

Lk 23:44 Now it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour.

23:45 Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two.

23:46 And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit.' " Having said this, He breathed His last.

23:47 So when the centurion saw what had happened, he glorified God, saying, "Certainly this was a righteous Man!"

23:48 And the whole crowd who came together to that sight, seeing what had been done, beat their breasts and returned.

23:49 But all His acquaintances, and the women who followed Him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

23:50 Now behold, there was a man named Joseph, a council member, a good and just man.

23:51 He had not consented to their decision and deed. He was from Arimathea, a city of the Jews, who himself was also waiting for the kingdom of God.

23:52 This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.

23:53 Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a tomb that was hewn out of the rock, where no one had ever lain before.

23:54 That day was the Preparation, and the Sabbath drew near.

23:55 And the women who had come with Him from Galilee followed after, and they observed the tomb and how His body was laid.

23:56 Then they returned and prepared spices and fragrant oils. And they rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment.

[From Today's Sermon.

This is the week of the Passion of Jesus.

'The hour was already about twelve o'clock in the afternoon, but the sun lost its light, and the whole earth was darkened, and it was three o'clock

Twelve o'clock in the afternoon. The sun was at its most powerful, yet it lost its light, and the whole earth was darkened for three hours.

Isaiah 53 says: "He will be a tyrannical judge.

'He was taken away by a tyrannical judgment. Who among his generation thought that he had been struck for the transgression of my people, and had been cut off from the land of the living?

The hours of 12:00 to 3:00 in the afternoon are when the sun shines brightest. But its light was lost, and darkness enveloped the night.

Man has removed Jesus, the Son of God, by his tyrannical judgments, by his violations.

The word "dark" in "the whole earth was darkened" also implies sin and wickedness. Has the whole earth been swallowed up in the darkening influence of sin and wickedness? Has the light of day, the light of righteousness, been swallowed up by darkness? The light shines in darkness, and darkness has not prevailed over it. And darkness has not prevailed against it" (John 1). There are times when we feel that the whole earth is darkened by sin and wickedness. There are times in our lives when we feel like we are being crushed by such a sense of entrapment. But God is light. Jesus is the "true light that shines on all people" who came into the world. Here is life.

Good morning, everyone.

At last, we have entered the week of the Passion of the Lord.

23:44 And the time was already about twelve o'clock in the afternoon, and the sun lost its light, and the whole earth was darkened, and it was three o'clock.

23:45 And the curtain of the sanctuary was rent from the middle.

23:46 Then Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit. And with these words He breathed His last.

It was between 12:00 and 3:00 in the afternoon. This is the height of the day, when the sun is at its strongest. It is truly ominous that the light should be lost at this time. In Matthew 27 we read

27:45 Now from twelve o'clock in the afternoon the whole earth was darkened, and it was three o'clock.

27:46 And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema, sabachthani. It means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Psalms 22 says.

David's song, sung by the choir director to the melody of the dawn's mezuzah

22:1 My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? Why hast thou forsaken me, O my God, and hast not helped me afar off, and hast not heard the words of my lamentations?

22:2 O my God, when I walk by day, thou dost not answer me; when I walk by night, I find no peace.

22:3 But thou art holy, who sittest upon the throne of Israel.

22:4 Our fathers trusted in You. Because they trusted, You helped them.

22:5 They called on You and were saved; they trusted in You and were not put to shame.

22:6 But I am a worm, and not a man, and I am not a man. 22:6 But I am a worm, and not a man: men shall despise me, and the people shall revile me.

22:7 And all who see me shall mock me, and shall thrust out their lips, and shake their heads, saying, 22:8 "He yields himself to the LORD; he is a worm, and not a man,

22:8 "He has yielded himself to the LORD; let the LORD help him. Therefore let the LORD save him, for the LORD is well pleased with him.

22:9 But thou hast brought me forth, and hast kept me in peace in my mother's bosom.

22:10 From the time of my birth I was entrusted to you. 22:10 From the time I left my mother's womb you have been my God.

