

## I. Introduction

- A. One of the great, mind-clearing realities in the Bible is taught in these words from the Book of James:
  - 1. Every good gift comes down from the Father. (James 1:17)
  - 2. If we can get that in our hearts and heads, we'd be changed people. We'd also be grateful people.
- B. Every good thing in your life is a gift send down from heaven.
- C. That is why, throughout our church on this Easter Sunday you see dozens of arrows all pointing down. Because God's gifts, the riches of his grace, come down from God to us.
- D. The message of Christ is not what we do for him (arrow up), but what he has done for us (arrow coming down from heaven).
- E. So as you walk through our worship center and lobby today, you can read how each arrow has one of the amazing riches of grace that has come down to us from God above.
- F. Our theme for this Easter is three words: What He's Done. That is the title of my talk, and that is the title of a worship song we will sing in a few minutes to wrap it up.
- G. What He's Done.
- H. There's a what. There's a he. There's a done.
- I. And all them are beautifully put together for us in a powerful verse in the Bible:

## II. Scripture

### A. [JARED SLIDE 1]

**B. "God has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His substance, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high," (Hebrews 1:2-3)**

1. So we're going to break this up in three parts... What He's Done.

2. The WHAT part is these words:

a) [JARED SLIDE 2]

**WHAT: when He had by Himself purged our sins**

3. We can find the he HE part, about who Jesus is, in these words:

a) [JARED SLIDE 3]

**HE: His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His**

**glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power**

4. So, What He's Done This part gives us DONE.

**a) [JARED SLIDE 4]**

**DONE: sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.**

C. I'm inviting you to think with me through WHAT HE'S DONE today.

D. I'd also like to give you a head's up.

1. I going to speak really directly to you today.

2. At the end of my talk, I'm going to invite you to make a very specific decision.

a) If you make this decision, you'll turn this Easter into something for more than a formality... far more than going to church on Easter Sunday.

b) You'll walk out of here "saved" as Jesus calls it.

3. I won't embarrass you. I won't single you out.

4. I just want to lead you in a prayer. And in that prayer, you will actually take hold of personally, for yourself, in its fullest possible meaning... "what he's done" so that you can be God's child and have a new life with him, now and forever.

5. So that's coming. Don't worry, it won't be weird.

E. So What He's Done. Let's talk them one at a time, starting with HE.

**III. He - Jesus**

**A. [JARED SLIDE 3]**

**HE: His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power**

B. We have six revelations here about who Jesus is.

C. These revelations make him different from every other person who has ever walked the earth.

D. He is...

1. The Son of God

2. The Heir of All Things

3. The Creator of All things

4. The Radiance of God's Glory

5. The Visible Manifestation of God's Essence

6. The Sustainer of the Cosmos

- E. All of which adds up to the unbroken viewpoint of historic Christianity through the ages:
  - 1. Jesus is fully God and fully human in one person forever, the Savior of all who believe and the Lord of all.
- F. Probably the single most meaningful figure in all of history. Jesus. Jesus Christ. Jesus of Nazareth. Our Lord Jesus Christ.
  - 1. Most other religions are based on their teachings.
  - 2. Christianity is based on a Person.
- G. The most identifying factor for Jesus is his death and Resurrection.
- H. The idea of the Resurrection was scorned even by ancient people in the Bible. An evangelist named Paul talked about Christ's resurrection to a group of philosophers in Athens. Listen to what happened: "When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered" (Acts 17:32).
- I. But SOMETHING happened, so profound, that a bunch of dispirited, discouraged disciples – heartbroken over the death of their leader – something happened that turned them into an impassioned and convinced movement that would soon turn the world upside down.
- J. And that Something was that they saw Jesus risen from the dead.
  - 1. Christianity's astonishing claim has stood the test of time.
- K. This matters because Christianity is the only religion that stands or falls on a Person. And if that Person did not rise from the grave then his creed is in vain.
- L. In What He's Done, the HE is this remarkable person named Jesus.
- M. Death was not the end for Jesus, so it doesn't have to be the end for you.
  - 1. The Resurrection is the great stamp of heavenly approval...
  - 2. It is the undeniable evidence.
  - 3. It is the crowning proof.
  - 4. It is the divine authentication
  - 5. And the eternal affirmation
  - 6. And the invincible confirmation
  - 7. And the life-giving declaration
    - a) That he is who he says he is.
    - b) That his words are true.
    - c) That his gospel is real.
    - d) That he paid our debt
    - e) That he won the battle

