



HILLSIDE MONTHLY DISPATCH

Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

Volume 20 No. 3

Modeling the Truth of God's Word

March 2021

Have a Burden for the Lost

From the Pastor's Desk

A Sorrowful Passion for the Lost

Romans 9:1-3 & 10:1

What are the different reasons for why one would have sorrow? Off the top of my head I can think of a few. Death of a loved one, a divorce or breakup, a child gone astray, a deep misunderstanding between you and a parent, or rejection from close friends. There are many more reasons why one might be sorrowful, but have you ever had a deep sorrow over the fact that someone might not know the Lord Jesus as their personal Savior?

In Romans chapters nine and ten there is an expression of sorrow that must cause any who reads it to take a moment and measure the significance of that sorrow. In verses 1-3 of chapter nine Paul expresses a deep longing for the salvation of others, but not just anyone, it is for the whole Israelite race. He writes, "I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscious testifies with me in the Holy Spirit, that I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed, separated from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh." (NASB) He then says in 10:1, "Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation." (NASB)

Now often when we hit sorrowful times in our lives we tend to stop what we are doing and begin to look inward to our own pain and suffering. We might cry and weep. We might lash out in anger either by words or action. We might say things that we probably regret later. Some get so sorrowful that words cannot express and body cannot testify to how much anguish that person is facing.

Sorrow is indeed a powerful emotion that is always on the edge of coming out of us when we face great difficult times, but most often we handle it in a way that we are biologically driven to do so. We must release the emotions lest they destroy us. To grieve and cry and express oneself is only natural and it is the way God has created us to handle such trying times.

In this passage to the Romans, Paul's expression of his sorrow isn't in a way that is natural to one's way of expressing that sorrow. And the reason for the sorrow is not

Upcoming Events and Meetings

March 2, 6:30 p.m. – First Tuesday Night Bible Study

March 6 – No Men's Breakfast

Resumption will depend on prayerful commitment.

March 7, 10:45 a.m. – Lord's Supper

March 14 – Daylight Savings Time begins

March 17 – St. Patrick's Day

Weekly:

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School and Bible Discussion

Sundays at 10:45 a.m. – Worship Service

Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. – Weekly Bible Study

Continuing the examination of verse 3:16 as it appears in each Bible Book.

only focused on himself, but more importantly on many of his fellow Israelites. Paul was carrying a burden that was from the Lord himself, a burden that is borne in the nature of being saved in Christ and is an extension of love that comes from God in that salvation. Paul testifies that he is sorrowful and has unceasing grief in his heart over this issue. What an amazing thing we see here. He is burdened by the fact that so many of his kinsmen are going to hell that he cannot let his mind be set free from thinking about it.

Too often in life we allow our thoughts to be consumed by the trivial and we tend to focus on the mundane and often the unlikely. We might even go so far as to allow ourselves to role play in our heads about fantasies that will never happen. The result is that often we waste so much energy on the ludicrous and, more times than not, it steals our attention and our energies from more spiritually pressing and important matters. That is not what Paul is doing here, instead he is deeply consumed about the lostness of his

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On the web at <http://www.hillside-sbc.org>

Pastor's Desk (from p. 1)

people and he is spending so much time thinking about this that his heart will not let him rest. Thus he cannot find peace regarding this matter and he wishes he could do something about it.

What is the most amazing thing about this passage is not the fact that he has such a deep sorrow, which is pretty special in itself, but the fact that he goes on to say that he would rather be accursed if it would mean they would be saved. What a mind boggling gesture of passion and conviction. In other words, if God would have allowed it, Paul would have gladly gone to eternal punishment in Hell so that those who were his kinsmen might be redeemed, but we know that responsibility was not his, but the responsibility of Jesus Christ.

Paul loved the Israelites so much so that he was willing to forfeit his rights as an heir to the kingdom of God. Let's not forget that this love comes from a former Pharisee who was once completely preoccupied with personal sanctification and now his desire is to be condemned for his fellow Israelites. This sorrowful need to see his kinsmen saved testifies to the fact that such a desire could have only come from a person who is saved in Jesus Christ.

In our sin nature we see that this is not a love that is deeply seated in the heart of the natural man, especially someone like Paul who had a background of earning righteousness through the observance of the Law. However, because of his encounter with Jesus, Paul truly learned what it means to receive grace, to know that it is by grace we are saved through faith in Christ Jesus our Lord.

As we consider this passage I pray that you would follow Paul's example of Christianity and grow in a sorrowful passion for those who don't know Jesus in your life; to grow in a passion that focuses on others and their walk with the Lord. I am not talking about judging or meddling in other's lives, but about seeking the lost and showing them the love of Christ by witnessing to them and praying for them.

