

"BUT THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S FRIDAY..."

TEXT: Mark 15:33,34 & 16:9-14

THESIS: To show that the events of "Good Friday" were only a precursor to the resurrection on Sunday.

INTRO.: A. A number of years ago a white preacher was invited to an all black church to preach on Good Friday. The white preacher said his message was so good, he even wanted to take notes on himself! He leaned over to the black pastor and said: "*Think you can top that?*" The black preacher said: "*Son, just sit back and watch!*" He got up to preach and for the next 40 minutes he repeated a phrase over and over again: "***That's because it's Friday...Sunday's a comin' !***" The congregation sat transfixed as he went through the events of Good Friday and the crucifixion, over and over, while reminding the people that "***...Sunday's a comin'!***"

B. He said that by the time the preacher was finished with his sermon the congregation just exploded! While I could never do justice to this powerful message, it went something like this...

I. JESUS MEETS W/HIS DISCIPLES IN THE UPPER ROOM AND SAYS THAT ONE OF THEM WILL BETRAY HIM...BTBIF – SAC! (That's Because It's Friday -Sunday's A Comin')

II. JUDAS, THE THIEF, LEAVES THE LAST SUPPER TO BETRAY THE SAVIOR...BTBIF - SAC!

III. THE TRAITOR MEETS WITH THE CHIEF PRIESTS & ELDERS OF ISRAEL AND RECEIVES HIS 30 PCS. OF SILVER – BTBIF – SAC!

IV. JESUS & THE DISCIPLES GO TO GETHSEMANE TO PRAY, BUT THEY FALL ASLEEP WHILE HE PLEADS W/HIS FATHER TO REMOVE THE CUP OF SUFFERING – BTBIF – SAC!

V. JUDAS ARRIVES WITH A MOB OF SOLDIERS & PRIESTS & KISSES JESUS TO BETRAY HIM – BTBIF – SAC!

VI. PETER CUTS OFF THE EAR OF THE H.P.'S SERVANT, & THEY BIND & ARREST JESUS – BTBIF – SAC!

VII. JESUS IS BROUGHT BEFORE THE H.P. CAIAPHAS & THEN SENT TO PILATE WHO SCOURGES JESUS WITH A WHIP, & PRESSES A CROWN OF THORNS ON HIS BROW – BTBIF – SAC!

VII. THE SOLDIERS MOCK HIM & PUT A PURPLE ROBE ON HIM & A REED SCEPTRE IN HIS HAND & PUNCH HIM & SPIT IN HIS FACE – BTBIF – SAC!

VIII. SOMEWHERE NEARBY THE SPIKES ARE BEING SHARPENED & A CROSS IS BEING BUILT – BTBIF –SAC!

IX. JESUS IS SENT TO HEROD & THEN BACK TO PILATE, WHO OFFERS TO RELEASE HIM, BUT THE MOB ASKS FOR BARABBAS TO BE RELEASED & JESUS TO BE CRUCIFIED – BTBIF – SAC!

X. JESUS IS FORCED TO CARRY HIS CROSS UNTIL HE LOSES STRENGTH & SIMON THE CYRENE IS PRESSED INTO SERVICE – BTBIF – SAC!

XI. JESUS ARRIVES AT GOLGOTHA & THE SOLDIERS DRIVE THE SPIKES INTO HIS HANDS & FEET & ANOTHER SOLDIER PIERCES HIS SIDE W/A SPEAR– BTBIF – SAC!

XII. THE CROSS IS RAISED AND DROPPED W/A THUD RIPPING THE FLESH OF OUR SAVIOR – BTBIF – SAC!

XIII. THE TWO THIEVES BEGIN TO MOCK JESUS WHILE THE CROWD WATCHES & HEARS HIS CRIES – BTBIF – SAC!

XIV. FINALLY HE LOOKS TO HEAVEN & CRIES “MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAST THOU FORSAKEN ME?” - BTBIF – SAC!

XIV. AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS, THE SOLDIERS GAMBLE FOR HIS GARMENTS – BTBIF – SAC!

XV. JESUS DIES! - BTBIF – SAC!

XVI. THE EARTH SHUDDERS W/AN EARTHQUAKE, STONES BEGIN TO ROLL, THE EARTH IS CLOTHED IN DARKNESS! - BTBIF – SAC!

XVII. THE DEMONS ARE DANCING A JIG, SATAN IS APPLAUDING IN VICTORY – BTBIF – SAC!

ILLUS.: Before the black preacher sat down, after playing that one string over and over again – ***"IT'S FRIDAY – SUNDAY'S A COMIN!"*** He finally yelled at the top of his voice **"It's Friday!"** The congregation screamed back in unison **"Sunday's a Comin'!**

- A. You are struggling to make ends meet, bills pour into your mailbox – BTBIF – SAC!
- B. The doctor says "it's cancer" or you have a stroke, or your heart gives out with age – BTBIF – SAC!
- C. You have gone through a nasty divorce, or your kids have gone out into the world – BTBIF – SAC!
- D. Your body is racked with pain, the medication isn't working – BTBIF – SAC!
- E. Your friends have turned against you, you have enemies for no reason – BTBIF – SAC!

- F. Your own family members want nothing to do with you because you are saved and witnessing to them, and they don't want to hear it – BTBIF – SAC!
- G. You are burdened with personal problems – no one understands what you are going through - BTBIF – SAC!
- F. You have tried and tried to get the victory over a besetting sin, but victory doesn't come easy – BTBIF – SAC!
- G. You have bombarded heaven with a request again and again, but the heavens are brass – BTBIF – SAC!

CONCL.: For the believer, Friday is already past and Sunday is a reality! Your Fridays look like defeats because you are still here in a sin-cursed world, but "greater is He that is in you that he that is in the world."

It was on the cross the victory over the world, the flesh and the devil was secured. But it was in the resurrection on that first Easter Sunday that it was sealed in heaven! What we need to do is to claim the victory that is already ours! ***Sunday isn't coming, Sunday is here!***