

Erlo Stegen:

Summary of sermon by Erlo Stegen, 25 Nov 2012

Rom 8

32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Some say there's no chapter in the Bible that contains so much as Rom 8, but one word from the mouth of God is just as rich as this chapter.

But what they say shows us the significance of this chapter. There's nothing the Bible doesn't have an answer to. It is all encompassing and can help you in all situations. This word is relevant in every situation.

Yes the people in the world live off other things but they don't realise the riches in God's word.

The first point we will look at: God Who did not spare His own Son.

And the second point: How shall He not with Him also freely give us all things.

May these words go deep in your heart and transform you to never be the same again.

John 3

Maybe you can recite God's Word, such as John 3:16, but it means nothing to you unless it transform your life.

The Father gave His own and only begotten Son - that's no small thing that He gave His own Son.

The poverty in Africa is rampant. In one of these countries, Ethiopia, there was a mother and she had a clever, gifted child. But they were extremely poor. They often did not have enough to eat. She knew what it meant to often go without food. She knew hardship but didn't want her child to go through the same hardship. She loved this child dearly. Eventually she said that there's only one hope that she should give this child up for adoption. It was difficult for her to do, but she did it in the best interest of the child. It was her only child, but for the child's sake she gave it up for adoption.

It makes one think of our Heavenly Father Who gave His only Son for us. But there's a difference - He did it so that we might be saved.

Jesus was so given over to His Father's will that He eventually said, "foxes have holes and birds of the air nests, but the Son of man has no place to lay His head". He even humbled Himself further and became obedient till death for our sakes.

We also read of how God commanded Abraham to take Isaac his only son and sacrifice him. It doesn't look like Abraham told his wife for she might have tried to argue with him and stopped him. He also didn't tell his son.

Isaac even asked his dad where the lamb is they were going to sacrifice, but Abraham only answered that God will provide Himself a sacrifice.

Abraham wasn't foolish. He answered in wisdom.

When you speak to your children, answer them in wisdom. Maybe your children forsake the Lord because of the way you answer their questions.

When they got to the place of sacrifice, they prepared everything for the sacrifice to be made. Then Abraham told him to lie down and only then he realised that he was to be the sacrifice. Isaac wasn't like many children today that even fight when they must be disciplined, but he submitted.

As Abraham was about to slay his own son, the angel of the Lord intervened and called Abraham from heaven not to slay his son.

It's a perfect picture of God sacrificing His own Son for us. But God did not spare His own son for us.

No wonder Abraham is honoured in heaven.

Who killed Jesus? The Romans? The Jews?

The Bible teaches us it was God Himself. He spared Abraham's son, but He did not spare His own Son.

Do you understand that? If you do, it will transform your life and change you completely from the crown of your head to the soles of your feet.

He loved you so much that He spared not His own Son but gave Him to be the sacrifice for your and my sin so we may not die but have everlasting life.

We also read the same in Isaiah 53 that He slayed His own Son so He could save you and me if we would accept Him.

We also read in the Psalms, "what is man that You are mindful of him ... yet you have made him a little lower than the angels and crowned him with glory and honour" (Ps 8:4, 5).

We are less significant compared to God than an ant is to us yet God gave His Son for us!

The heavens declare the glory of God. Light travels at 300,000 km/s. Yet it takes millions of light years for light to travel from most stars to reach the earth and even longer from stars and galaxies further away.

Can we start to comprehend God's greatness? These galaxies are just the beginning of what He created.

If nothing else moves you then the greatness of the heavens should drive you to repentance.

God is so great, yet He spared not His own Son for you and me!

God was prepared to give us His own Son, His most precious gift, how shall He not with Him therefore freely give us all things? Can it be then that He will withhold any good thing from us?

There is the story of Peter Kreeft. He and his family decided to travel to America in search of a new life and freedom. They saved for the fare to go on the ship. As they paid all their money for the fare the mother made rusks for the trip as food.

They were very excited to go on the trip. They all thought it would be the end of all their misery.

After a few days on the ship the boy started to complain that they had to eat rusks everyday. Eventually the father felt sorry for the son and took out his last coin and gave it to the boy to buy himself an ice cream. He went to buy himself but stayed away long. When they found him he was excited and told them he already had three ice cream. His father asked him how he could buy that with the one coin. He told his dad that he didn't even need the coin for when he wanted to pay they told him that all the food on the ship was included in the ticket fare!

So too Jesus paid the full price, and if we are in Him all God's riches is ours through Him.

Why then child of God are you poor spiritually when all God's riches is yours?