

The Power of the Cross - (Part 1)

by Erlo Stegen

The message of the cross is the power of God to those who believe, but foolishness to those who are perishing, and repentance is essential for genuine salvation.

Duration: 1:10:58

Scripture: Matthew 4:17, Matthew 27:29, Mark 1:15, Luke 9:23, Romans 12:2, 1 Corinthians 1:18, 1 John 1:9

Topics: "Repentance", "Salvation"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the seriousness of sin and the need for repentance. He shares a story of a girl who got pregnant out of wedlock and felt the weight of her sin when she experienced the stench of blood during childbirth. The preacher also highlights how society has lost its morality and become like wild animals. He emphasizes that true repentance involves confessing and remorse for one's sins, and that accepting Christ without acknowledging and dealing with sin is not genuine salvation. The preacher concludes by emphasizing that sin must be dealt with at the cross, as Christ died for sinners and for sin.

Transcript

On this day where we think of your dying for us on the cross, we thank you, Lord, for what thou hast done. And as we have sung that there is salvation at the cross in your blood, there shouldn't be one of us here in the meeting who does not experience complete forgiveness and complete healing from any enslavement to the devil by your work which we commemorate today. After going through all what you went through, Lord Jesus, what a shame if we who call us by your name are still enslaved by sin and by things of this world.

So take this service and may it be in your hands and may you work as thou wilt, as thou hast sought of this hour. May that come true in each and every one of our lives. Bless us and save us from an eternal damnation.

That your will be done in our lives. Amen. Let's read our text from 1 Corinthians chapter 1 and verse 12.

Sorry, verse 18. For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. Let us pray.

You say, well, I'm addicted to nicotine, I'm a smoker, or you're a drug addict, and you say, well, it's impossible for me to kick that habit and to get rid of it. Get rid of it from that addiction. Why is it impossible for you? Because you haven't met up with His power of Christ.

And even if you would call yourself a believer and a Christian, you should know that you are outside. It's a lie that you're a Christian. It's a lie that you're a Christian.

It's a lie that you're a drug addict. It's a lie that you're a smoker. It's a lie that you're a drug addict.

It's a lie that you're a Christian. It's a lie that you're a drug addict. It's a lie that you're a Christian.

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It's a lie that you're a drug addict. I'm not troubled by alcohol. But my problem is I don't know.

But you said my problem is I love motorcars. These big, smart, expensive motorcars. I love motorcars.

No. That's chicken feed. I'm not interested in that type of car.

But these big, smart, expensive BMWs. Those very expensive motorcars. If I see a car like that passing by, my eyes can't leave it.

And we and our gang, we won't rest until at least one day we've got hold of one of those cars. We'll kill the driver or the owner and go and throw that person somewhere where we get rid of the body and steal the car in that way. One day she and her gang saw one of these big, smart cars.

They went after it. They killed the driver in cold blood. They got rid of the body.

And then she herself drove that car across the border, across Byte Bridge into Zimbabwe. And there at the bridge, it was terribly hot. And because of the heat, the stench of this blood came up into her nostrils.

So much so that she became nauseous. She wanted to vomit. And when she got there, a voice said to her, Now you repent.

Go to Kwasi Zabantu and get your life right with God. And so she did that. She came here and came and she confessed her sin.

Well, in the olden days, they used to steal horses. Today they steal motor cars. She repented.

Blood, human blood, made her nauseous. And when Jesus was crucified on the cross, he was crucified for things such as these. And maybe you say, Well, I'm not as bad as that.

I haven't ever killed anybody. I'm not immoral. I'm not a drunkard.

Well, I'm not such a bad person after all. I'm not such a bad person after all. I'm not such a bad person after all.

I'm not such a bad person after all. I'm not such a bad person after all. And he said, Of all, it was said that you should not commit adultery.

But I tell you, if you have only looked at a woman and you've lusted after her with your eyes, you're already an adulterer. And you say, Well, I haven't divorced my wife. I'm still living with her.

I've still got our marriage certificate. But your eyes can follow other people and other women. And you look at them and you long in your heart for God.

You're married. You've got a wife. She's yours.

Her body is your body. Your body is her body. And you still look at pornographic things.

Before the most holy God, what are you? But they make no reference of their sin. There's no repentance, no remorse, no confession of their sin. Sometimes tracts are written.

Evangelism is done, but without repentance. There's no salvation. It's impossible.

Christ died for sinners and for sin. And if you meet with him and come to the cross, sin must be dealt with. And if you say, I've accepted Christ, I'm a child of the Lord, it's nonsense.

It's not genuine. May it be clear to you for the rest of your life, there is no salvation without repentance. It's man-made, it's a modern thing and it's worth nothing.

It's man-made, it's a modern thing and it's worth nothing. You repent, there is remorse over sin, there is confession and there is a change of mind. Some believe that they are saved, but never turned away from their wicked ways and their sin.

And that's why they accept Christ and believe in him, so to say. But after that they fall into the gravest sin, sin that they've never done before, in spite of the fact that they've accepted Christ. Because they have accepted Christ without repentance.

And their Christ didn't deal with the sin in their life. And they are the laughing stock of the devils. And they are the laughing stock of the devils.

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God. And if you meet up with the message of the cross...

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