

Our Condemnation

By Ron Coale 9/22/2007

Type: Evangelistic

Specific Objective: To show that God's opinion is that we are all condemned and that the only way to change that situation is to accept Christ's payment for us.

Text:

John 3:15-21 *That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. 17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. 21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.*

Introduction:

A **stay of execution** is a court order to temporarily suspend the execution of a court judgement. In cases where the [death penalty](#) has been imposed, a stay of execution may be sought to defer the [execution](#) of the convicted person. This may occur in light of new evidence that will [exonerate](#) the convicted person, or in attempts to have the sentence [commuted](#) to imprisonment. One example of a stay of execution was the [James Autry](#) case. Autry was already strapped down to the execution table when the order came to temporarily stop the execution. He was later executed on [March 14, 1984](#).

James David Autry ([August 27, 1954](#) – [14 March 1984](#)) was a convicted [murderer](#) in the [U.S. state](#) of [Texas](#), executed by [lethal injection](#).

He had been convicted of shooting convenience store clerk, Shirley Droust, between the eyes with a .38 caliber pistol on [April 20, 1980](#). He then shot two witnesses in the head, one of whom, Joe Broussard, died instantly, while the other, a Greek seaman, survived but was left with permanent brain damage.

In October [1983](#) he had been strapped in the gurney in the [execution chamber](#), with the needles in his arms, when a [stay of execution](#) came through. He would be later executed on [14 March 1984](#), in the second execution in Texas since the reintroduction of the death penalty in the state after [Gregg v. Georgia](#).

He declined to make a [final statement](#) but did request a [last meal](#) of a [hamburger](#), [french fries](#), and a [Dr Pepper](#).

We are all Condemned:

We are all on Death Row waiting for our sentence to be carried out.

(but he that believeth not is condemned already,)

We love darkness, therefore we love being condemned.

We are condemned because we have sin in our life. (Ecc 7:20)

Our Sin condemns us.

Our Condemnation has a price:

The Wages of Sin is death

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sin Separates us from God

Romans 8:7-9 Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. 8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

Jesus Christ came to change our Condemnation:

He Came to SAVE us from our condemnation.

He did that by taking our place.

2 Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

He paid the price that we should have paid.

1 Corinthians 6:20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Corinthians 7:23 Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.

ILL: the condemned man on death row has a person take his place in the electric chair letting him go free. How would you feel?

I ask myself if I would die for Jesus if I was in his shoes. I wished I could be a true friend like Jesus. He died because he wanted to save me; it was an act of love. It was a debt of love that I owe Jesus and it is a debt that I could never pay him back. The only thing I can do is to die for others in return. Not die physically but rather die to all my selfish ways, to change myself rather

than trying to change others, to accept and love my friends the way they are. Jesus in the bible had said this...

“Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.”

SAVED: Wouldn't you feel like you owed Jesus your appreciation?

UNSAVED: Wouldn't you like to take his offer of taking your place for you?