



THE CHURCH AT ELLERSLIE
SUNDAY SERMON NOTES

ERIC LUDY

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2015

THE POWER OF TEARS

A Study in the Travail of the Twice-Born



Try Tears!

William Booth

The Two

1. The Silent Church
2. The Confessing Church

Homo + Logos = Confession

Homologeō - Hah-mah-lah-gay-oh

Living, moving, and speaking in perfect agreement and stride with the Word of God

The Separating of the Two

When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand,

Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.

Then the righteous will answer Him, saying,

*Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink?
When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or
when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?*

And the King will answer and say to them,

*Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My
brethren, you did it to Me.*

Then He will also say to those on the left hand,

*Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and
his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you
gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you
did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.*

Then they also will answer Him, saying,

*Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in
prison, and did not minister to You?*

Then He will answer them, saying,

*Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these,
you did not do it to Me.*

And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

Matthew 25:31-46

The Evidence of True Sheep is that they “Do Something”

What is that “Something” that they Do?

The “Dead Bunny” Incident

Location: The Ludy backyard, to the northwest of the Ludy kiddos’ swing set

The Players in the Story

- Daddy
- Hudson
- Dubber-Doo
- A Cute, Fluffy, Little Bunny

Thursday, May 21st, 3:42pm

Hudson and Dubber-Doo stumble across “the dead bunny”

Thursday, May 21st, 3:43pm

Daddy is notified of “the dead bunny”

Thursday, May 21st, 3:44pm

“The dead bunny” is examined and Daddy gives “the dead bunny” the benefit of the doubt - after all, it appears like it still could be alive

Thursday, May 21st, 3:50pm

Hudson can’t hold in his grief anymore - out flow the tears

Thursday, May 21st, 4:30pm

Hudson, in his grief goes to visit “the dead bunny”, witnessing that sticks, water, and various other methods of determining “proof of life” have been wielded by a certain other sibling whose name rhymes with “blubber-blue” (but will remain nameless herein this timeline)

Thursday, May 21st, 4:45pm

Daddy picks up the bunny, which has now proven, by means of multiple “tests”, to be dead, indeed. And, so to spare the Ludy household anymore drama, Daddy, subsequently, buries this cute, little, fluffy bunny in a hole, supplying proper burial and a proper “goodbye”

Thursday, May 21st, 5:30-7:30pm

Tears, tears, tears - Hudson is still experiencing grief having witnessed the awful and shocking reality of something appearing alive, but in actuality, being dead

The Message to the Church in Sardis

And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write;

These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that **thou hast a name that thou lives, and art dead**. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee. Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy. He that overcomes, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 3:1-6

Sardis

The Red Ones

Two Reds

1. **Red of this Earth** (Adam, Edom, The Firstborn, The Flesh)
2. **Red of Heaven** (David, Jesus, The Second, The Twice-born, The born again, the Spirit)

The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven.

1 Corinthians 15:47

Two Reds

1. **Red of this Earth** (Those with ears shut to the Spirit)
2. **Red of Heaven** (Those with ears open to the Spirit)

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 3:6

Two Reds

1. **Red of this Earth** (Those unwilling and unable to bear the anguish of the Spirit of God)
2. **Red of Heaven** (Those willing and empowered to bear the anguish of the Spirit of God)

And he called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer's inkhorn by his side; And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and **set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.** And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity:

Ezekiel 9:3-5

Two Reds

1. **Red of this Earth** (Clay, Dust, Earthy)
2. **Red of Heaven** (Blood and Fire)

The Burning Bush

The Foreshadow of the Twice-Born

After 40. . . Fire

God - The Holy Fire

Our God shall come, and shall not keep silent; A fire shall devour before Him, And it shall be very tempestuous all around Him (Psalm 50:3) . . . A fire goes before Him, And burns up His enemies round about (Psalm 97:3) . . . For behold, the LORD will come with fire And with His chariots, like a whirlwind, To render His anger with fury, And His rebuke with flames of fire (Isaiah 66:15) . . . For our God is a consuming fire (Hebrews 12:29).

Pentecost

The Ripening of Wheat, The Time for Threshing and Burning Chaff

. . . He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: Whose fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly purge His floor, and gather His wheat into the garner; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

Matthew 3:11-12

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:1-4

A Brief History of the Temple

Then Solomon began to build the house of the LORD at Jerusalem in mount Moriah, where the Lord appeared unto David his father, in the place that David had prepared in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite.

