



Week #3: Emergency Vehicle Entrance

1. DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU ARE RIGHT NOW?

2. WHY WE SHOWED THE END OF SAVING PRIVATE RYAN

- a. What did Miller say to Ryan on the bridge?
- b. What did Ryan say to Miller's grave (a cross)?
- c. The whole movie is a flashback

3. BUT THE MASS IS NOT A FLASHBACK!

- a. "Do this in memory of me." What does this mean?
- b. The entire OT has a center. An event. A rescue mission, we could say, by God. Everything is either anticipating it, describing it, or recalling it.
 - I. At the heart of an event is a meal. Who gives the instructions for the meal?
 - II. It, too, is a special kind of meal. When the meal is celebrated, it also becomes mysteriously present.
 - III. Key word: anamnesis.

4. SO WHERE ARE WE RIGHT NOW?

- a. We are at the foot of the cross.
- b. We are being confronted by His love and mercy and self-sacrifice.
- c. We are having a living encounter with Jesus, who has given everything for you and me and is inviting us now, again or for the first time, to succumb to His love.
- d. Here and now Jesus is saying to you personally, "You are worth the trouble! You matter! You are worth saving!"
- e. Jesus is the emergency vehicle. He has come to rescue you and me. From sin, from death, from hell, from emptiness.
- f. He has done this at the cost of His life.

5. HOW WILL WE RESPOND?

QUOTES: The following are from Brant Pitre's *Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist: Unlocking the Secrets of the Last Supper* (Doubleday, 2011).

It was not just any kind of sacrifice; it was a sacrifice that had the power to save you from death. pp. 55

At the time of Jesus, the Passover was not just a sacrifice; it was also a 'memorial' or 'remembrance' (Exod. 12:14) by which the Jewish people would both remember and somehow make present the deliverance that had been won for their ancestors in the exodus from Egypt. pp. 64

All these together not only looked back to the original experience of deliverance but somehow made it present:

In every generation a man must so regard himself as if he came forth himself out of Egypt, for it is written. . . 'It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came forth out of Egypt' (Exod. 13:8).

Therefore we are bound to give thanks . . . and to bless him who wrought all these wonders for our fathers and for us. He brought us out of bondage to freedom, from sorrow to gladness, and from mourning to Festival-day, and from darkness to great light, and from servitude to redemption; so let us say before him the Hallelujah. (MISHNAH, PESAHIM 10:5) pp. 65

...ancient Jewish celebrants did not just remember the exodus; they actively participated in it. pp. 66



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QUESTIONS for reflection/discussion:

1. As a Christian man or woman, how am I responding to the cross?
2. Do I see myself in need of rescue? If so, of what?
3. Every sacrament recalls, makes present, and foretells. Do I understand that every Mass is making present Christ’s sacrifice for me?
4. Do I see myself on mission to rescue the Private Ryan’s in my life?
5. Private Ryan says the following standing before the cross at Captain Miller’s grave, *Every day I think about what you said to me that day on the bridge. I tried to live my life the best that I could. I hope that was enough. I hope that, at least in your eyes, I’ve earned what all of you have done for me.* Do I think daily about what Jesus did for me on the cross?

For next week: Read and pray with St. Faustina’s *DIARY Of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska Divine Mercy in My Soul*, paragraph 153, Marian Press Stockbridge, MA 01263 2005 ©2015. Visit olgparish.net/rerouting to view.