



Excerpt from Ministry Reading (The LS of Deuteronomy chapter 18):

The Hanging of a Criminal on a Tree

Deuteronomy 21:22-23 is concerned with the hanging of a criminal on a tree. A criminal could be executed not only by being stoned but also by being hanged on a tree. Whereas Stephen was killed by being stoned (Acts 7:58-59), the Lord Jesus was killed by being crucified, that is, by being hanged on a tree. The one hanged on a tree in Deuteronomy 21:22-23 is therefore a type of the crucified Christ.

If in a man there was a sin, a cause worthy of death, and he was put to death and was hanged on a tree, his corpse was not to remain overnight on the tree but had to be buried on that day, for he who was hanged was accursed of God (vv. 22-23). This was exactly the situation when the Lord Jesus was crucified (John 19:31). He was buried on the day of His crucifixion.

The one who was cursed and hanged on the tree was a type of Christ, who was cursed and hanged on the cross to redeem us out of the curse of the law (Gal. 3:13).

Deuteronomy 21:22-23 is an illustration of an important principle—that the Old Testament was written not mainly for the sake of the children of Israel but mainly for the sake of Christ. The primary purpose of the Old Testament is to portray Christ in various ways. This is the reason that Luke 24:27 says of the Lord Jesus, "Beginning from Moses and from all the Prophets, He interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself." Furthermore, in opening the minds of His disciples to understand the Scriptures, He said to them, "All the things must be fulfilled which have been written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and Psalms concerning Me" (Luke 24:44). In Deuteronomy 21 we have a type of Christ as the One who was hanged on the tree, on the cross. Peter used the word tree when speaking of the Lord's crucifixion: "Who Himself carried up our sins in His body onto the tree" (1 Pet. 2:24).

Announcement:

1. Sister Mei Sun were baptized on LD 2/23 at Piscataway meeting hall. May the Lord cover them and bless her Christian life. May we continue to have the burden of gospel preaching and support gospel meeting on 3/7.
2. There is a churchwide Chinese-speaking gospel meeting from 6:00-8:30 PM on Saturday March 7 at the meeting hall. Please pray for the gospel meeting, invite friends and attend. Please support by bring your favorite dish. Food service: P1, P8, cleaning P7, HP.
3. Book order of new morning revivals of 2020-2021 starts. If you want to subscribe new standing order of morning revival, you may place order through small group serving brother or at bookroom. The cost of new standing order of morning revival is \$40 for a total of 8 books.
4. Northeast Spanish-speaking Conference will be held on 3/13-3/15 at KPCC. The registration deadline is March 1st. Please fellowship with serving brothers if you would like to register.
5. Young working saints and young families blending, 3/20-3/21, at KPCC. Online Registration link is included in the weekly prayer list
6. Young people's conference, 4/9~4/12, at KPCC. This conference will be primarily for junior high and high school age young people, however, college age young people are welcomed and will be accommodated as long as space allows.
7. There is an usher and Lord's table service fellowship today at 12:30 PM at Fellowship room. All brothers serving usher and/or Table service are required to attend. Please bring your lunch and meet in the fellowship room.
8. Please continue to pray for the coronavirus epidemic globally. We ask all saints/friends who traveled/returned from China, Iran, Italy, South Korea, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand in the past 14 days to self-quarantine and refrain from coming to the church meeting for 14 days. We also want to remind all the saints that during this period of time for gatherings in the meeting hall please refrain from handshaking and hugging (including kids). Please wash hands and use hand sanitizer frequently. Masks and gloves are required for food serving saints.

