



# The Cross - A Choice

A South Pacific Christian Ministries Sermon

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## About Us

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South Pacific Christian Ministries is a Non-Denomination Missions Oriented Ministry that sprang out of a small tourist focused church in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii. After 16 years serving as the Senior Pastor the LORD redirected our steps from the little chapel by the sea to the small island communities of the South Pacific.

Our Vision is to bring the living water to the small islands of the South Pacific; a vision summed up in the Hawaiian phrase Ke Ola Wai, which means the living water. Ke Ola Wai encompassing our greatest spiritual and physical need, pure spiritual and physical water.

Our Mission is to meet the spiritual and physical needs of the people who live on the small islands of the South Pacific that can only be reached by boat. To bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to their shores, assisting local Pastors, providing Bible Training for believers and conducting outreaches to draw in non-believers. To provide gravity fed, family sized, reverse osmosis water filters; emergency medical supplies; medical services; and disaster response training.

## Summary

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A look at the work of the Cross. It is a choice, believe or not. Your choice will determine your eternity.

## Scripture References

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Isaiah 53

Daniel 9:25 - 26

Psalm 53:1

Romans 3:19-26



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## Sermon Notes

Isaiah 53:

- 1 Who has believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?
- 2 For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he has no stately form nor splendor; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.
- 3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.
- 4 Surely he has borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.
- 5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.
- 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
- 7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth.
- 8 He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.
- 9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.
- 10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he has put him to grief: when you shall make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, he shall prolong his days, and the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.
- 11 He shall see the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.
- 12 Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he has poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Roughly 750 years before Christ the Prophet Isaiah prophesied that Jesus would give His all for us. Our sin, our healing, our peace was paid for by Jesus upon the cross.

The Prophet Daniel also proclaimed the time of Jesus Christ, the Messiah, hundreds of years before He was born in Bethlehem.

Daniel 9:25 - 26

- 25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah, the Prince, shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times.
- 26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and its end shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

The weeks in Daniels prophecy are periods of 7 years, each day a year. The commandment to restore Jerusalem and the temple was given first by King Cyrus. Over a period of time, with much opposition, the city and the temple was rebuilt.

Just as Daniel prophesied, the Messiah, Jesus Christ, was cut off from man, but not for himself. He willingly gave His life for us.



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We could spend hours talking about the prophecies proclaiming His birth and sacrifice, hours talking about the historical evidence of His death of the cross and His resurrection.

The reality is that while the abundant facts that can be presented might sway your heart; the Work of the Cross and His resurrection must be accepted by faith.

Just as the reality of your need for forgiveness.

The world today is full of loud voices speaking against Christ and those who believe in Him. It is in truth a choice in what you want to believe.

You can reject the truth of Jesus Christ and the work of the cross, or you can accept it by faith.

None of us were there.

It is a choice to believe or to reject the truth. God will not force you to choose Him.

Those who reject Christ and even God's existence will declare that you are a fool to believe in Him. They declare that they believe in science and that evolution explains how man came about. They ignore all evidence of Christ in History and reject every fact that comes against their beliefs.

Psalm 53:1

- 1 The fool has said in his heart, There is no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: there is none that does good.

Indeed it takes a fool to ignore God's existence and the reality of Jesus Christ, it takes a fool to believe in theory evolution. It takes a fool to believe that an unprovable theory is a fact. When you understand the complexity of even the simplest cell, you see why it take a fool to believe in evolution. The simplest cell is comprised of a set of highly complex protein strings that all work together to maintain the cell and to reproduce.

Just for the necessary element to come together in the right place, under the right conditions for a long enough period of time, to form the basic protein structures of a simple cell; is a astronomically unlikely event.

## {Side Note

While there are many statistical estimates available from a quick web search, these analysis ignore the more difficult first step. That is the creation of a simple single cell. There are 19 to 26 separate parts to a cell. Each of these parts is comprised of amino acids; in other words, protein strings. Each string can only perform exist and perform the assigned task, if the exact sequence of atoms come together for that unique string. Even if all the necessary parts were created they then had to come together in the exact perfect way to create the cell. That cell then had to have the necessary nutrition, fluid mixture, temperature long enough for it to survive and the duplicate. The question also remains as to why it would split in two, thereby creating a duplicate of itself. One university study estimated that even at 1 in  $10^{128}$ . That is 1 in 10 followed by 128 zeros. A very big number. The time required is also several billion years longer than secular science estimates the age of the universe. Simple put, it is impossible. That statistic is only the creation of a simple cell, not a complex creature such as man.}

It is more likely that you would be struck by hit by a baseball sized meteorite every day, in the same spot, at the same location, for a hundred years and not die.



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It takes a fool to believe it. It takes more faith to believe the theory of evolution, than it does to believe in God and Jesus Christ.

It is a choice. We must choose to believe that God loves us. We must choose to believe that Jesus Christ died upon a cross for us. We must choose to believe that Jesus rose from the dead so that we can have eternal life.

We must either accept Him by faith, choosing to believe, or reject Him choosing not to believe.

Romans 3:19-26

- 19 Now we know that whatsoever things the law says, it says to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.
- 20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.
- 21 But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;
- 22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith in Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:
- 23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
- 24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:
- 25 Whom God has set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;
- 26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him who believes in Jesus.

None of us are without sin.

If we manage to live a life without violating God's law and think a wrong though, we are still guilty of sin before God. No one alive is without sin. Wether in deed or thought, each of us sin, though try as we might to walk righteously before God. Jesus Christ paid the price so that we could be judged by His righteous and not our own.

We have a choice. We can accept Christ or deny Him.

I would rather live my life believing in God and then die never know I was wrong; than to have made a fools choice, rejecting God and the price He paid for us, and discover that I was wrong with an eternity in hell to regret my choice.

God gave His all out of Love for you. God made it rather simple. You can accept His son as your LORD and SAVIOR, believing that He paid the price for you, or reject Him and His gift.

**It is your choice.**

**Choose wisely because your eternity is at stake.**