22:11 Do not depart from me far away. 22:11 Let me not be far from thee: for trouble draweth nigh, and there is none to help me.

22:12 Many bulls surround me; the strong bulls of Bashan encircle me,

22:13 They shall tear asunder, and open their mouths against me like a roaring lion.

22:14 I am poured out like water; my bones are broken off at every turn, and my heart melted in my breast like wax.

22:15 My strength is as fragments of china; my tongue is on my jaws. 22:16 For thou hast made me to lie down in the dust of death; thou hast made me to lie down in the dust of death.

22:16 Truly the dogs have compassed me about, and the hosts of the evil-doers have compassed me about, and pierced my hands and my feet.

22:17 I can count every one of my bones, and they shall see my bones, and they shall see my bones, and they shall see my bones, and they shall see my bones. 22:17 I can count every bone of my bones, and they shall set their eyes upon me, and they shall look upon me, and they shall see me.

22:18 They shall divide my garments one from another, and they shall cast lots for my clothes.

22:19 But, O LORD, be not far from me: for I will not be far from thee. 22:19 But do not be far off, O LORD; come quickly, O my strength, and help me; for thou art with me, O LORD.

22:20 Deliver my soul from the sword, and my life from the power of the dogs.

22:21 Deliver me from the mouth of the hart, and my soul, which is in travail, from the horns of the ox.

22:22 I will declare thy name unto my brethren, and I will praise thee in the congregation.

22:23 Praise the LORD, ye that fear Him! Praise the LORD, all ye seed of Jacob. O ye all of Israel, be afraid of the LORD.

22:24 For the LORD regardeth not the affliction of the afflicted, neither doth he hide his face from them: but he heareth them when they cry.

22:25 For out of thee goeth my name in the midst of the great congregation. I will fulfill my

vow in the presence of those who fear the LORD.

22:26 The poor may eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD will praise him. Please let your hearts be everlasting.

22:27 And all the ends of the earth will remember and return to the LORD, and all the nations will bow down before Him.

22:28 For the land is the LORD's, and he rules over all nations.

22:29 All the proud of the earth will worship the LORD; all who go down to the dust, and all who cannot make themselves alive, will bow their knees before Him.

22:30 And they shall serve the LORD from generation to generation, and they shall speak of him to all generations to come,

22:31 And they will tell of his salvation, which he has wrought, to the people that shall be born after him.

In Isaiah 53 we read

53:1 Who could believe what we have heard? Whom did the arm of the LORD appear?

53:2 He has grown up before the LORD like a young tree, like a root out of dry soil. He has no form for us to behold, no majesty, no beauty for us to admire.

53:3 He was despised and forsaken of men; he was a man of sorrows, and knew sickness. 53:4 And he was despised like one whose face is covered with abominations. 53:4 And we esteemed him not, neither did we respect him: for he was a man of sorrows, and knew sickness.

53:4 For indeed he bore our infirmities, and was our grief, and we thought, "What is this that he is doing? But we thought that he was smitten, that he was smitten of God, that he was afflicted.

53:5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, and crushed for our iniquities. 53:5 But he was chastened himself, and gave us peace; and by his wounds we are healed.

53:6 We have all gone our own way, lost as sheep: but the LORD hath not forgotten the iniquity of us all. 53:7 And the LORD laid on him the iniquity of us all.

53:7 He was tormented and afflicted, but he opened not his mouth. 53:7 He was tormented and afflicted, but he did not open his mouth, like a lamb being led to the hovel, or like a sheep keeping silent before the shearers.

53:8 He was taken away by a tyrannical judgment. Who of his generation thought that he had been smitten for the transgression of my people, and had been cut off from the land of the living?

53:9 Though he did no tyranny, and there was no lie in his mouth, yet his grave was with the wicked, and his mound with the evil-doers.

53:10 Moreover it was the LORD's will to crush him, and the LORD was troubled with him. When he makes himself an offering for the devil, he shall see his offspring, and his life shall be prolonged. And the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

53:11 He shall see light through the affliction of his soul, and shall be satisfied. 53:12 For by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many, and shall bear their iniquities.

