



KAURIHOHORE / KAMO CO-OPERATING PARISH

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Sunday 19 April 2026 - Easter 3

Our Service today is led by Cobus Viljoen,
one of our Lay Preachers.

Welcome to our service this morning.

In working together on our shared mission, we commit to seven core values:

Togetherness, Humility, Curiosity, Love, Inclusiveness, Justice, Sustainability.

Togetherness: we cultivate genuine opportunities to gather together in worship and fellowship.

Welcome

Opening Prayer: *(Ephesians 1:17)*

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of the Glory, give to you a Spirit of wisdom and knowledge in recognizing Him, the eyes of your heart flooded with understanding, that you may know the hope of His calling, and the richness of the inheritance of the saints. Amen

ymn AA59: [He Came Singing Love](#)

(Lyrics and Tune : Colin Gibson)

(Stanzas 1,2,4)

1. He came singing love
and he lived singing love
he died singing love
He arose in silence
For the love to go on
we must make it our song
you and I be the singers.

2. He came singing hope
and he lived singing hope
he died singing hope
He arose in silence
For the hope to go on
we must make it our song
you and I be the singers

Mission Statement: Sharing God's love, creating hope, working for justice.

3. He came singing peace
and he lived singing peace
he died singing peace
He arose in silence
For the peace to go on
we must make it our song
you and I be the singers

Reading

Luke 24:13-35

(page 1644)

Reflection

Introduction

Last time, we considered the two trees in Eden, and how they present the two archetypes of interpreting the Bible. The Tree of Knowledge being serpent, or self, focused. The Tree of Life being Christ-focused. We briefly touched on how the Road to Emmaus can be compared to the Eden story.

Today we're going to use this knowledge to try and answer a very simple question: Why did Christ suffer and die?

Of course, the immediate response is "for the forgiveness of our sins".

But how does the death of Christ lead to us being forgiven? Step by step?

The Bible as a Legal Document

When we start dealing with terms like "Last Will and Testament", it is immediately obvious that we are dealing with a legal document. It sets out the terms of the relationship between various parties.

The relationship between God and Man is defined in Genesis. Man's responsibility is defined in Genesis 2.16

¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die."

The legal clause for Man to continue living is that he should not eat from the tree of knowledge. Once he does, on that day he dies. Now, how long does a heavenly day last?

2 Peter 3:8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.

And according to Genesis 5:5, Adam lived to be 930. Trespass, sentence, death. All in its proper place. Of course, the young people these days barely make it past 100. And this is because of an addendum to this legal agreement.

Genesis 6:3 Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not contend with humans forever, for they are mortal; their days will be a hundred and twenty years."

Notice "Their" days. We are talking Man days now.

The Relation between God and (some of) Man

So, First Man lost his immortality, and his lifespan was limited to 1000 years. Then Man lost the Spirit of God, and his lifespan further to 120. In Psalm 90:10, David identifies a further limitation:

As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, Or if due to strength, eighty years, Yet their pride is but labour and sorrow; For soon it is gone and we fly away.

And here we are. Eating the tree of Knowledge establishes a covenant between us and God that limits our life to 80 years. But look around, plenty of people here soared past 70 even 80. Didn't we have a 100th last year?

This is why it is important we understand the nature of a legal document. It binds two parties. What party did David represent? The relationship between God and the Israelites.

Exodus 20: Hear O Israel...

Anyone here over the age of 80 circumcised on their 8th day, as per Leviticus 12:3? And that's just the tip of the iceberg.

The Relation between God and Christ and (All) Man

Now, consider the offerings of Leviticus:

Lev 1:1-3

¹*Then the LORD called to Moses and spoke to him from the Tent of Meeting, saying,*

²*"Speak to the Israelites and tell them: When any of you brings an offering to the LORD, you may bring as your offering an animal from the herd or the flock.*

³*If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he is to present an unblemished male. He must bring it to the entrance to the Tent of Meeting for its acceptance before the LORD. ⁴He is to lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, so it can be accepted on his behalf to make atonement for him.*

And then in Leviticus 4:32-33

³² *"If someone brings a lamb as their sin offering, they are to bring a female without defect. ³³ They are to lay their hand on its head and slaughter it for a sin offering at the place where the burnt offering is slaughtered (...) In this way the priest will make atonement for them for the sin they have committed, and they will be forgiven.*

The Law given to Israel defines the very method God will use to save us. We are to bring the Lamb of God and lay our hands on him. Or, as Lev 1 defines it, we are to identify with Him. He becomes accepted on our behalf to die for our sin.

