



Praying as families for families who do not know Jesus' love and sacrifice

Day 38

Death is real and causes much fear and worry to so many, as many are not sure of their eternity. Jesus' love and sacrifice on the cross conquered death and was precisely to help us overcome this fear. At the garden when the enemy told Eve, they will not die if they eat of that fruit, that assurance gave her the confidence to eat the forbidden fruit. Though they did not physically die, it caused their spiritual death and ultimately their physical death. But God did not create us to die. He created us to live eternally with Him as His children. This truth has been kept away because the enemy of God, the devil, does not want anyone to live and enjoy eternity with him. He deceived Eve and he continues to deceive everyone.

A college friend of mine in our WhatsApp group, whenever sees anyone shares anything about after death, and eternal life, immediately responds by saying 'life ends when you stop breathing. There is nothing beyond this.' And he would advocate everyone to enjoy their life here on earth and do what they would want to do, as there is nothing beyond the grave according to him. You see how the lie of the enemy has been repeated. He urges all of us to do what pleases us and live. He doesn't want us to reach that place which God has prepared for us, about which Jesus shared through various parables and teaching.

Jesus was sent by the Father into the world to die in order to defeat this fear of death and give us the hope of eternal life. People can now boldly live and boldly die. This is how many of them have the courage to willing go to even unsafe places to declare the good news and sacrifice their life. Jesus came into this world to show his love and save humankind from their sin and from eternal death. This truth needs to be proclaimed as salvation comes only through His Son Jesus Christ who gave himself to pay the price for our sins and secure our eternity with Him. The death that was brought by the deceiver needed God to sacrifice his only son as an offering to bring humanity back to Himself. So, for me CROSS stands for 'Christ's Redemptive Offer by Supreme Sacrifice'. The cross is the gift of salvation offered to all mankind through the shedding of his blood.



Sadly, many within the church have not grasped the truth of his love, they are still living blinded and often going after smaller gods and ungod. In Isaiah 58, God expressed his disappointment with His own people, who live just as the ones who do not know God. They exploit, they quarrel, they cheat, they bribe and they expect God to work based on their ritualistic life. But they don't live by the standards of God. God wants to reveal this truth of His supreme sacrifice through our lives, so all will experience His offer of the gift of salvation. This message of the Cross is universal, and the Lord reveals his heart through John 3:16, "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life." His love forced him to die for us.

But are we willing to receive this highest offer as our own and make it known to people under the fear of death? Death is conquered by Jesus, and the Joy of eternal life is given to all of us, who believe in His Name and call him as our Father. This will help us to experience His presence and will empower us to overcome every fear. Isaiah 58:14 says, that those who obey God will feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob. The inheritance of their father Jacob is the promised land and God's presence for us. Let's commit our lives to this offer of abundant life, so that our generations will be saved, and we will be together with Him in eternity. For those who have known this love should declare this love by our life and testimony and by sharing this redemptive offer to the world that is so needy.

LET US PRAY

Lord Jesus, you have loved us and you have given us the redemptive offer by your Supreme Sacrifice. We confess as a Church many times we have belittled your love and sacrifice and have gone after this world and its pleasures. We don't want to take



your love for granted. We offer our lives and our bodies as a living sacrifice to you in response to your redemptive sacrifice. May all our loved ones and those near and far who do not know you or your love get a glimpse of your love in this season, so that they can willingly surrender, and be free from the fear of death. Thank you for the eternal Hope you give through your son Jesus, by which we can be saved from the clutches of the evil one in this world and in the world to come. In Jesus name we pray Amen.