- f) That he conquered evil
  - g) That he forgave our sins
  - h) That he opened heaven
  - i) And that he summons you and me and everyone to come to him.
  - j) And that because he lives, we can face tomorrow and all the tomorrows through the countless ages long.
- N. There is no one like Jesus. Thank God for him!
- O. Jesus is the HE of What He's Done.
- 1. Jesus changed history because he changed lives, and he's still changing lives today.
  - 2. Jesus changed eternity because he made a way for mortal sinners to become immortal saints.
- P. And that's why, in a few moments, I'm going to invite you to come to Jesus and to make it official.
- 1. I'm not inviting you to come to a religion.
  - 2. I'm not inviting you to come to a creed.
  - 3. I'm not inviting you to come to a ritual.
  - 4. I'm not inviting you to come to an alternate morality.
  - 5. I'm not inviting you to come to an institution.
    - a) I'm inviting you to come to a Person.
- Q. The single most meaningful figure in all of history is Jesus Christ.
- R. Who is he to you? Is he something or is he everything in the core of your existence?
- S. I want to help you personally talk to God and tell him you are choosing Jesus and officially making him your own today.
- 1. So, I'm talking about "what he's done," that's the "he" part of my talk.
  - 2. Now, think with me about "what."

#### **IV. [JARED SLIDE 2]**

##### **WHAT - when He had by Himself purged our sins**

- A. That's what Jesus did.
- B. He purged our sins.
- C. All of that his wrapped up in Good Friday...
- D. The center point of all history is that Jesus of Nazareth was nailed to an Old Rugged Cross.
- E. He was tortured, beaten, humiliated, mocked, and lied against. When he was almost dead, he was nailed to a cross. Thick spikes were driven through his hands and feet. The cross was lifted. Dropped into a hole.

And there he hung, a bloody, beaten, dying mess. A king unlike any other king.

1. How so?

a) Because Jesus was a king of Grace.

2. How so?

a) Because that death he died he died for someone else.

3. How so?

a) Because he purged our sins – completely cleansed and washed away – OUR sins.

(1) That's the WHAT of What He's Done.

F. You might have heard that Christ died "For our sins."

G. But what does it mean?

H. It means that as he hung on that horrible cross, God was reaching into you long before you were ever born. And God was pulling out of you everything that stood in the way of your relationship with him.

1. He took out your sins.

2. He took out your guilt and shame.

3. He took out every lie, every immorality, every unkind word, every cruelty, every sin and every stain.

a) And God transferred them all to Jesus Christ.

I. And God punished him for our sins, and the penalty was death.

1. Whatever death, whatever hell, whatever punishment, whatever condemnation, whatever judgment, whatever penalty, whatever sentence for whatever crimes or sins or moral failings you have ever done... all the penalties and judgment days were poured out on Jesus Christ on the Cross.

J. And his total forgiveness and complete salvation for you were ratified and signed, sealed, and delivered when he rose from the grave.

K. Christ died for your sins and rose for your eternal life.

1. That is the objective fact.

L. So I have to ask you, what have you done with that fact?

1. Have you ever made that objective fact your subjective faith?

2. Have you taken hold of it? Have you claimed him for your own?

3. Jesus was born how he was born that he might die how he died.

M. And that is why today's key verse says "he purged our sins."

1. You don't purge your sins by being a better person.

2. Jesus purged your sins by taking them to the Cross.

N. And notice that it says Jesus did all of this "By Himself."

1. By himself, he was nailed to an old rugged cross.
  2. By himself, he received our sins.
  3. By himself, he was put on trial before the supreme court of heaven.
  4. By himself, he died.
- O. Every bit of your salvation was accomplished "by himself."
1. You didn't help him out.
  2. You didn't contribute anything.
  3. It isn't your religion. It isn't your moral improvement. It isn't your church attendance. It isn't your baptism, confirmation, confession, or communion.
  4. It isn't you.
  5. Because "by himself," he purged our sins.
  6. That's the What of What He's Done.
- P. You might not know this, but somebody's been praying for you.
1. I don't just mean abstractly, praying for unnamed people...
  2. I mean praying for you. Praying for you by name. All those hundred of little arrows on those walls by the doors... they all have names on them, and odds are strong a friend of yours in our church asked all of us to pray for you by name. And we've been doing that.
  3. We prayed you would come today. So far so good.
  4. We prayed that you would be saved to day.
- Q. And if you feel God tugging at your heart, don't resist him. He's been drawing you, the Bible says, with cords of love all life long.
- R. What he's done.
1. So we've covered the HE—which is our Lord Jesus Christ.
  2. We've talked about the WHAT—which is by himself to have purged our sins by his death on the Cross.
  3. Now, let's talk about DONE and then we'll pray.