And then, we must slaughter him. Not with a knife, as the Levites did in this picture, but as Paul says in Romans 10:10

“For in the heart is belief unto righteousness, and in the mouth is confession unto salvation.”

We believe that Christ is the Lamb of God, and confess He died. And that is WHY Christ died. This is the same covenant, but we are eating from a new one. And that new one is ALSO defined in the Old testament!

God is a highly efficient author. Why write two bibles, one for each covenant, when you can instead write one, and sort of hide both between the lines.

Numbers 28:4-5

Say to them: ‘This is the food offering you are to present to the LORD: two lambs a year old without defect, as a regular burnt offering each day. Offer one lamb in the morning and the other at twilight.

God is a highly efficient Lamb-provider. Why offer two sons, when one can be crucified in the morning and suffer until evening?

The Suffering of Christ

This actually represents a bit of a problem. The sacrifices prescribed in the Old Testament never allows the offering to suffer. Yet Christ suffered. Why?

Another addendum: Isaiah 53:4-5

Surely He lifted our pains, and carried our disease. We considered Him stuck, smitten and afflicted by God. He was defiled for our sins, crushed for our faults, the correction to our wholeness is on him, and by His stripes we are healed.

Christ died for our quantity of life. He suffered for our quality of life.

Conclusion

So what now? How can we claim these benefits? Where is the Court where we can storm in and DEMAND life, DEMAND wholeness, DEMAND these things which is our legal right, so that the Cross was not in vain?

For that vision... I'll see you another Sunday :)

Video Song: [Cast my Cares](#) (Tim Timmons)

Oh, Oh

Oh, Oh

In the middle of the night,

When worry finds me,

In the middle of the fight,

When strength is gone,

In the middle of a fire,

When fear is closing in,

You are, you are my song.

You're my hope when hope is gone.

So, I will cast my cares on you the almighty.

I will cast my cares cause you are good.

I will cast my cares on you cause you love me.

You love me.

Oh, oh because you love me.

Oh, Oh

Oh, Oh, Oh

In the middle of the night,

When worry finds me,

In the middle of the fight,

When strength is gone,

In the middle of a fire,

When fear is closing in,

You are, you are my song. oh

You're my hope when hope is gone.

So, I will cast my cares on you the almighty.

I will cast my cares on you cause you are good.

I will cast my cares on you cause you love me.

You love me.

Oh, Oh, because you love me

Oh, Oh, because you love me

God of glory

You are able

Through your power,

To be faithful,

God of mercy,

Every moment,

You are near to me.
God of glory,
You are able,
Through your power,
To be faithful.
God of mercy,
Every moment,
You are near to me.
So, I will cast my cares on you the almighty.
I will cast my cares on you cause you are good.
I will cast my cares on you cause you love me.
You love me.

Oh, Oh, Oh because you love me.
Oh, Oh, Oh because you love me.
Oh, Oh
Oh, Oh, Oh
So in the middle of the night,
I will pray with confidence.
In a middle of a fight,
You are greater still.
In a middle of a fire,
You're love is holding me.
You are, you are my song.
You're my hope when hope is gone.

Offering Prayer *(Malachi 3:10)*

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

Hymn CMP 52: [Because He Lives](#)

(Lyrics: Bill and Gloria Gaither, Tune: Bill Gaither)

1. God sent His son,
They called Him, Jesus;
He came to love,
Heal and forgive;
He lived and died
To show that love wins,
An empty grave is there
To prove my Saviour lives!

Chorus
Because He lives,
I can face tomorrow!
Because He lives,
All fear is gone.
Because I know
He holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because He lives!

2. How sweet to hold
A newborn baby,
And feel the pride
And joy he brings;
But greater still
The calm assurance:
This child can face
Uncertain days because He Lives!

3. And then one day,
I'll cross the river,
I'll fight life's final
War with pain;
And then, as death
Gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory
And I'll know He lives!

Chorus

Chorus

Blessing

Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Sung Amen (3x)

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