

Calvary Chapel of Joplin's Core Connection

For Further Study: Luke 23:26-38

Read Luke 23 Vs 26

Vs 26

Now as they led Him away, they laid hold of a certain man, Simon a Cyrenian, who was coming from the country, and on him they laid the cross that he might bear *it* after Jesus.

1. Time for a testimony! Simon undoubtedly considered his being “compelled” to carry the cross of Christ a great tragedy initially. But ultimately he came to realize it was a God given opportunity to be changed forever, he had a life changing encounter with Christ! Can you recall a time in your life when you thought you were the victim of undue hardship or difficulty that later proved to be a God given opportunity or a means through which He changed you personally? _____

2. Simon bore the cross of Christ literally. Read Luke 9:23-24. What did Jesus say about bearing our cross figuratively? _____

3. What does it mean bear our cross? _____

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service.” Romans 12:1

Read Luke 23 Vs 27-31

Vs 27-30

1. Jesus (tenderly) rebuked those who wept for Him, the truth is that we should worship Him! We

And a great multitude of the people followed Him, and women who also mourned and lamented Him. ²⁸ But Jesus, turning to them, said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹ For indeed the days are coming in which they will say, ‘Blessed *are* the barren, wombs that never bore, and breasts which never nursed!’ ³⁰ Then they will begin ‘*to say to the mountains, “Fall on us!” and to the hills, “Cover us!”*’ ³¹ For if they do these things in the green wood, what will be done in the dry?”

should weep for those who reject Him. Read the following verses and then express in your own words what the bible teaches about our worship of God. (See Exod 34:14, Deut 12:29-32, Ps 5:7, Ps 29:2, John 4:23-24). Feel free to discuss other areas of scripture that you believe may apply! _____

2. We note in this passage the compassion of Jesus toward others (even in the midst of His agony). Read the following verses and write down how the compassion of Christ stirred Him and what happened as the result. (Matt 9:35-10:1, Matt 14:13-14, Matt 15:32-37, Mark 1:40-10 [extra credit if you can find more examples!])

Think about it: If the compassion of Christ so stirred Him & He lives in you, how should His compassion stir in you?

Vs 31

1. Jesus taught that true reason for weeping was found in the fact that the people were rejecting Him. ("For if they do these things in the greenwood, what will be done in the dry?") If God allowed such brutal treatment to be meted out on the innocent *sacrifice for sin*, what will happen to the guilty sinner? What does the bible teach about the fate of those who reject Jesus? (See Matt 13:41-42, Mark 9:42-47, Rev 14:9-11) _____

How we thank God that it was in His heart from eternity past to redeem us from the torment of eternal separation from Him! May God place the urgency upon our hearts to get the gospel to those who are perishing... Write out 2 Peter 3:9 _____

Read Luke 23 Vs 32-34

Vs 32-34

There were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death. ³³ And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. ³⁴ Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

1. "And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him," The single most significant act in human history is given to us with profound simplicity. No details, just the basic fact, "...they crucified Him". What does the bible teach about the sufficiency of the message of the cross? (See 1 Cor 1:22-25, 2:2-5, Gal 6:14-15) _____

Read Luke 23 Vs 35-38

Vs 32-34

And they divided His garments and cast lots. ³⁵ And the people stood looking on. But even the rulers with them sneered, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God." ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked Him, coming and offering Him sour wine, ³⁷ and saying, "If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself." ³⁸ And an inscription also was ⁹written over Him in letters of Greek, Latin, and Hebrew: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

1. When Jesus prayed, "Father, forgive them, for they do not

know what they do" not only was He fulfilling His own command to pray for those who persecute you (Matt 5:44) He was also fulfilling prophecy (Isaiah 53:12). Read back over Vs 32-37. Now look at Psalm 22 & Psalm 69:21. How many other prophecies can you find being fulfilled in this passage? List them here. _____

Here's a freebie ☺. Jesus also fulfilled Deut 21:22-23 (counterpart Gal 3:13). We thank God that Jesus was willing to become accursed of God that in Him we might become blessed of God!

Food For Thought:

"He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God." Luke 23:35 Had Christ chosen to save Himself, than others He couldn't have saved. Our salvation is predicated upon the fact of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. With reverence we say, "Thank You Jesus for not saving Yourself, that out of Your great love I might be saved."