## S. [JARED SLIDE 4]

### **DONE - he sat down at the right hand of majesty on high.**

1. In Bible days, they built first a tabernacle then a temple.
2. This is where they would learn about God and worship God.
3. There were no chairs in that ancient temple. That's because the priests never sat down.
4. The priests never sat down because their work was never done.
  - a) There were always more sacrifices to make.
  - b) Always another price to pay.

- c) Always another sin, needing always another offering.
5. It was endless.
6. But our Bible verse says something that would absolutely astound those ancient people.
7. After he had purged our sins, HE. SAT. DOWN.
  - a) Jesus defeated sin.
  - b) He overcame death.
  - c) He crushed the head of Satan.
  - d) He conquered the demons.
  - e) He shattered the gates of hell.
  - f) He satisfied the justice of a holy God.
8. And against all the concentrated power of all the evil in all the realms of creation all conspiring to keep Jesus in his grave, he rolled away that stone, and rose again.
9. But the story doesn't stop there...
  - a) Jesus rose again, transforming his dispirited disciples into an invincible force for good.
10. And having accomplished all this, what did he do?
11. He sat down. He ascended to heaven, and he literally sat down at the right hand of God, the throne of majesty, dominion, and authority.
12. All the work to bring you to heaven? Done.
13. On the cross, Jesus said It is finished. Salvation's package was complete.
14. And when he sat down, he proved it.
15. What do you need?
  - a) Forgiveness? Consider it done.
  - b) Strength for every day? Consider it Done.
  - c) Peace? Consider it Done.
  - d) Hope of life after death? A purpose for living and confidence in dying? A friend to walk with you through life and all its storms?
  - e) Power over addiction?
  - f) Healing from dysfunction?
  - g) A purpose and mission that transcends this world?
    - (1) Done. Done. Done. And done.
16. Jesus paid it all. And he sat down
17. The gift of eternal life is wrapped up and tied with a bow.
18. And God offers it to you right now today.
19. I'm about to show you how to take it.

## T. Objections

### 1. But you object...

a) Bill don't I have to change my life? Don't I have to improve myself? Don't I have to do all kinds of good works, and live all Christianly and all that?

(1) I say, "What part of "done" don't you understand?"

(2) HE. SAT. DOWN.

b) You say, Bill, I'm not ready for this.

(1) I say, you're probably right.

(2) But good news! You don't have to be ready.

(3) Just be willing.

c) You say, Bill, you don't know how low I've sunk. I've done some pretty awful things.

(1) And I say you could never have sunk so low that the Cross of Christ can't forgive you, even at your lowest, darkest point.

d) You might say, Bill, I'm a really good person. I'm successful and thriving and I don't think I need any of this.

(1) But I say, please look deep within, and ask if there's not a little voice in there somewhere, somehow whispering that as good as you are, you're never going to be good enough for God.

### 2. It's time to receive him today.

a) What he's done is epic grace.

b) What he's done is to wrap up a gift of love and salvation and forgiveness and everything a heart could need... and present that gift to you.

### 3. Will you take it?

a) Will you receive it?

b) Let me talk you through this right now.

## V. Prayer Set Up

A. I'm going to ask you to bow your head and close your eyes. We do this to create privacy you and to extend that courtesy to the people around you.

B. I'm going to lead you in a prayer. I'll say one line at a time. And then I'll pause... and during that pause, you can repeat that prayer to God. No pressure. No messing with you. Just an invitation and an open door.

## VI. Prayer

A. ADMIT: God, I admit that I've got sins that need purging. I have let you down. I have not followed your ways. I have created a barrier to you by



my sins. I can't get rid of them. I can never live up to your standards. God I need you but I can't reach you. I admit it.

B. BELIEVE: But God I believe you sent Jesus to fix all this. I believe he is your son. I believe he died on the Cross for me. I believe he rose again for me. I believe he is alive right now, calling out to me. He shattered the barrier. He opened the door. God, I don't get how all this works, but I'm telling you as best as I can that I believe in Jesus.

C. CHOOSE: So God, right now, I choose receive Jesus as my Savior. I choose to trust him as my only hope. I'm making it official. I'm asking you as best as I can, because of Jesus, please save me. Please forgive me. Please make me your child forever.

#### VII. Transition

- A. Please stand... (choir comes out when I say Please Stand)
- B. Applause for new Believers
- C. Book and Bible
- D. Stand and let's sing and thank God for what He's done.