2 Chronicles 3:1

The Tribular

the threshing instrument of Pentecost

Every grain of wheat has an appointment with the Tribular, the Threshing instrument (corn, has an appointment with the hooves of oxen). In ancient times, when the grain was threshed, it was winnowed by being thrown up against the wind (Jer. 4:11), and afterwards tossed with wooden scoops (Isa. 30:24). The shovel and the fan for winnowing are mentioned in Ps. 35:5, Job 21:18, Isa. 17:13. The refuse of straw and chaff was burned (Isa. 5:24). Freed from impurities, the grain was then laid up in granaries till used (Deut. 28:8; Prov. 3:10; Matt. 6:26; 13:30; Luke 12:18).

Wheat

- **To bring about much fruit** - it must fall into the ground and die
- **To make bread** - it must be threshed and its chaff broken away

The Floor of Wind and Fire

The Human body - the Holy Temple of Jehovah, where the wheat is purified and perfected and chaff is removed and burned up. That which is impure and imperfect is not allowed to remain.

The Fiftieth Day

When the Holy Spirit stakes claim to the Body

To Bear His Travail

To Carry the Labor of the Holy Spirit

My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you . . .

Galatians 4:19

The Holy Spirit's Request

I need to give birth to the Life of Christ in this world. First inside you, then inside others through you. But, to do this, I must have your body. I must have your tongue, your eyes, your hands, your feet, and your heart. I must have your mind, your ears, your time, your talents, and your future. I need a heart to burden, a mind to bear my anguish, a soul to carry my ache, a body to be bent, eyes through which to pour out my tears, a forehead through which to sweat great droplets of blood, and a mouth through which to do my groaning.

A Kidney Stone

A very, VERY uncomfortable rock-like deposit, stabbing like a knife inside a person as it passes through and, ultimately, out

A Heavenly Jewel

A very, VERY uncomfortable ROCK deposit, stabbing like a knife in our inner-man as it passes through and, ultimately, out to change the world

The Holy Spirit's Agenda

- The Holy Spirit wants to bring Jesus into this world, that others may see, believe, and be saved
- As He deposits His grace into our bodies, this Holy Spirit burden often feels like a kidney stone passing through our mind and our heart simultaneously - it is the anguish of God, the travail of God's Spirit in the Body of Christ for those who are afflicted, lost, and dying.

The Pierced and Blood-Smeared Ear

He who has ears to hear let him hear

The Pre-Decided "Yes, Lord!"

Before He has the heavenly jewel to pass, you have opened up your spiritual mind, heart, and body as the means through which He can pass it

The Holy Spirit Requires a Body

A Quick Review

The Evidence of True Sheep is that they "Do Something"

What is that "Something" that they Do?

The Holy Spirit Requires a Body

Giving him our Body to bear His burdens, carry His griefs, animate His compassion, and to voice His groans - this is the "Something" that marks the Twice-Born

To Be His Body is to Bear His Anguish

To be His Body is to bear His stripes, His ignominy, His mockery, and His grief

Hudson, do you see it?

Do you see my church, its eyes wide open as if awake, but its body stiff with rigor mortis as if fast asleep?

Hudson, will you carry my grief?

Yes, it will be painful. But unless I have a body to carry it, the world will not and cannot receive my grace

And Even Though No Other Kids May Cry - Will You?

The Purposeful Visit to the Northeast Corner of the Ludy Kiddos'

Swing Set

The Commission to Hudson

Don't be afraid to feel for these things that appear alive but are dead. Don't be ashamed to sigh and cry over these matters. Don't hesitate to see it, to behold the problem, to share the ache, to bear the burden, to carry the anguish, and to physically be bent that the Holy Spirit might have a vehicle through which to bring forth life out of death, beauty out of ashes.

The Loss of Tyrannosaurus Rex

If we cry for a dead bunny and an extinct dinosaur, how much more should we sigh and cry over the loss of a living Church?

Gethsemane

The Bearing of Spirit Anguish

And He came out, and went, as He was accustomed, to the mount of Olives; and His disciples also followed Him . . . and He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and kneeled down, and prayed . . . and being in an agony He prayed more earnestly: and His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

Luke 22:39,41,44

Pentecost

The Coming of the Burning, Burdening, Purifying Spirit of Grace

He Ever Lives to Make Intercession

Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever lives to make intercession for them.

Hebrews 7:25

The Logic of Heaven

If He ever lives to make intercession, and we ever live inside Him (unable to be separated from Him), doesn't it make sense that we ought to ever live to be His vehicles through which His intercession is revealed on this earth?

Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die . . .

Revelation 3:2

It's the Day of Pentecost and We All Have a Body to Give