53:12 Therefore I will cause him to share with the great. He will share the prey with the strong. This is because he has poured out his soul even unto death, and has been numbered with the just. And he bore the sins of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

The Lord's words, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" are tinged with sorrow, and the words of Isaiah 53, "He hath no form for us to behold, no majesty, no beauty for us to admire.

53:3 He was despised and forsaken of men; he was a man of sorrows, and knew sickness. 53:4 And he was despised like one whose face is covered with abominations. 53:4 And we esteemed him not, neither did we respect him: for he was a man of sorrows, and knew sickness.

53:4 For indeed he bore our infirmities, and was our grief, and we thought, "What is this that he is doing? But we thought that he was smitten, and that he was smitten of God, and that he was afflicted. The words, "But we thought that he was stricken, and God smote him, and he was afflicted," are also very puzzling and sad.

The light lost its power and darkness enveloped the world.

The sun lost its light, and the whole earth was darkened for three hours. The word "dark" can also mean sin or wickedness.

The whole earth has lost its light, and sin and wickedness have covered the whole earth, so that light cannot reach it.

The Lord Jesus cried out, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? How heavy and dark are the words, "We also have no respect for him, and he was beaten, and God smote him, and he was afflicted. Is it possible that darkness has triumphed over light? It is as if the world is now full of a sense of stagnation, as if chaos covers the earth, as if the powerful overrun the powerless, as if the powerful overrun the powerless, as if the powerlessness of light, of hope, of help is implied in such a hopeless situation, a reality of misery, chaos, and fear that suddenly strikes us as well. We are astonished and dismayed by this darkness, which seems to suggest the inability of light, hope, and help to deal with a reality that suddenly strikes us with misery, confusion, and terror.

23:45 And the curtain of the sanctuary was rent in the middle.

23:46 Then Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit. With these words, He finally breathed His last.

But Jesus had done it all. The curtain of the sanctuary of the temple was torn. This may seem like a terrible event in which the temple was damaged, but it signifies the removal of the barrier by the covering.

Ephesians 2:13 But thus you were far off before, but now you are in Christ Jesus, and have become near by the blood of Christ.

2:14 For Christ is our peace, who has made two things one, and has removed the middle wall of separation, which is enmity, by his own flesh,

2:15 He has laid aside the law of commandments, which consisted of numerous regulations.

2:15 For he hath made peace in him, having made peace between the two in one new man,

2:16 For by the cross he has reconciled the two in one body to God, and has destroyed enmity by crucifixion.

2 Corinthians 3:12 For we have this hope, we speak boldly, and we are confident of it, because we know that God is with us,

3:13 And we will not do as Moses did, who covered his face, lest the children of Israel should see the end of that which is vanishing.

3:14 Indeed, their thoughts were dulled. To this day, when they recite the old covenant, that same covering remains unremoved. It is only in Christ that it is removed.

3:15 Even to this day, whenever the book of Moses is recited, the covering remains on their hearts.

3:16 But when they turn to the Lord, the covering is removed.

3:17 For the LORD is a spirit. And where His Spirit is, there is freedom.

3:18 And we shall all be transformed into His likeness from glory to glory, beholding His glory as in a mirror, without covering our faces. This is the work of the Lord, the Spirit.

There is victory here. Jesus has indeed done it all and has given His spirit to the Lord.

Do not even Psalm 22, "Eli, Eli, lema, sabachthani," "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" conclude with these joyful words.

Psalm 22:20 Deliver my soul from the vine, and my life from the power of the dogs.

Psalm 22:21 Deliver me from the mouth of the lion, and my soul, which is afflicted, from the horns of the wild ox.

22:22 I will declare thy name unto my brethren, and I will praise thee in the congregation.

22:23 Praise the LORD, ye that fear Him! Praise the LORD, all ye seed of Jacob. O ye all of Israel, be afraid of the LORD.

22:24 For the LORD regardeth not the affliction of the afflicted, neither doth he hide his face from them: but he heareth them when they cry.

