

Good Friday 2011

THEME: Look Upon Him Who Hangs Upon The Cross
For He Loves You!

Beloved in Christ Jesus: Our celebration today is a celebration of love - an unconditional love of God towards us, His children. Today, our Lord Jesus Christ through His passion and death on the cross is telling us again, that He loves us so much, to the point of pouring out His life on the cross of Calvary to set us free from our sins, grant us peace, happiness and salvation.

The celebration of Good Friday is a celebration of passion, sacrifice and death of Christ Jesus out of love for His friends, "Surely He has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases." (Is. 52.13-53.12) The cross is a symbol to us that Jesus suffered and died at Calvary because He loves us. The cross is telling us that we are precious in the sight of God. The cross is telling us that we are not alone, Jesus is with us. He is thinking about our own good and welfare. In the gospel of John, Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life and have it in abundance." (Jan. 10:10) Let us always remember that the Good Friday celebration, the passion and death of Jesus on the cross, is an assurance in our lives that Jesus loves us. That He is there for us, waiting for us to look upon Him for help, healing, comfort, life, happiness, freedom and salvation.

Let us remember the story of the Israelites in the Old Testament, when they were bitten by a poisonous snake. God commanded Moses to make a wooden snake and put it on a tree, so that when people were bitten by the snake they should look upon it and they would be healed. In the New Testament, our time, Jesus is the one hanging today on the cross, the tree of life waiting for us, who are bitten by the poison of sin, sickness, hardship, death, misfortunes, barrenness, marriage problems, family problems, civil attacks, lack of love, loneliness and whatever bad situation we have found ourselves in today, to look upon Him hanging on the wood of the cross and be healed and made whole. "The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities."