

Remembering the Greatest Sacrifice
Memorial Day
5/28/2017 Sunday AM

Scripture: Romans 5:6-11

Introduction

- Tomorrow is Memorial Day, and it is a day set aside so we can thank God for the freedoms we enjoy as a result of the extreme sacrifice made by so many of America's sons and daughters for the sake of freedom.
- As with most holidays, the real reason we set aside the day often gets overlooked.
- We are extremely blessed to live in the USA, and we shouldn't take those blessings for granted.
- There are people every day that are giving their lives for this country, they make the ultimate sacrifice.
- To take their sacrifice for granted or to overlook it completely, is simply awful.
- As bad as it is to be ignorant and unappreciative of their sacrifice, to overlook the greatest sacrifice for all of mankind is even worse.
- This morning as we look towards tomorrow, I want us Remembering the Greatest Sacrifice ever made.

Romans 5:6-11

⁶You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

- V.6 – This verse is absolutely profound when we begin to take in what it is saying.
- Jesus Christ gave His life at “just the right time.”
- What was this right time? It was a time “when we were still powerless” and “ungodly.”
- Before Christ gave His life for you and me, we were powerless to attain salvation.
- Because Christ was willing to die for us even though we were ungodly, we are no longer powerless!
- V. 7 – In this verse Paul is making the point that it is very rare that someone will sacrifice themselves for even a righteous or good person.
- Think about that, who would you give your life for?
- Think about someone that is not a part of your family, what type of person would they have to be in order for you to consider to willingly sacrifice your life for them?
- Praise the Lord that Jesus Christ did not have the same standards as you and I!
- V. 8 – Absolutely one of the best verses in the entire Bible.
- God showed us just how much He loved us that “while we were still sinners, Chris died for us.”
- He just told us in v.7 that is was rare for someone to give their live for even a good person.
- You know yourself you would not want to surrender your life to an evil person.
- However, Jesus Christ sacrificed His life for you and me, even when we were still evil!
- What a sacrifice, what a display of love.
- V.9 – It is the blood of Jesus that justifies us. It is what declares us as righteous before God the Father.
- This was the problem with the Old Testament Law, animal sacrifices were not good enough.
- **Hebrews 10:4** says, “because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.”
- Animal sacrifice was simply a reminder to every one of the gravity of sin.
- However, the ultimate sacrifice always had to come from human beings.
- If want to stand before God the Father, righteous and holy, then you must be covered by Jesus' blood.
- He willingly laid down His life in obedience to the Father for you and I. Accept the gift that He offers.

- Vv.10-11 – When sin entered the world through Adam and Eve, humanity’s relationship with God was damaged.
- Through Jesus’ sacrifice, that relationship was mended and reconciliation was made possible.
- We not only will be able to experience eternity because of Christ’s sacrifice, but we also have blessings in this life that come from it as well.
- Once a year we as Americans observe Memorial Day, here at UCC the first Sunday of every month is “memorial day” for the sacrifice that Christ has made for every one of us.
- Christ commanded us to do it in remembrance of Him.
- Next Sunday we will take communion, and when we eat that cracker we are remembering Christ’s body that was broken, and when we drink the juice we are remembering His blood that was poured out for each of us.
- As we celebrate Memorial Day this weekend and tomorrow, let us not forget the sacrifice that so many men and women have given to allow you and I the privilege of living in the greatest nation on the planet.
- While we are remembering the sacrifice that our brother and sisters have made, let us continually remember the Greatest Sacrifice of all, when Jesus died for you and me, “while we were still sinners.”

Tonight’s Bible Study

The Upcoming Rapture Hoax - September 23, 2017

Wednesday Night Bible Study:

Who’s Who in the Bible: Stephen