

8.16.2009 Pentecost 11 – St. Stephen Lutheran (West Bay) Mountain View, CA

Greeting: Grace, mercy, and peace be to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Introduction: What is something that is unspeakable? (can't be described in words)

- Inexpressibly bad or objectionable: unspeakable **poverty**. (overseas mission trip to India)
- Beyond description; inexpressible: unspeakable **happiness**. (birth of a child)

THEME – The Unspeakable DEATH *that gives us* Unspeakable JOY

1. God speaks of Jesus' death, *before* His life...
2. Jesus speaks of His death, *during* His life...
3. We speak of Jesus' life *after* He rose from the dead!

The Word of God I would like to lay on your hearts for today and for this week comes from selected verses from:

NKJV Mark 15:22 And they brought Him to the place Golgotha, which is translated, Place of a Skull. **23** Then they gave Him wine mingled with myrrh to drink, but He did not take it. **24** And when they crucified Him, they divided His garments, casting lots for them to determine what every man should take. **25** Now it was the third hour, and they crucified Him. **26** And the inscription of His accusation was written above: **THE KING OF THE JEWS.** **27** With Him they also crucified two robbers, one on His right and the other on His left. **28** So the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "And He was numbered with the transgressors."

1. God speaks of Jesus' death, *before* His life...
 - a. Unspeakable death – horrifying pain (**Ps 22**)
 - b. OT prophecies fulfilled in Jesus (**Is 53:10-12**)
 - c. And why! (**Is 53:4-6; Hosea 13:14**)

33 Now when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. **34** And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" **35** Some of those who stood by, when they heard that, said, "Look, He is calling for Elijah!" **36** Then someone ran and filled a sponge full of sour wine, put it on a reed, and offered it to Him to drink, saying, "Let Him alone; let us see if Elijah will come to take Him down." **37** And Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and breathed His last. **38** Then the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. **39** So when the centurion, who stood opposite Him, saw that He cried out like this and breathed His last, he said, "Truly this Man was the Son of God!"

2. Jesus speaks of His death, *during* His life... (Humiliation)
 - a. When will our day come? – it is a guess at best (even when life support is removed)
 - b. Unspeakable death – suffering God forsakenness
 - c. Prophecies Jesus made about Himself were fulfilled (**Mt 12:38-40** sign Jonah; **Mt 8:21** suffer and die)

16:1 Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. **2** Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. **3** And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" **4** But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away -- for it was very large. **5** And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. **6** But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. **7** "But go, tell His disciples -- and Peter -- that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you." **8** So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

3. We speak of Jesus' life *after* He rose from the dead! (Exaltation)
 - a. Unspeakable joy (**Ps 49:15; Jn 11:25-26**)
 - b. Unspeakable life (**Ps 71:20; Mt 22:31-32**)
 - c. Promises from Jesus for us about rising from the dead (**Job 19:25-26; Jn 6:40**)

Conclusion: The death of our Lord is beyond what words can fully describe...

But because of His love for you... He died, so that you would live; and share in the unspeakable joy of eternal life!