Pastor Rick Baker

April 2 2021 Good Friday

**The Worst Sin Ever Committed**

Luke 22:1-7

“… and the chief priest and the teachers of the law were *looking for some way to get rid of Jesus*, for they were afraid of the people.” (2)

**How Good Friday happened**. *Could it be more outrageous*

* *Feast of Unleavened Bread (of which Passover was a part)*
* *The “best” of religion that Israel had*
* *An insider, the treasurer, close seat at Passover*

*The great prize they all sought, Salvation, was the very thing of which they were pushing away to rid themselves—settling for sacrificial substitutes that could never save and rituals of the faithful that would prove null and void unless ratified by the Lamb of God—God’s Lamb—the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.*

*Hustling to keep up the rituals in lame attempts to redeem themselves!*

Behind all of this lurking in the dark corners of everything that is wrong with humanity is Satan (3)—finding it easy to recruit an ambitious humanity only too willing to make the trade and take their chances on finding redemption some other way—lots of virtue signaling and language about making choices for their fellow humanity in the best interests of the freedoms and future and saving humanity themselves—overall scheme is always the same--*get rid of Jesus*—getting discouraged seeing so much of history repeating itself? Should we be alarmed? Can God’s great plans be thwarted—is any of this a surprise to Him?

Here’s the great breath-taking news…

1. The great schemes of Satan and his sin associates cannot stop the saving agenda of God on behalf of those who run to Christ. (Ps. 41:9; Zech. 12:10; Acts 4:27-28)
2. To those who refuse to rid themselves of Jesus and instead run to Him and receive Him and cast their lives into his everlasting care, obtain his redemption –purchase out of the slave market of sin and death—He is mighty to save—through the sins of sinners, a holy sinless God made salvation available –paying the death penalty for those very sins himself in Christ—THE WORST SIN EVER, GOD USED FOR OUR RESCUE FROM SIN (2 Cor. 5:21)

*A time of examination…*

Rid of Christ

Or

Righteous in Christ through receiving Christ --- *rid ourselves of the leaven of sin, the reminder of what sent Jesus to the cross –the traces of disloyalty*