

**Pastor Laurence Sermon
More than we realise
No 18**



Bread & Wine

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Good evening brothers and sisters the title of my sermon is **More Than We Realise.**

My Bible reading is taken from Titus Ch 2V11-14
For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men teaching us that, denying ungodliness and Worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ who gave Himself for us that He might redeem us from every lawless deed, and purify for Himself His own peculiar people zealous for good works. Amen

B&S before I go any further in this Sermon let me draw your attention to verse 14 where it says.

He gave Himself for us that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own peculiar people zealous for good works.

Once I wrote a little text and put it into a photo frame, it said the Father gave us heaven the Son John 3V16 says *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believe it in Him shall not Perish but have everlasting life. Amen*

B&S our God is the One who always does the

giving. What can we give our Saviour? nothing except our love. It is as He says in 1st Timothy 6v7 *For we brought nothing into this world and it is certain we can carry nothing out.*

There is nothing in this world that anyone should desire above serving our Saviour His own special People zealous for good works. Now good works will not get you into heaven, neither will going to church or living a clean life, but if you really love Him then you should desire or zealous to do good works. Loving the family of God, loving your church, loving the word, loving your pastor, loving the praise of God. You see **God Is Love.**

Do you love those things? God loves us so much it is His nature to give? We all need God **more than we realise** His mercy on us is needed and praise Him that He has mercy for us. Do you know that whatever we give to the Lord that He has given it to us in the first place? God gives to us before we can give to Him and as His children we should want to give. **God gave us Jesus.**

In the New Testament we read no less than 7 times that Christ gave Himself for us as Paul said In Galatians 2V20 *I have been crucified with Christ it is no longer I who live but Christ lives in me and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by Faith*

in the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself for me. Amen. You know Paul begins the Gospel of Galatians by saying to the churches of Galatia Grace to you and Peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ who gave Himself for our sins that He might deliver us from this present evil age according to the will of God and Father to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen

He gave Himself for our sins. We can continue looking at what God gave, For **He gave us more than we realise** Ephesians 5:2 says *Walk in love as Christ also loved us and gave Himself for us an offering, a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.* Amen Staying with the Eph Ch 5 verse 25 where it says. *Husbands love your wives just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her.* B&S those verses of scripture prove that Jesus Christ loves us so much that He gave Himself for us, but why did He do that, why did He give Himself for us? The answer is in the words **Our Saviour** the Lord came to be our Saviour and to bring us to Father God, we should all know the Bible verse in 1 Timothy 1v15 *This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners of whom I am the chief.*

He gave Himself voluntarily He says in John 10:17-18 *My father loves Me because I lay down My life that I might take it again.18 No one takes it from Me but I lay it down of Myself, I have power to lay it down and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from my Father. Amen* Brethren Our key verse 14 Says **He gave Himself for us.** What would we all have done if Jesus had not laid down His life for us, where would we all be? It is only a great loving and merciful God could give Himself for Sinners. Think about that for a moment He gave Himself for us, He gave Himself to make salvation available to all, He gave Himself for me He gave Himself for you. **Can you say that?**

Do you know that He came for you? This is what Paul meant in Galatians 2:20 *I have been crucified with Christ it is no longer I who live but Christ lives in me and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by Faith in the son of God who loved me and gave Himself for me.*

B&S When we realise that Jesus give Himself for us that tells me that He died as my substitute. Instead of me and that He died to make me His own He was our Redeemer. Old Job knew that when he said. *I know that My Redeemer Lives*

B&S Jesus Christ give us a lot more than we realise the Lord redeemed us from a lot of sins in our past, and now in the present and will continue to redeem us in our future. He says that we are His peculiar people and when we think about that word peculiar we intend to think or imagine Odd, Funny, Strange, we don't see it in a nice or complementary way. This is what God means by us being His peculiar people, He means we are special, His jewels, His pearl without price, we belong to Him, His possession, a special treasure.

You know He told Moses and Exodus 19v5 to go and tell the children these words, *if you will obey My voice and keep My Covenant then you shall be a peculiar Treasure to Me above all people for all the Earth is Mine and you should be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.*

God has set Apart a certain people for Himself to be His, we were chosen in eternity past.

We say we are sanctified, sanctified means set apart, we are set apart for Him. Not only are we a peculiar people, we are zealous for good works.

What does that mean? Another translation puts it like this, we are people with hearts set upon living a life that is good.

B&S We should always be a good Christian, be proud of whom you serve. God our Saviour gave Himself for us that we might live a God glorifying, fruitful Christian life. Is our desire to please Him? are you hungry for more of Him? It is only the God of Heaven whom we love and serve can cleanse and purify sinful men and women, He cleanses us by His blood, as first John 1V7 says *if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, cleanses us from all sin.* Amen. Do you want to know what He washes us with? **With His word.**

The word of God washes His church clean.

You know we are all kept clean simply through the Word which He has spoken unto us.

B&S it is never what we can do for God.

It is always what God allows us to do for Him.

At the moment we all have our troubles and sorrows. While we are on this earth that is the way it will always be, our Saviour is aware of all our troubles and He give us prayer.

That is why we have prayer meetings, someone might say to me I don't go to prayer meetings because God is good to me and I don't really have any troubles to pray for. That is all very good, but it is selfish with a freshly attitude.

It is to hack with you Jack as long as I am ok.
B&S we don't come to prayer meetings just to pray for ourselves. We come to meet and talk with our Lord and to pray for others. It is great when everything in my life is going well, and I am on top of the mountain, but it doesn't stop me from going to the prayer meeting, for there are others there who need encouragement. And one day I will have to come down the mountain and it will be my turn for all your support and prayers. **He gave us more than we realise.** Verse 13 in our text says. *Looking for the blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and Saviour Jesus Christ Amen.* Every Sunday morning, we gather around the Lords table to partake of the **Holy Emblems.** Now why do we do that?

To remind us of what He did for us, and to know that someday He will be coming back again for you and for me. What did Jesus Christ give to the world as a reminder? Bread and Wine.

B&S If I were to ask you who gave the world Penicillin could you tell me? It was Alexander Bell 1928. DNA, Francis Crick 1953. Insulin for Diabetic Fredrick Banting 1921, Facebook Mark Zuckerberg 2004, Microsoft. Bill Gates worth 104 Billion.

The richest man in the world is Jeff Bezos founder of Amazon worth he is worth 112 Billion.

Those things are all great. What about famous people? The Beatles, Elvis Presley, Bruce Lee, Mohamad Alley, John Wayne, Geordie Best?

The king and queens of England, The Presidents of America, The Pharaohs of Egypt. Once upon a time people bowed down before them people made them gods and screamed for them.

Today who knows or cares about them?

What about the name of Jesus Christ that lives through every generation, and someday all those famous people, Kings Queens Rich & Poor alike will all bow down before Him. What did He give to the World. His life, Salvation, a Cross and a Saviour. And what did He give to the world to remember those things by? Bread and Wine.

B&S He gave us a lot more than we realise.

Amen