

Individual Redemption to the Praise of the King

1. Paul Tells of Jesus Radically Transforming Him (3-21).

2. Jesus Came to Transform Us from Enemies to Family.

3. Those Apart from Christ Hate His Grace (1-2, 22).

CONCLUSION: Paul tells his story of God's grace in His life and the crowd responds by screaming, "Death is too good for him; the earth MUST be rid of him!" Why do they respond with such vehemence? The grace of Christ is condemnation for those outside of Him. It is the worst possible news to those refusing to bow before King Jesus. He will reign victorious over all things.

First Peter 3:14-17

“But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, **always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you**; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil.”

Matthew 7:12-14

“So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets. *Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.*”

Luke 7:20-30

And again he said, “To what shall I compare *the kingdom of God*? It is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, until it was all leavened.”

He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. And someone said to him, “Lord, *will those who are saved be few?*” And he said to them, “Strive to *enter through the narrow door*. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.’ But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’ In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in *the kingdom of God*. And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”

Colossians 4:2-6

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. At the same time, pray also for us, that *God may open to us a door for the word*, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak. Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. *Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.*

Taking Gathered Worship Home

Rage against the King is the chorus of the world. It is only by His grace that we join in His praises. Dear one, let us praise Him!

Please use the devotional material below each day this week to praise Christ. Ask Jesus to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.

Sunday Morning

READ **Acts 21:40-22:22; First Peter 3:14-17; Matthew 7:12-14; Luke 7:20-30; Colossians 4:2-6.** DISCUSS How does Paul's calling help us to better understand the King who called him? What does the world hate about our King? PRAY "Lord Christ, teach us to follow You with all of our lives. Holy Spirit, open our eyes to Your purposes."

Sunday Evening

Come join the *Young Adults' Fellowship* tonight at 6pm. Pray for them!

Monday

READ **Acts 21:40-22:22; Matthew 25:31-46; First Peter 3:14-17.** DISCUSS How does Jesus identify with His people? How has God done what He promised for His people? How is His faithfulness applied to us? MEDITATE on **Isaiah 47:10-11.** PRAY, "Lord Jesus, thank You for Your faithfulness. By Your Holy Spirit help us to rest in Your faithfulness as You make us faithful too."

Tuesday

READ **Acts 21:40-22:22; Romans 10:14-17; Matthew 7:12-14.** DISCUSS How does God normally bring the gospel to people? Why does He do it this way? How are you responding to His call? MEDITATE on **Isaiah 47:10-11.** PRAY, "Lord, thank You for the privilege You give us to proclaim Your good news. Thank You for your covenant faithfulness. Teach us to walk in Your ways. Guide us, Holy Spirit. "

Wednesday

READ **Acts 21:40-22:22; Isaiah 52:1-15; Luke 7:20-30; Colossians 4:2-6.** DISCUSS, How does the suffering servant awaken us out of our captivity? MEDITATE on **Isaiah 47:10-11.** PRAY, “Lord, thank You for bringing us Your gloriously good news. Help us to proclaim it faithfully and joyfully.”

Thursday

READ **Acts 21:40-22:22; Jeremiah 9:23-24; First Corinthians 3:18-23.** DISCUSS, Compare and contrast the wisdom of the world and God’s wisdom. In which are you trusting? How? MEDITATE on **Isaiah 47:10-11.** PRAY, Lord You alone are Wise. Make us wise and protect us from our foolish sinfulness.”

Friday

READ **Acts 9:1-19a; Jeremiah 9:23-24; First Corinthians 1:18-25.** DISCUSS, How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? REJOICE if Christ has given you the honor to be identified among His people! MEDITATE on **Isaiah 47:10-11.** PRAY for renewal and revival across our land.

Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. *Both in-person & live-stream services are available.* READ **Acts 21:40-22:30.** Invite others to join you tomorrow for the *in-person or live-stream service.* Ask Jesus to transform us in praise for His glory.

Isaiah 47:10-11

You felt secure in your wickedness; you said, “No one sees me” your wisdom and your knowledge led you astray, and you said in your heart, “I am, and there is no one besides me.”

But evil shall come upon you, which you will not know how to charm away; disaster shall fall upon you, for which you will not be able to atone; and ruin shall come upon you suddenly, of which you know nothing.