**Glory be to Jesus – Lenten Sermon – LSB 433**

“Glory be to Jesus” was written by an unknown composer prob. in the early 1800s

The earliest known source was from a Catholic devotion book

that had indulgences attached to each devotion or prayer

that reduced or removed the temporal penalty due on account of sin.

So according to the devotion book, anytime someone sang this hymn

they could reduce someone’s time in purgatory for 100 days! ☺

Of course, this is NOT what we believe, but it’s an interesting piece of history

for this very popular, biblical, doctrinally correct hymn used by many Lutherans.

**1 Glory be to Jesus, Who in bitter pains**

**Poured for me the lifeblood From His sacred veins!**

“Who in bitter pains” reminds me of the ‘bitter gall’ that he was given to ease His pain & suffering, but what did Jesus do? He refused that effort to dull his pain, because He did not want a narcotic to get any credit for helping him endure the agony of the cross. He chose instead, the “BITTER PAINS”

“Blood from His sacred veins reminds me of the explanation of the

 2nd Article of the Apostles’ Creed:

***I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood…***

Jesus GAVE his blood for us. It wasn’t TAKEN from Him. **John 10:17-18** says:

***For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may***

***take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord.***

***I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again.***

***This charge I have received from my Father.”***

**2 Grace and life eternal In that blood I find;**

**Blest be His compassion, Infinitely kind!**

The first half of this verse reminds me of **Romans 3:24** - ***We are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his BLOOD, to be received by faith.***

The second half of this verse reminds me of **Psalm 103:8 –**

***The LORD is compassionate & gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.***

**3 Blest through endless ages Be the precious stream**

**Which from endless torment Did the world redeem!**

Instead of ENDLESS torment, we are blest through ENDLESS ages

**Hebrews 10:10** - ***And by that will we have been sanctified***

***through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.***

Although we sin repeatedly in our lives,

Christ’s one act of atonement covers all sins of all people.

The 2nd half of this verse uses the word ‘torment’ which is mostly used in the Bible to describe Hell.

In the Apostles’ Creeds we confess that Jesus “was crucified, died and was buried;

he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead;”

Lutherans believe Jesus descended into hell not to suffer for our sins

but to proclaim his victory over sin, death, hell, and the devil.

Someone asked me about this question a few weeks ago.

Lutheran theologians have always considered Jesus' descent into hell to be the first of Christ's works of "exaltation" rather than part of his work of "humiliation."

Christ's suffering for our sins ended with his death on the cross,

and the final stage of his "humiliation" was his burial, not his descent into hell.

You may have learned this in confirmation classes unless you missed that day ☺

**1 Peter 3:18–19** says: ***For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison***

Jesus’ preaching was not for the purpose of giving the damned a second chance

at repentance, but simply to proclaim his victory.

**4 Abel’s blood for vengeance Pleaded to the skies;**

**But the blood of Jesus For our pardon cries.**

The first half of this reminds me of **Romans 12:19** –

***Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath,***

***for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.***

The second half reminds me of this great advice in **Proverbs 20:22**

***Do not say, “I will repay evil”; wait for the Lord, and he will deliver you.***

**5 Oft as earth exulting Wafts its praise on high,**

**Angel hosts rejoicing Make their glad reply.**

There are many places in scriptures where angels rejoice

**Luke 15:10** - ***"In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."***

**Luke 2:13** - ***And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God…***

Often times we assume that the rejoicing that the angels do is actually singing,

but the Bible does not give us a firm answer as to whether the angels sing or not.

But whether the angels were singing or speaking or shouting in the Bible,

they were **worshiping** and **praising** God.

May we follow their example! whether you think you can sing or NOT,

The King James Bible says in **Psalm 98:4 *Make a joyful NOISE unto the LORD,***

***ALL the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.***

And that leads us to verse 6.

**6 Lift we, then, our voices, Swell the mighty flood;**

**Louder still and louder Praise the precious blood!**

**Psalm 69:30** - ***I will praise the name of God with a song;***

***I will magnify him with thanksgiving.***

**Psalm 81:1** - ***Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob***

***So let’s do just that!***

***Let’s join together with LOUD voices and sing “Glory Be to Jesus!”***