

**P208**

**Grace Notes Radio Program**  
**TITLE: What's Good about Good Friday**  
**SONGS: Via Dolorosa 4:31**  
**He grew the tree 3:57**

**INTRO: On Good Friday we celebrate the death of Jesus Christ. Sounds like an oxymoron, doesn't it – 'Celebrating' a death? Why call it 'GOOD' Friday? It's good, because of the outcome. Colossians 2:14 states that the penalties of the law are removed by the cross. Colossians 1:20 says we can have peace with God because of the cross. In Ephesians 2:16 the cross is the medium of reconciliation between mankind and God. As believers, and children of God, we can have access to the Father.**

**Today, on Grace Notes, Barbara Sandbek will take a look at what Christ went through so that we have a GOOD Friday to celebrate.**

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**\*\* VIA DOLOROSA \*\***

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**Everybody's wearing a crucifix this days - from little kids to rock stars. The other day I said to a guy who was wearing one, "I see you have a cross in your ear". His response was "It's just a 'thing' – I don't buy in to that Jesus stuff". To which I replied, "There's more to Jesus than just a cross".**

**1 Corinthians 1:18 says...**

**The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God.**

**The cross has the power to change a life.**

**Driving home one night Dale and I noticed a brightly lit church sign with three crosses on top. Later, we called the church to see if we could present a concert there, and told the pastor how impressed we were with the sign. He relayed a story about a man who'd been fighting with his wife. He'd left the house to go get drunk. On the way to the bar he**

**saw the sign – and took particular note of the crosses. It touched him. A Christian man had been telling him about Jesus. When he got to the bar he couldn't drink, so he left and checked into a hotel. There he found a Gideon Bible, read it through the night, and asked Christ to be his Savior. Returning home with flowers in hand, he asked his wife to forgive him and told her of his Salvation experience. Later she, too, received Christ. They attended the church there and today they're both serving the Lord.**

**Jesus paid a high price so our lives could be changed. The world may have glamorized the cross, but as the old hymn states - the cross is a symbol of suffering an shame.**

**Listen to these words in Isaiah 53...**

**He was despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and we hid as it were our faces from Him. Surely He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows, yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our Iniquities. The chastisement of our peace was upon Him and with His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray. We have turned everyone to his own way and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.**

**Christ's CRUCIFIXION was HORRIBLE - because SIN IS HORRIBLE.**

**In Psalm 22, the anguished words of King David were spoken in a prophetic way about the crucifixion some 1000 years before it occurred. Jesus uttered many of these words while on the cross. It so aptly describes His suffering.**

**Verse 1: My God, my God why have you forsaken me?  
Why are you so far from saving me - so far from the words of my groaning?**

**Verse 6-8 I am a worm and not a man, scorned by men and despised by the people. All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads.**

**“He trusts in the Lord - let Him rescue him, let Him deliver Him since He delights in Him.”**

**Verse 12- Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me. Roaring lions tearing their prey open their mouths wide against me.**

**I am poured out like water and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me. My strength is dried up like a potsherd and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; You lay me in the dust of death.**

**Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me. They have pierced my hands and my feet.**

**I can count all my bones. People stare and gloat over me. They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.**

**Most often we focus on Christ's suffering. God suffered, too. He had to turn His back on Christ as He bore the sin of the world. It seems so easy to say, but think how you'd feel watching your only son agonize and knowing you'd have to reject him for a time while he suffered for someone else's sin. But even more than that, God knew in advance what would happen and had to plan the events, and even prepare the cross.**

**Listen to how beautifully the writer of this song captures God's feelings...**

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**\*\*\* HE GREW THE TREE**

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**Thanks for joining the program. We pray you've been blessed by it. If so, please encourage us by dropping us a line at:**

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**or email us through our web site at [sandbekministries.com](http://sandbekministries.com).**

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**Join us again on our next program. Until then, Let your grace notes be a song of praise!**

