

Elder Bobby Willis



Galatians 1:4, "Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:"

The Apostle Paul declares a short sermon in just one verse in Galatians 1:4. It tells us what Jesus did for us in that He **“gave himself for our sins”**. Then, it declares the result of what He did in our deliverance **“from this present evil world”** and points us to our heavenly home. Finally, Paul tells us by what authority he is able to declare of the sacrifice and deliverance of Christ - **“according to the will of God and our Father.”**

We go to an earlier time when John expressed the who and the what found in John 10:11 where Jesus said, **"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep"**. The fact that Jesus gave his life as a willing sacrifice **“according to the will of God and our Father”**, was in order to pay the penalty of death for our sin. Without that sacrifice, no man had any hope whatsoever for reconciliation to God. God is an absolutely just God - **“...there is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me”** (Isaiah 45:21), and his righteous nature demands a just penalty for our transgressions against Him. The wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23). There is no OTHER penalty, there is no LESS penalty than death. Since our sin renders our lives worthless as a sacrifice, it took a perfect person (Jesus Christ) to pay our sin debt. Jesus, who had no sin of His own, willingly sacrificed His life to pay the price for our own transgressions.

Jesus taught this during His earthly ministry, such as Matthew 20:28, **“Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.”** Again, in Matthew 26:28, **“For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.”**

Jesus paying our sin debt was testified of by Paul in Romans 4:25, **“Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.”** The only way God’s children could be justified eternally, fully satisfying God’s legal requirement, was

for a perfect sacrifice to be offered and accepted. Notice Ephesians 5:2, “**And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.**” Paul stated in Galatians 2:20, “**I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.**”

Sometimes it gets hard to wait to be eternally delivered from this evil world to that wonderful place referred to as Paradise. I am greatly humbled that it was “**according to the will of God**” that Jesus suffered the pains of death that I might have life with Him and the dear Saints of God as we praise Him in Eternity. Till then, I will just have to “**Think About It!**”