

SUN Morning

The Cross Says, "I Love You"

PASTOR PAUL CHAPPELL | APRIL 13, 2025

Text: Luke 23:33-46

"And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left. 34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots. 35 And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God. 36 And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar, 37 And saying, If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself. 38 And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. 39 And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. 40 But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. 42 And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. 43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise. 44 And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. 45 And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst. 46 And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost." (Luke 23:33-46)

INTRODUCTION

- Jesus crucified between 2 criminals
- Jewish leaders, soldiers, & criminals all mocked him
- Jesus forgives his accusers
- Jesus promises one criminal Paradise

1. SAYINGS OF Sensitivity

A. Toward His persecutors (mockers)

"Father forgive them; for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34)

JESUS SPOKE WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

JESUS SHOWED NO RESISTANCE

Jesus
our
example

"Because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: 22 Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: 23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously." (1 Peter 2:21-23)

B. Toward His family

family
support

"When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! 27 Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home. (John 19:26-27)

THE CARE FOR HIS MOTHER

"A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity." (Proverbs 17:17)

THE COMMAND TO HIS FOLLOWER

"Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him."
(Psalm 103:13)

C. Toward the thief

"And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. 40 But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. 42 And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. 43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise. (Luke 23:39-43)

THE THIEF'S REPENTANCE

JESUS' RESPONSE

"And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; 23 And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom." (Luke 16:22-23)

thief
repents

2. SAYINGS OF Sorrow

A. His Divine separation

"Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour. 46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? (Matthew 27:45-46) famous saying of anguish

"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." (2 Corinthians 5:21)

"Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood..." (Romans 3:24-25)

B. His Human suffering

"After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst." (John 19:28)

IT WAS A PROPHETIC FULFILLMENT

"My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death. 16 For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet." (Psalm 22:15-16)

IT REPRESENTED THE PHYSICAL TORMENT

Quote: "We took our sins and drove them like nails through His hands and feet. We lifted Him high up on the cross of our transgressions, and then we pierced His heart through with the spear of our unbelief."—Charles Spurgeon

3. SAYINGS OF Salvation

A. A Statement of victory

"When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost." (John 19:30)

THE SACRIFICE MADE WAS COMPLETED

THE SACRIFICE NEVER NEEDS TO BE REPEATED

"And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: 12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;" (Hebrews 10:11-12)

B. A Statement of hope

"Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:43)

THE SINNER KNEW HIS CONDITION OF SINFULNESS

HE TURNED TO THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD HELP HIM AND PAY FOR HIS SINS - JESUS.

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6)

SALVATION IS A FREE GIFT THROUGH GRACE

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

THE THIEF CONFESSES HIS SIN AND TRUSTED JESUS FOR SALVATION.

Quote: "Moreover, true repentance never exists except in conjunction with faith, while on the other hand, wherever there is true faith, there is also real repentance."—L. Berkhoff

CONCLUSION

Quote: "There is a great difference between realizing, 'On the cross He was crucified,' and 'On the cross He was crucified for ME.'"

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)

