

A Prayer for Good Friday

At Christmastime I posted a prayer by Karl Barth. As I said at that time, I appreciate Barth's prayers. Here is another by Barth.

Karl Barth – Good Friday Prayer 1957 (Prison of Basel). Barth's prayers and sermons from the Prison of Basel can be found in "Deliverance to the Captives" originally published by SCM Press.

O Lord, our God! We are met today to commemorate the fact that Your masterful plan with the world and with ourselves has been carried out when You did permit our Lord Jesus Christ to be imprisoned that we may be free, to be declared guilty that our guilt may be taken away, to suffer that we may have joy, to be put to death that we may have life eternal.

Left to ourselves we are lost. None of us deserved to be rescued, not one. Yet in Your great majesty and mercy You have made common cause with our misery and our sin in order to lift us up. How else can we show our gratitude than by comprehending and acknowledging this mighty deed?

This can only happen when the same living Saviour who suffered for us, was crucified, died and was buried, now enters into our midst. Only when He speaks to our hearts and consciences, opening them to Your love and teaching us wholly to trust in You and to live on Your love alone.

Humbly yet confidently we would ask that this may come to pass in the power of Your Holy Spirit. Amen.

Peter Bush, Moderator
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