9. Corporate prayer meeting on the coming Tuesday 3/3 is scheduled at Piscataway meeting hall starting from 8 PM. We encourage the saints to separate time to attend.
10. Corporate book pursuit this week:
Life Study of Deuteronomy (Chapter 17~18).
11. Service schedule:

	3/1	3/7	3/8
Food	P7, HP	P1, P8	Dist. C
Cleaning	P4/5, BW	P7, HP	P1, P8

Prayer Burdens:

1. **Churchwide Chinese-speaking Gospel Meeting 3/7-**
 - A. Pray that the Lord will burden all of us for the gospel. May we cooperate with the Lord by praying for our gospel friends and inviting them to the gospel meeting.
 - B. Pray for the openness of people's heart, may the Lord soften each one through the current world situation.
 - C. Pray for the coordination among all the service groups on that day, may we all serve in spirit and in one accord.
2. **COVID-19 (Coronavirus) -**
 - A. Pray that the epidemic can be subdued soon globally and that the gospel can reach to more.
 - B. Pray that the Lord will protect all the saints and local churches from the virus and strengthen our faith in Him.
 - C. Pray that the Lord will preserve the normal church life here in Piscataway from any distraction from the disease.

Meeting Attendance:

Small Groups (2/21~22): 139
Lord's Table (2/23): 142
Prayer Meeting (2/25): 43

Recent Event: 2020 Northeast Spring College Retreat



It is always good to take a break from the stresses of work, school, and life in order to pursue and enjoy the Lord with other believers. Last weekend February 21-23, students from the northeast college campuses gathered for the 2020 spring semester retreat at Incarnation Camp in Ivoryton, Connecticut. These young adults represented five states; Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York. There were a total of 10 students from Rutgers University and 5 serving ones who were able to attend the weekend conference. The students saw that from the beginning of the Bible to the end there is a divine stream in which God is flowing out Himself. This divine stream is the unique stream of God's work that issues in the producing and building up of the church as God's house. In addition, a major part of the retreat was to allow the students to spend some personal time with the Lord learning how to dig out blockages that hinder the flow. The peak of the weekend was Saturday night, when 11

students were baptized and many rejoiced while singing, "I belong to the Lord! I'm His forever! I've died to the world! It's ties I've severed!" As always, these conferences are much needed as the Lord continues to gain the college students for His purpose.

Saints Sharing Their Enjoyment from the Retreat:

1. What I enjoyed the most about the retreat was being able to spend personal time with the Lord each day. It can be so easy to forget about Him at school, so being able to have that time with Him during the retreat and separate from the world felt very special.
2. Wherever the divine stream goes, there is the work of God, which is to transform us into precious stones for His building!
3. We should give everything to the Lord. Our future, job, marriage, everything. The Lord cares for the sparrows and we have much more value to the Lord than them. He will care for us.
4. We all have the same fountain in our spirit. No one has a "stronger" or "weaker" fountain.
5. "Millions of people go through college, but only a few come out precious." I enjoyed that our Lord is a man of bronze and he measures us in our circumstances. The water increases from our ankles, our knees, our loins and eventually we are restricted but swimming in this divine flow. Praise the Lord there are waters to swim in! As we stay in the flow and allow Christ to measure us, we become precious for His building.
6. A verse that touched me: "For we have brought nothing into the world, because neither can we carry anything out" (1 Timothy 6:7). The way we enter into the world is the way we leave the world, so will I invest in the unseen things? Will I allow the flow to deepen in me? An older sister recommended the divine stream to us for the rest of our lives. She didn't always know if she could feed her kids, keep them warm, but she testified the Lord took care of everything as she chose to be in the flow. Another prayed while in her 20s, "God, if there is really the stream, I want to be in it." Today in her 70s she testifies, "I've been in that flow. I have no regrets." I know that I am not anyone special, not particularly bright, having any streaks of talent or notable skills, but to live in the flow, to keep the flow, to be faithful to the flow - may it be my only plea. The flow is simply God working Himself into man and man being worked into God. At the end of my life, I want to know that I lived a life that counted. For this, I look forward to more of the man of bronze's judging to flow away what is of me and flow in what is of God, so life would increase and be imparted to others for the building of God's house because it's out of the building - a group of built up believers in the divine oneness - that the flow is strong, prevailing, and full. Could I be a part of this? Praise the flowing Triune God!