

Faith Talk

Trinity Canadian Reformed Church

Worshipping Sundays 9 am and 3 pm, 2553 Binbrook Rd E

Good Friday

By Arie denHollander

The first statutory holiday of every year (besides New Year's Day) is Good Friday. Millions of Canadians look forward to this day as a means to relax from their work, and an opportunity to take a break after the long uninterrupted winter months. But how many of us really stop to think about the real reason why we celebrate Good Friday?

What happened on Good Friday? It was on this day that Jesus Christ was nailed to the cross on Golgotha, a hill outside of Jerusalem. It was on this day that all of His earthly suffering came to its climax. It was on this day that Jesus Christ suffered the most intense punishment – not just death, but being forsaken by God. So why call it 'Good' Friday? The things He did while on earth -- healing the sick, making the blind see, and raising the dead – were not deserving of such a death!

And yet, the Bible tells us that He had to die. When mankind fell into sin in the Garden of Eden, the beautiful relationship that existed between God and man was broken. Full payment for our sins had to be made in order to restore this relationship. Since we, because of our sin, could not do so ourselves, God sent His Son into this world to make that payment in our place. And that is why it is called 'Good' Friday. For it was on that day that the payment was made and the relationship between God and man was restored! In His death on the cross, Jesus bore in our place the full wrath of God for our sins.

Let's use this Good Friday not simply as a day to relax, but as a day to reflect on our sins and on the great sacrifice that was made for those sins. Let's believe the promise that our sins have indeed been forgiven us for the sake of Christ's death. And let us seek to show true thankfulness to God with our entire life!

Arie denHollander is a member of Trinity Canadian Reformed Church.

<http://www.trinitycanrc.org>

Contact us at faithtalk@trinitycanrc.org