

O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken



Text: LSB 439 and NAS 1995

Sermon – Part 1 Understanding Jesus' Harsh Punishment

Introduction: Dear friends: Think about Jesus:

- **He was so wonderful:** 😊 The Son of God in the flesh of Mary, 😊 always showing perfect love, 😊 teaching God's full truth, and 😊 being the One through whom the Father worked countless miracles!
- **He was treated so horrible:** ☹ When He was arrested, ☹ when He was put on trial six times in about six hours, ☹ when He was very severely beaten (scourged), ☹ when He was mocked by many, and ☹ when He was nailed to His cross!

Today we focus on the hymn: **O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken.** What is the implication? Since Jesus suffered so much, *He must have broken God's Law.* What is the truth? We are the lawbreakers, so He was sent by the Father to bear †our sin and †our eternal punishment!

Scripture Readings:

Mark 15:12-14 ...Pilate said to [the crowd], "...what shall I do with Him whom you call the King of the Jews?" They shouted back, "Crucify Him!" But Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify Him!" – **See St. 1**

Isaiah 53:3-5 He was despised [strongly disliked, hated] and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide

their face He was despised, and we did not esteem [value] Him. Surely **our griefs He Himself bore**, And **our sorrows He carried**; Yet we ourselves esteemed [valued, understood] Him stricken [hurt], Smitten [hit] of God, and afflicted [tormented]. But **He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities**; The chastening [punishing] for our well-being fell upon Him, And **by His scourging we are healed**. – **See St. 3**

- 1 O dearest Jesus, what law hast Thou broken
That such sharp sentence should on Thee be spoken?
Of what great crime hast Thou to make confession, What dark transgression?
- 2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
With cruel mockings to the cross they urge Thee;
They give Thee gall to drink, they still decry Thee; They crucify Thee.
- 3 Whence come these sorrows, whence this mortal anguish?
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must languish;
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost inherit, This I do merit.

We now sing stanzas 1-3 – TLH 143 / LSB 439

Sermon – Part 2

As Jesus Was Dying, We Were Sinning

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 53:6 All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way [to our own sinful desires]; But the LORD has caused the iniquity [sin, guilt, punishment] of us all To fall on Him. – **See St. 4**

Romans 3:10-12 ... “There is **none righteous**, not even one; There is **none who understands**, There is **none who seeks for God**; **All have turned aside**, together they have become useless; There is **none who does good**, There is not even one.” – **See St. 6**

Romans 5:8 “...God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that **while we were yet sinners**, Christ died for us.” – **See St. 7**

- 4 What punishment so strange is suffered yonder!
The Shepherd dies for sheep that loved to wander;
The Master pays the debt His servants owe Him,
Who would not know Him.
- 5 The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;
Man forfeited his life and is acquitted;
God is committed.

- 6 There was no spot in me by sin untainted;
Sick with sin's poison, all my heart had fainted;
My heavy guilt to hell had well-nigh brought me, Such woe it wrought me.
- 7 O wondrous love, whose depth no heart hath sounded,
That brought Thee here, by foes and thieves surrounded!
All worldly pleasures, heedless, I was trying
While Thou wert dying.

We now sing stanzas 4-7 – TLH 143 / LSB 439

Sermon – Part 3

We Desire to Thank Jesus and Turn from Sin

Scripture Readings:

Romans 6:13 “...do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of **unrighteousness**; but present yourselves to God as those **alive from the dead**, and your members as **instruments of righteousness to God.**” – See St. 8

Psalms 51:10-12 “Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast [*unwavering*] spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation And sustain me with a willing spirit.” – See St. 10

Galatians 5:16 “...walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.” – See St. 11

- 8 O mighty King, no time can dim Thy glory!
How shall I spread abroad Thy wondrous story?
How shall I find some worthy gifts to proffer?
What dare I offer?
- 9 For vainly doth our human wisdom ponder—
Thy woes, Thy mercy, still transcend our wonder.
Oh, how should I do aught that could delight Thee! Can I requite Thee [*rightly respond to You*]?
- 10 Yet unrequited [*my love not returned to You*], Lord, I would not leave Thee;
I will renounce whate'er doth vex or grieve Thee, And quench with thoughts of Thee and prayers most lowly, All fires unholy.
- 11 But since my strength will nevermore suffice me
To crucify desires that still entice me,
To all good deeds O let Thy Spirit win me
And reign within me!

We now sing stanzas 8-11 – TLH 143 / LSB 439

Sermon – Part 4
Living for Christ and Without Fear

Scripture Readings:

Psalm 40:8 “I delight to do Your will, O my God; Your Law is within my heart.”

– See St. 12

Philippians 1:21 “For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.” – See St. 13

Romans 12:1 “...I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.” – See St. 14

Revelation 2:10 “...Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

– See St. 15

- 12 I'll think upon Thy mercy without ceasing,
That earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing; To do Thy will shall be
my sole endeavor Henceforth forever.
- 13 Whate'er of earthly good this life may grant me,
I'll risk for Thee; no shame, no cross, shall *daunt* [*deter*] me. I shall not fear
what foes can do to harm me Nor death alarm me.
- 14 But worthless is my sacrifice, I own it;
Yet, Lord, for love's sake Thou wilt not disown it; Thou wilt accept my gift
in Thy great meekness, Nor shame my weakness.
- 15 And when, dear Lord, before Thy throne in heaven
To me the crown of joy at last is given,
Where sweetest hymns Thy saints forever raise Thee, I, too, shall praise
Thee.

We now sing stanzas 12-15 – TLH 143 / LSB 439

Let Us Pray: Dearest Jesus, even though most do not understand the badness of their sins, nor Your great goodness to remove our sins, help us to ♥ more clearly see those realities, ♥ have even more gratitude, and ♥ tell whoever will listen about Your awesome, evil-conquering, soul-saving work!

Join Us

Maundy Thursday and **Good Friday** – Services at 11 & 7

Holy Saturday – Vigil of Easter at 4:00

The Resurrection of Our Lord – Sunday at 9:00; Free Breakfast at 10:30

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