

Good Friday

Romans 8:1-4 March 30, 2018 Pastor Dave Bolte

Romans 8:1 says, "There is now **NO CONDEMNATION** for those who are in Christ Jesus."

Condemnation is a legal word from the courtroom that means someone is **judged** and **sentenced** for breaking the Law. The criminal is **declared guilty** and is **punished** for his crime.

Through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, you **Escape** condemnation for your sins!

There is **NO CONDEMNATION** against you for sinning against God's Law!

There are **NO ACCUSATIONS** of wrongdoing against you in God's presence!

There is NO MENTION of your guilt or shame ever again!

"There is now **NO CONDEMNATION** for those who are in Christ Jesus."

How does that happen?

How can your sins be so totally removed from you that they are never again mentioned, or used against you?

How can God the Judge let you go when you have clearly broken the Law of God?

It's because of tonight. Good Friday. The night Christ died.

One way to think of Good Friday is that of God's Courtroom. Good Friday is God's courtroom and Jesus is standing before God the Judge. He is not there for His own sins, but for yours. He is being tried, judged, convicted, and condemned <u>for you</u>.

Your sins are piled high; you were been caught red handed in sin, and it is obvious for all to see.

All of those sins are placed on Jesus and He is know standing before the Judge on your behalf. Jesus is pronounced "GUILTY!" and condemned in your place. He faces the full wrath of your sin; He takes the full punishment for your guilt. He is sentenced to die for your sins.

Think of Calvary as a courtroom, where Jesus is declared "GUILTY!" on your behalf, and now you are declared "not guilty!" and you are set free to live a new life!

THAT'S WHAT TONIGHT IS ALL ABOUT.

Jesus did not die on a cross for His own sins, but for yours. All of your guilt, shame, iniquity, and sin have been placed on Jesus, and God the Judge condemned Jesus to death in your place. Jesus

faced the full punishment for your sin; the terrible wrath of God fell on Him, and He died a sinner's death on the cross.

Because Jesus was declared "guilty!" for you on the cross, you now hear God the Judge declare you "not guilty!" and you are forgiven!

- + You have been **set free** from sin.
- + You have been **spared** from the verdict and punishment of your sins.
- + the Judge shows mercy to you.
- + You will now survive death and escape the final judgment.
- + You are declared "righteous" and pronounced "holy" in God's eyes.
- + You are justified by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!

"There is now

NO CONDEMNATION

for those who are in Christ Jesus."

Another way of saying this is

There is now **NO CONDEMNATION** for you because God's **FULL CONDEMNATION** fell on Jesus!

No wonder we call this "Good Friday"; its good for us; But it was a "Terrible Friday" for Jesus.

Jesus is the Lamb of God who carried your sins to the cross.

Jesus is the ONLY Sin Offering that God accepts on your behalf.

ONLY JESUS can Make Things Right between you and God.

That is what we remember tonight.

- † We remember that God demonstrated His love for us by sending His Son to die on the cross in your place.
- † We remember that the Father is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; He forgives our iniquity, transgressions, and sin.
- † We remember that we have been bought with a price --redeemed by the holy and precious blood of the Lamb shed on the cross --- so that we may live new and holy lives as God's People.

Tonight we will hear the familiar story of the death of the Son of God. We will sing the heartrending hymns, we will the feel the darkness close in; and we will leave in silent awe as we remember that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was judged, condemned, and died *in our place*, so that

"There is now

NO CONDEMNATION

for those who trust in Christ Jesus."

Amen!