

## ***Week of March 23, 2008***

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### **Monday**

Rom. 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Easter is all about choosing. God chose to demonstrate His grace by sending Jesus. Jesus chose to demonstrate His love by dying in your place. Now, you chose to demonstrate faith by receiving Jesus as Savior and submitting to Him as Lord. *Your choice should be demonstrated everyday.* Real faith is not merely a one-time belief. Rather it is a choice to walk in daily discipleship demonstrating the reality of your choice for the Savior. Are you demonstrating?

### **Tuesday**

1John 4:10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Believers must never forget the sinfulness of sin. Allowing ourselves to forget the horror and cost of our sin cheapens the grace of God and enables a fruitless life. Sin is ever sinful, deadly, costly to ourselves and others. Sin is the reason for Jesus' suffering and death. Lest we forget the sinfulness of our sin, meditate upon God's penalty for sin (death) and God's propitiation (Jesus). Reflect upon the price God paid for redemption. Do not allow yourself to live in cheap grace.

### **Wednesday**

Rom. 6:15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.

I folded my hand under the bottom of the pew, only then feeling the gum. I wanted to wash my hands, but could not leave to do it. I'm sure the person who put it there thought they were merely hiding their 'transgression' and never thought it would affect another. But it did affect me (kind of grossed me out). We often hide our sin thinking that if it is out of sight it will not affect anyone but ourselves. What you do not realize is that someone always finds the 'sticky mess.' Your sin affects many others, sometimes for generations to come.

### **Thursday**

Rom. 3:25-26 This was to demonstrate His righteousness... that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

God is holy, pure, and righteous: concepts we too seldom meditate upon. The measure of His holiness is seen in His remedy for sin. He did not deny the sinfulness of sin or minimize sin's horror. He did not announce forgiveness, as if sin were merely a mistake. Sin is an affront to God's holiness, a stain upon His righteousness that must be remedied. The cost of sin is death, a penalty demanded by the holy nature of God. Yet God paid that penalty Himself: a debt I owed, yet He suffered. God is holy, pure, righteous, full of grace and love.

### **Friday**

John 1:12-13 As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.

Rom. 10:13 "Whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved."

The resurrection served as the stamp of God's approval on Jesus' payment for sin. Through resurrection, God demonstrated His acceptance of Jesus' sacrifice and likewise His acceptance of all who by faith trust in Jesus' atoning work. This is the message of God's grace and love. This is the truth of salvation. We owed a debt we could not pay. He paid the debt He did not owe. Now all who come to Jesus in repentance and faith are made to be God's children, fully forgiven, redeemed, restored to the Father, saved for eternity. Are you redeemed? Let the world know of God's grace in your life. Tell somebody!