Good Friday Service .. The Seven Cries of the Cross

"You bought me to set me free!" story..



1. The cry of Luke 23:34.

Father forgive them for they know not what they are doing Luke 23 :33,34 In the midst of excruciating suffering the heart of Jesus was focused on others rather than Himself. No bitterness, no hatred ... but forgiveness. "Amazing love how can it be that thou my God should die for me".. Yielding to the Truth about Jesus sets us free

2. The cry of Luke 23:42,43

"Truly I tell you, today you will be with Me in paradise." Luke 23:43. One of the criminals who was crucified alongside Christ saw Jesus for who He was and put his faith in Him.. Victory in the presence of death. Today is the time to come to Jesus, not tomorrow. We are sinners and we need a Saviour.. Hebrews 9:27. It is appointed unto all people to die once and

3. The cry of John 19:26,27.

When Jesus saw His mother there, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to her, "Woman, here is your son," 27 and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." John 19: 26,27. In terrible suffering Jesus was other centred and not self centred. Agape love.... Self giving love....Jesus in looking down from the cross was still filled with the concerns of a son f or the earthly needs of His mother.

4. The cry of Mark 15:34

And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?") Mark 15:34. Jesus cried out the opening words of Psalm 22. When our sin was laid on Jesus, God the Father, who is holy had to turn away from His sin laden Son... incomprehensible anguish! At midday when the sun was so bright—it was as dark as midnight 15:33.. God is light and God had to separate Himself from His Son who bore our sin.

 The One who created the rivers and lakes is saying "*I am thirsty*" John 19:28- *thus* fulfilling the Messianic prophecy of Psalm 69:21..There is physical thirst and there is spiritual thirst. Only Jesus satisfies our spiritual thirst.

6. The cry of John 19:30.

It is finished... John 19:30. **TETEXEGTA1** The debt is paid...Christ paid the debt He did not owe to satisfy the debt we could not pay. "It is finished"... communicates a beautiful truth – that Jesus completed the work of salvation once and for all. That means it is not up to us to add, complete, or finalize anything when it comes to our salvation – Jesus did it all. So now, when we put our trust in the finished work of Jesus, we can rest in confidence of our salvation and pursue God with our whole hearts. There is eternal victory in the death and resurrection of Jesus. Have you said "thanks" and worship and serve King Jesus?

7. The cry of Luke 23:46

Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, He breathed His last. Luke 23:46 Jesus gave His life as a ransom for many..... Mark 10:45 Jesus entered into death by placing Himself in God's hands..

- They laid His body in a tomb—and if this story ended here we would close our local c hurches down —the death of all our hopes and dreams.. It would mean Jesus was de-luded. It would mean there is no God in heaven. Thankfully this is not the end of the story!!!
- Christ is risen He is risen indeed! this changes everything! 1 Corinthians 15:3,4.. It was Jesus who said "*I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father but by Me*" John 14:6. Jesus warned that there is a heaven or hell destiny for all hu mankind. To follow the resurrected Jesus or reject Him – the most important question of our lives.
- Skeptics will one day find that Jesus Christ is reality. Repent and confess our sin, turn to Him and receive Him as Saviour and Lord or one day we face Him as our Judge.
- I conclude with the words of Dr Billy Graham who believed there is life after death based on the resurrection of Jesus "Someday, you will read or hear that Billy Graham is dead. Don't you believe a word of it. I shall be more alive than I am now. I will just have changed my address. I will have gone into the presence of God".

For God made Christ, who never sinned, <u>to be the offering for our sin</u>, so that we could be made right with God through Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:21....

Christ paid the debt He did not owe to satisfy the debt we could not pay.

In response to this amazing gift we need to -

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord .. Acts 3:19

Praise, serve and thank our Lord for ever and ever!!! Amen.