22:25 For out of thee goeth my name in the midst of the great congregation. I will fulfill my vow in the presence of those who fear the LORD.

22:26 The poor may eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD will praise him. Please let your hearts be everlasting.

22:27 And all the ends of the earth will remember and return to the LORD, and all the nations will bow down before Him.

22:28 For the land is the LORD's, and he rules over all nations.

22:29 All the proud of the earth will worship the LORD; all who go down to the dust, and all who cannot make themselves alive, will bow their knees before Him.

22:30 And they shall serve the LORD from generation to generation, and they shall speak of him to all generations to come,

22:31 And they will tell of his salvation, which he has wrought, to the people that shall be born after him.

Isaiah 53, the suffering servant, also concludes in this way.

53:10 Moreover it was the will of the LORD to crush him, and the LORD was troubled with him. When he makes himself an offering for the devil, he shall see his offspring, and his life shall be prolonged. And the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

53:11 He shall see light through the affliction of his soul, and shall be satisfied. 53:12 For by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many, and shall bear their iniquities.

53:12 Therefore I will cause him to share with the great. He will share the prey with the strong. This is because he has poured out his soul even unto death, and has been numbered with the just. Moreover, he bore the sins of many and made intercession for the transgressors.

This statement in the Gospel of John is true.

1:1 In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God. The Word was God.

1:2 This Word was with God in the beginning.

1:3 All things were made by it. Not one thing was made that was not according to it.

1:4 And in this word was life, and the life was the light of men. And this life was the light of men.

1:5 The light shineth in the darkness And the darkness did not prevail against it.

11:25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me, though he may die, he shall live.

11:26 And he that liveth and believeth on me shall never die. Do you believe this?

Luke 23:47 When the centurion saw this, he praised God and said, "Truly, this man was a righteous man.

23:48 And when the crowds that had gathered to see the spectacle also saw these things, they all went home, beating their breasts.

23:49 All those who knew Jesus and the women who had followed him from Galilee also stood at a distance and watched these things.

23:50 Here was a councilor named Joseph, a good and righteous man.

23:51 This man was from Arimathea, a city of Judah, and he longed for the kingdom of God. He did not agree with the decisions and actions of the assembly.

23:52 This man went to Pilate and asked him to take the body of Jesus,

23:53 He took it down, wrapped it in flax cloth, and placed it in a tomb dug out of a rock, where no one had yet been buried.

23:54 This was a day of preparation, and the Sabbath was about to begin.

23:55 And the women who came with Jesus from Galilee followed him, and saw his tomb, and how his body was put in it.

23:56 And they returned and prepared perfume and oil. Then they rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment.

Darkness does not overcome light. Light covers this world. And the Kingdom will advance through those who believe in the Lord, who fear and dwell in fear, and who are willing to wait for the Kingdom of God.

Even though darkness covers our lives, we will not be abandoned by the Lord. Through the patience and faith that flows from our suffering, through the prayers we offer, the living Lord will come to us in response, and our faith will be increased. Through the work of those who long for the Kingdom, the Church will be formed, and the Lord Jesus and His name will be



glorified.

Psalm 23

Song of David

23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall have no want.

23:2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he maketh me to accompany him in the midst of the dust.

23:3 He reviveth my soul, and leadeth me in the right way for his name's sake.

23:4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil. 23:4 For thou art with me: thy rod and thy staff are with me. 23:5 Thy rod and thy staff comfort me: for thou art with me: thy rod and thy staff shall comfort me.

23:5 Thou shalt make a feast before me in the presence of my enemies, and anoint my cup with oil. My cup overflows.

23:6 As long as I live, grace and mercy will surely accompany me. I will dwell in the temple of the Lord forever.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for today's worship. Though darkness overtake the light and the whole earth be darkened, we fear no evil, for the Lord is our Shepherd and we are His sheep. The Lord is our shepherd and we have nothing to lack. Please lead us in the light this week. Please lead all sufferers into God's salvation and peace. Bless our families and our community. We pray in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.