

Listen, watch, or read the sermon on the website if you missed it. Turn to the back for an outline of the sermon.

Ice Breaker: What movie contained the best message or story that you can recall?

1. Was there a verse or passage that stood out to you this week in your Bible reading?
2. What did you learn or what is refreshing to consider regarding the unity or diversity of the Trinity?
3. What is your reaction to the idea that Paul the Apostle “puts us into the story” by linking his assertion that Christ redeemed us from the curse and makes reference to the Deuteronomy 21 passage?
4. The idea of sin bringing corruption and hindering the communion of God’s people with God makes sense. How does this idea apply in your life?
5. The greatest Father sent the greatest Son to die for his bride. The perfect Son died in place of the rebellious son to secure the blessing promised by God.
  1. Do you see in Rom 8:28-39 that there is nothing he will withhold and nothing that can stop his purpose for which he gave up his Son?
  2. What are your observations about God’s purpose in the death of Christ as described by Paul in Ephesians 1:3-14?
6. What heart reaction do you have to the degree of commitment that God has already evidenced regarding his plan to mold you and bless you and deliver you?
  1. What are you going to do different in light of this?

**Sermon Idea:** “The sacrificial love of the Father has deemed his purpose in Christ unstoppable”.

## **I. Theological Background**

- A. The unity and diversity of the Trinity
- B. The distinction of the Father within the Trinity
- C. The relationship between the Father and the eternal Son

## **II. Setting/Context**

- A. Deuteronomy 21
  - 1. Law delivered to the next generation
    - a) Exhortation to recognize the conditional nature of the covenant made with Israel at Sinai
  - 2. Difficult domestic matters addressed in chapter 21
    - a) Rebellious and stubborn sons were to be stoned
  - 3. Jewish capital punishment practices and public display of the dead
    - a) For purging evil to preserve avoid judgment of the whole nation and to preserve the blessing of communion with God in the land

## **III. Exposition**

- A. Deuteronomy 21:22-23
  - 1. What does it say?
    - a) A criminal is condemned to capital punishment (v 22)
    - b) Body is displayed publicly (v 22)
    - c) God orders the removal before the next day (v 23)
  - 2. What does it mean?
    - a) Criminal is killed to purge corruption from the people and from the land
    - b) Public display to evidence God’s curse upon the law-breaker to warn Israel
    - c) Removal and burial is to preserve the blessing by burying the corruption
- B. Galatians 3:10-14
  - 1. What does it say?
    - a) Curse is upon all who rely upon their own law-keeping for being made right with God (v 10)
    - b) No-one born of the seed of man can keep the law perfectly (v 11)
    - c) The law is to be met by faith and not works (vv 11-12)
    - d) Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law (v 13)
    - e) God has done this so that “in Christ” he might keep his promise to Abraham (v 14)
  - 2. What does it mean?

- a) Reliance upon personal law-keeping is prideful, hopeless, and damning
- b) Legalism is natural but the sinful way to respond to the law
- c) God put the fullness of the curse upon Christ to give us the fullness of the blessing in exchange
- d) Righteousness is by faith and not by works because Christ is the conqueror God is exalting

#### **IV. Implications**

**A. Why does it matter?**

- 1. God has irreversibly invested his heart and soul into his purpose in Christ
  - a) “The sacrificial love of the Father has deemed his purpose in Christ unstoppable”
    - (1) God’s purpose of justifying, sanctifying, and glorifying his own people is unstoppable
    - (2) God will withhold nothing toward the end of making us like Christ and completing what he began

#### **V. Response & Action**

**A. So how will you respond to God?**

- 1. Believer
  - a) Does his devotion to this cause give you lion-hearted courage in light of God’s purposes?
  - b) Do you have amazing confidence in God’s intention to do you good even in the worst scenarios?
- 2. Unbeliever
  - a) Do you understand that we are all born under the curse of the law?
  - b) Do you know that the Father eagerly awaits your embrace?
  - c) Do you know that trusting in the person and work of his Son is your escape from the curse and access to all blessing?

**B. What will you do?**