I pray that you would grow in such a way that your heart and mind will not rest because the souls of so many are not going to heaven, but to hell. To grow in your walk with the Lord so that you would allow the Holy Spirit to work in your life to have a burden for the lost people in your life. I pray that each and every one of us at Hillside would have someone come into our lives and be pressed deeply unto our hearts so much so that we would be willing to forfeit our salvation so that they might be saved. Now I know that we cannot do that, so did Paul, but it does show how passionate we can be when hoping for Christ in the life of others.

May the Lord be with all of you, may his grace shine upon you, may his protection overshadow you, may his love strengthen you, and may his peace rest in you. To God be the Glory, Amen.

Blessings,
✠ Pastor Jim

Men's Breakfast

Cancelled for this month.

Property and Space Patrol

A few small snowstorms came though last month. Hopefully March will go out like a lamb, as the saying goes. Another good thing to be thankful for is that Daylight Savings Time begins on March 14, bringing more daylight in the evening.

✠ Pastor Al

The Little Girl Who Gave 57 Cents to Her Church

Cynthia Ward sent in a version of this story. After checking an Internet Hoax site, it turned out to be true and the following text is the complete account.

A first-hand account of the child was in a sermon delivered December 1, 1912 by Russell H. Conwell, pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Philadelphia. Rev. Conwell said the little girl's name was Hattie May Wiatt. She lived near a church where the Sunday School was very crowded and he told her that one day they would have buildings big enough to allow every one to attend who wanted to.

Later, Hattie May Wiatt became sick and died. Rev. Conwell was asked to do the funeral and the girl's mother told him that Hattie May had been saving money to help build a bigger church. She gave him the little purse in which she had saved 57 cents.

Rev. Conwell had the 57 cents turned into 57 pennies, told the congregation the story of little Hattie May and sold the pennies for a return of about \$250. In addition, 54 of the original 57 pennies were returned to Rev. Conwell and he later put them up on display. This was in 1886 when 57 cents was no small savings account for a little girl from a poor family.

Some of the members of the church formed what they called the Wiatt Mite Society which was dedicated to making Hattie May's 57 cents grow as much as possible, and to buy the property for the Primary Department of the Sunday school.

A house nearby was purchased with the \$250 that Hattie May's 57 cents had produced and the rest is history. The first classes of Temple College, later Temple University, were held in that house. It was later sold to allow Temple College to move and the growth of Temple, along with the founding of the Good Samaritan Hospital (Now the Temple University Hospital) have been powerful testimonies to Hattie May Wiatt's dream.

Selected Verses That Speak of Jesus' Character

The following scriptures appeared in the February 2021 issue of the *Our Daily Bread* devotional booklet.

John 1:14 – And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us; and we saw His glory, glory as of the only *Son* from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Matthew 20:28 – ... "and whoever desires to be first among you shall be your slave; just as the Son of Man did not come

to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

Mark 6:34 – When Jesus went ^[a]ashore, He saw a large crowd, and He felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things.

John 10:30 – "I and the Father are one."

John 13:5 – Then He poured water into the basin, and began washing the disciples' feet and wiping them with the towel which He had tied around Himself.

Philippians 2:6-7 – Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, as He *already* existed in the form of God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but emptied Himself *by* taking the form of a bond-servant *and* being born in the likeness of men.

Tune in to Gospel Radio

In the Concord area, get more of God's Word by tuning into New Hampshire Gospel Radio at 99.1 FM or 104.3 FM. For example, on Saturday nights at 6 p.m. the locally produced "Saturday Night Gospel Hour" offers a wide variety of southern and country gospel music. During the week, tune into well known speakers such as Alistair Begg, Chuck Swindoll, Dr. David Jeremiah, and Dr. Jim Daly.

Learn more at <http://www.nhgr.org/>.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Hillside wishes a happy, happy, happy birthday to the following people who are celebrating another orbit around the Sun:

3/30 Amanda Robertson



Hillside also wishes God's blessing on anyone who is celebrating a wedding anniversary this month. If that is you, please let the editor know about it.

Prayer Requests

If you need us to pray for a physical, spiritual, financial, marital, or other need, contact Pastor Jim, Pastor Al, or Michael Frascinella and they will get the word out to the membership. It is our duty and privilege to lift you up in prayer to Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hillside on the Web

Go to the Hillside web site <http://www.hillside-sbc.org/> for more information about our fellowship, including this newsletter in PDF format.

Submissions for Next Issue

Deadline is March 25. Send news items to News Wrangler and Editor, Michael Frascinella, mfrascinella at comcast dot net.



Hillside Baptist Church is a member of the New Hampshire branch of the Baptist Convention of New England, and part of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Hillside Baptist Church
547 Pembroke St.
Pembroke, NH 03275

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