

An Introduction to a Theology of Worship - Week 7

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The Cross

Review:

Incarnation: two natures, one person

Rouault's theme of clowns and prostitutes. Painted Christ alongside these grotesque figures of culture

Christ in the Outskirts

there, present with the outcast

downplaying Jesus' humanity:

only caught up in the future: resurrection without suffering

arrogance, high-minded view-

removes the humility in humanity

downplaying Jesus' deity:

only caught up in the here and now: suffering without resurrection

we lose hope

removes the dignity in humanity

so not only is a right view of Jesus important for itself, but it touches every aspect of theology along with it.

The Cross:

God's judgment and grace meet in the death of Jesus

Father John Kiefer - Can you drink the cup I Am about to drink?

(more on this piece and other visual art for worship: http://www.calvin.edu/worship/stories/projected_images.php)

(from *Images of Faith* CD available at civa.org)

And he does this by wrapping the cup with a twisted vine of thorns to represent the crown of thorns. In doing so, Kiefer separates the cup from its base with the skein of thorns serving as the cup's stem - that which connects the body of the ensemble. This alludes to what connects us by faith (the body of Christ) to Christ: his suffering and death on the cross.

(The atonement includes the life of Christ, but we are only focusing on the cross for this week)

Only Christ was able to perform this work: necessity of him being human and divine. His perfect death also had to be preceded by a perfect life- a complete fulfilling of the law.

Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. (Heb 2:17 ESV)

Judgment:

Sofia Gubaidulina - *Seven Words*

Sofia Gubaidulina (Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra) - *Sieben Worte (Seven Words)* - iv - Mein Gott mein Gott warum hast du mich verlassen

Grace:

is violent, it is a breaking in to our dreary mundane lives

James MacMillian - *Sinfonietta* (~5:39)

Rouault - *Landscape*

hope in the heaviness

Grace and Judgment meet:

Rothko: colors that shouldn't blend together, do- the result is sublime

No. 14

(more info on Rothko: <http://www.artchive.com/artchive/R/rothko.html>)

penal substitutionary atonement

“penal” - penalty

“substitution” - bearing for someone else

“atonement” - a satisfying act for sin

...justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. (Rom 3:24–25 ESV)

God must demand payment for sin, otherwise he is not just

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree” (Gal 3:13 ESV)

substitution and penalty

For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. (Rom 5:19 ESV)

being united to Christ, we are able to be covered by this act of penal substitutionary atonement

saved from God

his wrath being under the first Adam

saved to God

his grace being under the second Adam

obedience and sympathetic resonance

remaining open to the will of God, and acting in its accord

Isaiah 53's picture of the Messiah

Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. (Is 53:10 ESV)

Rom 5:8- God showing his love, Christ dying

but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Rom 5:8 ESV) (Packer: best "but" in the Bible)

Beauty ≠ Pretty

"beauty" is not always synonymous with "pretty" there is something beautiful in the broken body of Jesus. And it isn't a lovely or good-looking scene. It is horrifying. And it is beautiful.

Kerry James Marshall on the process of painting in ART21 (S1E3 @~24:00-25:05)
a painting: necessary to be ugly before beautiful

Fujimura's process: pulverized stones and metals. Necessity of breaking, the beauty of brokenness when illuminated by the Spirit.

http://www.byfor.org/project_countenance.html

Longing and Death is in all:
Wendell Berry, from *A Timbered Choir*
V from 1996 (p. 201)

Some Sunday afternoon, it may be,
you are sitting under your porch roof,
looking down through the trees
to the river, watching the rain. The circles
made by the raindrops' striking
expand, intersect, dissolve,

and suddenly (for you are getting on
now, and much of your life is memory)
the hands of the dead, who have been here
with you, rest upon you tenderly
as the rain rests shining
upon the leaves. And you think then

(for thought will come) of the strangeness
of the thought of Heave, for now
you have imagined yourself there,
remembering with longing this
happiness, this rain. Sometimes here
we are there, and there is no death.

Lauren Shea Little - The Wounded Healer is at the Gate
(<http://www.laurenshelittle.com/galleries/>)

the story continues: Linda McCray *Passion to Pentecost* tryptic
(<http://www.montanadesignsunlimited.com/lindamccrayfineart/lindamccraypaintings/mccraypaintingslarge.html>)

The Cross is the way of the Christian life (Carson and *The Cross and Christian Ministry*)
What does it mean for us:
For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. (1 Cor
2:2 ESV)

How do we do life, in attempting to imitate our Master? Of course, we aren't called to
make penal substitutionary atonement for our sins, but His way is the way of the cross.

which leads to next week: The Christian Life, or Sanctification