We're going to Jerusalem, & when we get there they are going to turn me over to the Gentiles, who will mock me, insult me, spit on me, flog me, & kill me. And then on the third day I will rise again."

b. Now what could be clearer than that?

c. Again Jesus tells the disciples:

i. Matthew 16:21 From that time forth began Jesus to show unto his disciples, how that

1. he must go unto Jerusalem, and

2. suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and

3. be killed, and

4. be raised again the third day.

4. But the disciples **did not understand** what Jesus was saying to them: What was the problem?

a. They did not get the message.

b. Luke 18:34. "The disciples did not understand any of this. **The meaning was hidden from them**, & they did not know what He was talking about.

i. This was **a hidden mystery!** " Isn't that an interesting verse of Scripture?

ii. When Paul refers to the sacrifice of Jesus upon the cross, he calls it a **"mystery."** And the word "mystery" that he uses is a Greek word for **a military strategy that is kept secret from the enemy.** Krupto a primary verb; to conceal (properly, by covering):--hide (self), keep secret, secret(-ly).

5. Sometimes military strategy depends so much upon secrecy, that even those in positions of command weren't told **the secret strategy** until the last possible minute, because if the enemy found out, then the plan would fail.
- a. Therefore the scripture: **1 Corinthians 2:8** says, "**None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory.**"
 - b. If Satan had found out what was happening, the plan wouldn't have worked. So God kept it secret.
 - i. while Jesus is dying,
 - ii. Satan is saying, "I've won.
 - iii. I've beaten God.
 - iv. Evil is triumphant.
 - v. Righteousness has been defeated. but
 - vi. " even Satan didn't know the plan of God!
 - c. It wasn't until 3 days later, when Jesus rose from the tomb, that
 - i. Satan realized that he had made a mistake.
 - ii. "I played into the plan of God.
 - iii. I did exactly what God expected me to do.
 - iv. I crucified the Lord of Glory, &
 - v. **now sinners can be redeemed & saved from their sins.**"
6. Jesus told the apostles ahead of time, [**Luke 18:31-33, Matthew 16:21**] but it went right over their heads. They didn't understand.
7. God will reveal secrets to us ahead even if we do not understand **the secret!**
- a. **Amos 3:7** Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, unless he reveals his secret unto his servants the prophets.
 - b. Our job is to ask God for understanding of what he has revealed to us!
 - c. **I Corinthians 1:18** says. "**For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.**"

d. **1 Corinthians 2:7** But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world **unto our glory:**

8. Do you still have things in your life that God has done that you do not understand?

a. Remember, there are some mysteries in our lives that we will not understand until heaven

i. **Romans 11:33** O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!

b. God wants us to ask Him for Wisdom!

i. **James 1:5** If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men liberally, and reproaches not; and it shall be given him.

9. Now you know part of the Mystery of Christ.....act on what you know!

i. **John 1:12** But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the children of God, even to them that believe on his name:

ii. **Acts 16:31** And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

iii. **Romans 10:9** That if you shall confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead, you shall be saved.

Some portions borrowed from: Melvin Newland sermon: They didn't understand