

## FREEDOM - AT LAST

Scripture used: [John 13:1-5 \(NLT\)](#)

### OVERVIEW

Today, Pastor Hurmon continued the series *Back to Basics* with his sermon *Freedom - At Last*. He presented the question "What does Jesus' death on the cross mean...for me, for my family, for my household?"

### KEY POINTS

- 1. The power of Jesus' crucifixion is real and available to all.** The Roman cross was a form of punishment for criminals that allowed for the maximum amount of pain and public shame. Jesus' crucifixion was far more than a Roman punishment though. With His death comes the power of atonement.
- 2. Atonement: The reconciliation or mending of the broken relationship between God and humanity.** In [John 1 \(NLT\)](#) John introduces Jesus as the Word who became flesh and takes away the sins of the world. Jesus confirms in [John 12:27 \(NLT\)](#) that forgiveness of our sins is indeed the reason He came to us in human flesh. This leads us to the truths found in [John 13:1-9](#).
  - a. Jesus' crucifixion is about freedom.** We can read about the first Passover in [Exodus 12](#), This was independence day for the Israelites. God passed over the homes of those that had the blood of the lamb on their doorposts, and He set them free from being enslaved by the Egyptians. The blood of Jesus has the same power to set us free from our sins and shame. In the same sense, God passes over believers, and we are free from shame and guilt because of Jesus' blood,
  - b. Jesus' crucifixion is about amazing love.** He told Peter that unless He washed his feet, Peter would not belong to Him. Jesus loves us so much that He sacrificed His life so we can be made clean in God's eyes and belong to Him! He made a way for us to belong to Him! This is an amazing love.
  - c. Jesus atoned for our sins. We are set free from the power of evil that binds us through guilt and shame.** Through His death, the price for our sins has been paid. What we cannot atone for ourselves, Jesus atones for us. He does what we cannot. Our conscience is cleared. Our history is sanitized (wiped clean). Our debts are satisfied.
  - d. Confess it to access it.** In order to receive this great atoning power, we have to confess to God our sins and that we need His forgiveness. In return, He is faithful to forgive us. [Romans 8:1-2](#) *There is no condemnation for those that belong to Christ.*
  - e. Jesus redeems and repurposes our lives. We are set free for joining in Jesus' work in the world.** We should not forget that He redeems us for a purpose, and we are made new in order that we can continue to do His work in the world. [Ephesians 1:7](#) confirms that He purchased us at a price out of His kindness and grace. In [John 20:19-22](#) Jesus commissions us to do His work.

### DISCUSSION

- 1) HEAR** - In your prayer time, reflect on the meaning for you personally of Jesus' crucifixion. What does His death on the cross mean to you? If you are unsure, ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the truth to you. Ask God to show you what this event that happened over 2,000 years ago means to you today in this modern world.
- 2) UNDERSTAND** - As you read the Bible verses, look for examples of Jesus' amazing love and the reason why He is the only way to true atonement. What was Jesus saying to Peter when He washed his feet? What does that mean for you in your current situation? How can we belong to God when we are so far from being holy? How is it possible that we are not condemned by God?
- 3) DO** - Pastor Hurmon ended with Jesus' call we often refer to as the Great Commission. Go and do His work in the world. That looks very different for each of us because God has made us so unique. How do you "go and do His work"? At your workplace? In your homes? In your communities?