

## ARCHIE PAULOUS'S SERMON

-JESUS'S DEATH-

**Bible Readings:** *Old Test.* Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12  
*New Test.* Luke 9:18-27

Why SBM church exists?

- Ethnicity is a gift from God

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### Death...

- You can avoid taxes but you can't avoid death
- 'He who has the most toys wins' – but wins what? You can have everything, but death will still claim you. Death always has the last say...  
...how hopeless.

### Jesus is not a nobody

Bible verses

- A journey beginning in the north, and ending in the south (Jerusalem)
- In NT - There isn't any category big enough to put Jesus in. Is he a prophet?
  - Jesus' birth - magi journey for a year to bring items for this baby  
- shepherds see angels
  - Jesus circumcised by Simeon – who says he can die now that God's promise has been fulfilled
  - Jesus raises a dead child back to life
  - Jesus feeds thousands with 5 loaves and 3 fishes

### Jesus' Death

(NT) **v. 22** Jesus says he has come to die.

- Pontius Pilate says to Jesus, "I can put you to death." Jesus tells him that he could get his Father to help him. He *chooses* to die.

**Question:** ...So why did he die?

**Answer:** For ME

- God's judgment on each one of us, which rightly deserves death, was taking on by Him  
The rest of our lives should be shaped by what He did.

### Why God?

If you haven't put your faith in Jesus, what's stopping you?

- The cost is too great?
- You have to give up too much?

**v. 24** explains why you shouldn't fear or reject God's demand → no matter how hard you try to preserve your life, you are going to lose it.

## God overcomes death

Jesus didn't just die, he rose again –

- Jesus defeated the awful power of death [SEE: 6.7.2008 – Paul's sermon, deals with this]

<b>Death is just a doorway to the eternity of heaven</b>
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**v. 25** You may gain the whole world, but you'll forfeit your soul.

*Archie recalled a story by Tolstoy about a decree that was made in a land. The decree was that any man who could run a circumference around a plot of area, finally reaching their starting point again, would receive that land as their own, provided that he began at sunrise and finished at sunset. If he did not succeed in coming back to his starting point, he would be put to death.*

*A certain man decided that he would do it so he would have something to leave to his family. He planned and plotted the course of his run, starting from a hill. He found that if he reached the lake at noon, then he would have time to run around it and reach the next point, at which he would run back up to the hill, his starting point, thus acquiring the lake and the land all around it. If he didn't make it to the lake by noon, he would bypass it and run to his next point.*

*And so the day came. He got up early morning, and as soon as the sun rose he raced down the hill, around the trees, along the carefully planned track he had plotted. He reached the lake before noon, and so cheerfully decided he had time to go around it. He made his way around the lake, around the next point, and then looked up. With dismay, he realized the sun was setting, and he wouldn't have time to race back up the hill. He trudged along in disappointment, but he heard his family and his friends shouting from the top of the hill. He looked up at them, hearing them urge him on, encouraging him, and he suddenly realized that from the top of the hill, the sun hadn't yet set. Drawing up his last remaining energy, he raced forwards, and ran to the top of the hill. As he reached the peak, just as the sun set, he fell down, dead.*

*The last lines of the story go like this: How much land does a man need? Two meters by one meter. Just enough to bury him.*

## For those still doubtful

You can't change your mind at death, it's too late. You need to accept Jesus now.

**Question:** Can Jesus be trusted with your life?

**Answer:** YES!

## A reminder for the Christians

You becoming a Christian cost God's son His life. So rejoice in your Christianity.