

How Will You Remember Jesus

Luke 22: 19 & 20



By

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And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, “This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.

Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.

To be remembered is a natural extension of who we are as human beings. Everybody wants to be remembered for something. Down through history many famous and infamous individuals have stood out because of great accomplishments or brave, heroic acts, or monumental sacrifices. Sojourner Truth, Underground railroad, Booker T. Washington, Education, George Washington Carver, chemistry, Martin Luther King, Civil Rights, Barak Obama, President. Some individuals are remembered for terrible deeds, or horrible

positions or stands that they have taken. Hitler, Mussolini, & Stalin come to mind, One politician was asked once if the criticisms that were being aimed at him troubled him, being the crafty politician that he was, believing that negative publicity was better than no publicity, responded, “just tell them to spell my name right”.

During the few years that I have been involved in education, it has been my pleasure to work with many wonderful students. Some have been great athletes, while others have been great academics. I have had some who have had colorful personalities, and some just sheer rascals. I see many of them now as they have moved on to higher education or are now out in the working world. Because I have seen so many, when I see them they will speak and thou I remember their faces, in most instances I can't remember their names, with one exception: There is this one student, a young lady who came up to me before class and said I want you to

remember my name and then she told me her name. Its Brandi. So for the first few days she would see me in the hall way and say Mr. Thrasher what's my name? And sure enough there would happen to pass one of her friends just at those instances and would holler "Hey Brandi". No fair, she would cry as I would then respond Brandi. But now whenever I see her, even if she doe not see me first, I will say "Hey Brandi" and she will turn with a satisfied grin. The way she approached me, made it almost impossible for me to forget her. I won't remember her for her grades or for her athleticism, it won't be because of her popularity among her friends, but I will always remember her determination to make me remember her name. **How Will You Remember Jesus?**

Let us turn now our attention to Thursday night, no, not tonight, but Thursday night over two thousand years ago. That Thursday night before Jesus was arrested and Justice, already blind,

went stark raving crazy, Thursday night before he was marched from judgment hall to judgment hall. Thursday night before he was beaten and abused, tortured and humiliated, Thursday night before Judas's kiss of betrayal. Thursday night before Peter's thrice denial, Thursday night, before he would carry an old rugged cross up a hill called Golgotha, The place of the skull. The English word "Calvary" is derived from the translation of the Latin word for Skull *Calva*. That Thursday night, where earlier in that same day, Jesus washed his disciples' feet in order to teach them a lesson in humility. Do you remember that Thursday night? Well, now the whole entourage is about to celebrate the Feast of The Pass Over. It was an annual celebration designed to perpetuate the memory of the time the death angel passed over the houses of the children of Israel because a ram's blood had been painted over their doors, but killed all of the remaining first born children in Pharos's Egypt.

This time, however, the symbolism would take on a new meaning. This time the unleavened bread, which traditionally symbolized the haste with which the children of Israel left Egypt, would now symbolize the broken body of Jesus. This time the wine, the symbolic shedding of blood would not reflect the sacrificial lamb taken from the first born of the sheep or goats, but instead would commemorate the blood shed by Jesus. Jesus knows about the road that lies ahead. He knows he must fulfill the purpose for which he was sent by his Father. Jesus understands that vital to the success of his mission is the legacy that he will leave behind. As I told you earlier everybody wants to be remembered for something. One's legacy is a strong motivating factor. I worked once as a consultant for a company that was in the business of fixing broken businesses. We would go in and do a thorough analysis of the business looking for the strengths and weaknesses of the business. Sometimes we would come across a company where they were

profitable, but no clear line of succession was present. In other words in the event of the loss of the owner/ CEO who would take over was not very clear. In one such instance it was clear that the owner did not want all that he had worked hard to build to die with his demise. He wanted his business to live on long after he was gone. His legacy meant everything to him and he wanted us to fix it so that his business would live on. Jesus knew that what God had established from the foundation of the world, which took 42 generations to bring to fruition was now at critical mass and in order for mankind to benefit from all that had been put in place, His legacy, how he would be remembered, had to be secured.

To his credit, Jesus had much that could be included in his resume, He was, after all, a man of superior wisdom, at the age of 12 he was advising the great doctors and elders in the Synagogue, he was the Miracle worker of Miracle workers. He turned water into wine. He fed five

thousand men, women and children with two fish and five barley loaves. He was the greatest healer to ever walk the face of the earth, he healed lepers, he cause the lame to walk, the dumb to talk, and the blind to see. He was the master Physician, he cured a woman's sickness who had an issue of blood for 12 long years, He was a great mind regulator, he cast out demons and cause men to be found in their right minds. He was a great arbiter of justice, he told the Pharisees who had brought a prostitute before him to be judge, he who is without sin let him cast the first stone, when none could respond, he sentenced the woman to go and sin no more. He was the Master Meteorologist, He could speak to the winds and the waves and say peace be still, Last but not least he held the power of life and death in his hands, He spoke to a damsel and said Talitha Cumi and the damsel rose from the dead and Lazarus, his friend whom he loved, had been dead four days when he called him forth. It is said that if he had not called Lazarus by name,

there is no telling how many would have gotten up. You would think that with an impressive resume as this, Jesus would not have to worry, but it was not for any of these past accomplishments or accolades that he wanted to be remembered.

So now, Jesus takes this occasion to bring to the awareness of his disciples the significance of the will of the Father which he must now fulfill.

And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, **“This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.**

Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.

I know what Isaiah Said about him, He shall be called, Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace, But

that's not how I will remember Jesus. I know that he is bread in a starving land, water in dry places, but that's not how I will remember Jesus. Yes he is the Lily of the Valley; he is that Bright and Morning Star, But that is not how I will remember Jesus.

How will I remember him you ask? Every time I eat the bread and drink the wine I will remember how he was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. I will remember how his broken body and shed blood symbolized a new covenant with mankind, a covenant that bridge the gap between God and man and put man back in his rightful place with God. The question today my brothers and sisters is **How Will You Remember Jesus?**

