**Sunday, April 8, 2012**

**Welcome** - Greg Snow

 **Christ Has Risen From the Dead** *(Ron Christian)*

Jesus…nailed to the cross…dead and placed in a tomb. What Satan thought was his greatest triumph became in reality his greatest tragedy! Satan claimed victory when he saw Jesus hang His head in death on the cross. Satan was crushed three days later when he looked into an empty tomb and knew that Jesus was to ascend to the right hand of His Father's kingly throne!

The demons' cries of triumph on Calvary's Friday suddenly turned into cries of terror on Easter morning! Christ disarmed the power of Satan! Hallelujah! Christ has risen from the dead!!

**Songs of Praise** *–* See What A Morning/I Will Glory In My Redeemer

**The Risen God** (*John Piper/Paul Washer* )

It is wonderful to see the suffering Son coming home to the Father. What a reunion that must have been when Creator embraced Creator and said, "Well done Son. Welcome home." What a wonderful thing to see the bloody Passover Lamb of Good Friday crowned with glory and honor, and handed the scepter of the universe!

But it is also wonderful to hear Jesus say in John 17:24, "I want others to be with me, Father. I want others to share my glory. I want my gladness in your glory to overflow like a mountain spring and become the gladness of others. I want my joy in you to be in them and their joy to be full forever and ever.“

On Easter Sunday morning Jesus blew the lock off the prison of death and gloom and returned to the gladness of God. With that he put his sanction on the pursuit of happiness. And he opened the way for sinners to find never-ending satisfaction at the fountain of the glory of his grace.

For while Jesus was on the cross, it was not the nails that held Him there, but His love for the Father and His love for us. It was your sin and my sin that held Him there in the deepest expression of love the world could ever know. It was death by love.

**Song of Worship** – You Are My King

 **Jesus Christ and Him Crucified** *(Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones)*

Is Jesus Christ and Him crucified everything to you? This is the question. It is a personal matter. Is He central? Does He come before anything and everything? Do you pin your faith in Him and in Him alone? Nothing else works. He works! I stand here because I can testify to the same thing.

*'God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I [crucified] unto the world'* (Galatians 6:14)

**Song of Worship:** In Christ Alone

**Offering**

**The Power of the Cross** *(Carl Haak)*

The power of the cross…this was something the apostle Paul was very conscious of. Romans 1:16 says, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.” By the cross we are freed from the curse and dominion of sin. We read in Romans 6:11, “So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.”

Sin shall not rule in you. Look to the cross. Embrace, by faith, Christ crucified. Recognize at the foot of the cross that you have not only been forgiven merely of grace, but you are now made dead to sin and alive unto God. You shall now live unto Him who died and is risen again. You shall live holy unto Him. You shall live in the power of the cross.

The power of the cross is not merely a change of conduct. The power of the cross is a new life. Life flows from the cross — a living stream flows from Calvary — not only able to wash us clean, but it is able to break the strong bars of sin which would hold us in bondage, able to open heaven’s gates, and able also now to bring our steps into holiness, to bring joy into our heart and thanksgiving to our soul — a power, a wondrous power in the cross of Jesus Christ.

Under that cross is where you must be. Under the cross you must abide until He comes to take you to be with Himself in glory. In that day when Jesus comes for you, He will take you into His Father’s presence for evermore. And He will do that by the power of the cross.

 **Songs of Worship** – This the Power of the Cross/All I Have Is Christ

**Message** - "*The Cup of Wrath*"; Scripture Reference: Luke 22:42

* The cup is symbolic
* Psalm 75:8; Jeremiah 25:15; Revelation 14:6-13
1. **Contents**
* The cup contained the wrath & anger of an infinite Holy God against my/your sin
* Leviticus 16 – It is exact/precise. Every sin you committed
1. **Consumed**
* Everyone has a cup to drink. Jesus drank mine in Gethsemane and upon His cross for me. (Colossians 2:14)
1. **Communion**
* We can enjoy & rejoice in this cup of blessing because He drank to the very dregs of the cup of wrath for us!

**The cup of blessing speaks of:**

* The Father’s Glory
* Our forgiveness
* Our fellowship in His shame & suffering, as well as in His body with the saints
* Our future

**Time of Prayer**