

Sermon Notes

The Confluence of Two Great Doctrines

I. Introduction.

A. The Text – John 19:31-37

1. Last gospel account written
2. Date – Sometime between AD 70-90
3. Not synoptic. John is different than the other three.

B. Background

1. Details on what happened previously
2. Eventually most onlookers had departed.
3. Jesus is dead by verse 30.
4. Death occurred between 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
5. John makes the point that he was an eyewitness.

C. Outline of this message.

1. The event
2. The significance
3. God's purpose

II. The Event

A. Why pierce Jesus' side?

1. Why the additional act of cruelty?

B. Here is what we know Why did John include this part of the story?

1. Docetism – the false belief that Jesus was not fully human.
2. Swoon theory of the atonement
3. Fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy – Deut. 21:22-23
See also I Sam. 31:10 and II Sam. 21:5-6
4. The breaking of legs – validated in 1968.
5. Three-and-a-half-foot spear
6. “But”, verse 34 – hard adversative.

III. The significance

A. Fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy

1. Exodus 12:46; Ps. 34:20; Zech. 12:10; Isa. 53:5a

B. Medical evaluation of the crucifixion.

C. The significance of the blood

1. Picture of atonement
2. Lev. 17:11 – Atonement – “KAFAR” – to cover.
Also Heb. 9:22; Matt. 26:28
3. Here is the first great doctrine: **JUSTIFICATION.**

D. Water

1. Picture of purification or cleansing.
a. Lev. 11:32; Ex. 30:10; Titus 3:5
2. This is the second great doctrine: **SANCTIFICATION.**

C. Both of these rivers flowed throughout the Old Testament.

1. Zech. 13:1

D. Not bloody water – not mixed

1. No blocking or dam. No coagulation, no scab.

E. Both justification and sanctification are distinct as is water and blood.

F. One more thought on the notation of the presence of blood.

1. Why no mention of blood at the crucifixion? Seems odd.
2. God is conducting the sacrifice. When was the last time God conducted a sacrifice without the mention of blood?
3. Possibly the most powerful IN ___ SIO found in the Bible.

IV. God's Purpose

A. The Holy Spirit made this notation to close out the account of redemptive history.

1. Matthew Henry.

B. You can not have one river without the other.

C. Rock of Ages

V. The Confluence

A. Propitiation and Sanctification combined to make up the _____.