

Sermon :: 18-Apr-2025
Good Friday, All Years

“Unworthy”
A reflection for Good Friday

UNWORTHY:

It ... is ... the last nail in the Cross – the lingering thorn of the Crown:

I’m not worthy – **I am** not worthy – Precious Lord, I am **un**worthy of your sacrifice

UNWORTHY:

It is the *thought* that pulls us here, this day,

like *one* end of a magnet,

in earnest thanks

And the *feeling* the repels us, this hour,

like the *other* end

in abject sorrow ... grievous guilt

UNWORTHY – not *worth* it

We behold the Son of Man ~ murdered by man

the Son of God ~ sacrificed by God

the Word made flesh ~ consumed—eaten—chewed up and

spat

out, by **flesh-**

ly creatures

we, nothings

we, nobodies

we, shiny, taut balloons, almost

bursting with overheated air of ego,

yet deflated by the thought:

UNWORTHY

And we ...

We turn

away ... we gasp

in horror ... we wail (*inwardly*, lest we make ourselves

unworthier *still*)

in guilt ... we collapse, fold, shrivel

in paroxysm of helpless, heedless

anguish against our **flesh-**

liness

whose stripes no flagellant whip

could raise higher

or make

deeper

red

The measure of worth
*Is not **yours** to rule or weigh*
The value of love
*Is not **yours** to set or say*

For I – I – am the measure
the Father marks
to heal the world

I am the value
the Father **cuts**
down, to refill the **flesh-**
ly
burstèd ego-sack
with undying grace

I AM[†] the WORTHY you can never be
*I AM the WORTHY you can never **see***
in you

Not because you lack the *worth*
But because you lack the eyes
of HOLINESS, *within* you
to see this Cross
not as crime,
but as God's mercy
not as agony,
but as divine fulfillment
not as death,
but as gracious salvation
not as end
but as blessèd beginning – and ceaseless source –
of

WORTHINESS

Fixed upon every creature, by the sheer, sure plan of God
Bled upon every soul, in a Father's deepest devotion
Plaited upon every brow, in a sacred circle, to **just-**
ify the worthless ways of flesh
to the *all*-worthy Will of God

[†] Echoes of ἐγώ εἰμι.

To *make* you worthy
To make you *see* you're worthy
To make your see your **worthi-**
ness not as requirement,
but as *result*
of My loving, lovely sacrifice
not as guilt,
but as *gift*
to receive as freely at the *foot* of My Cross
as I **offer at** its *head*

*So, worry not **your** worthiness
It is not yours but Mine
That drives the Cross-ward road
To death ... the last and greatest sign:
God's love for all, in Me to spread,
Through nail and through thorn.
To gift My Worthiness to **you**,
that **full-WORTHY** were you **born**.*

AMEN.

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