



March 17, 2024
Worship Service
Pastor Bruce Adrian
WeAreLifeBridge.com

Journey to the Cross

Lesson Seven • Luke 23:26-33

The Man Who Carried Jesus' Cross

"The Bludgeonings of Chance"

What we think are CHANCE encounters are DIVINE appointments that God uses in our lives for our good and His glory.

The Man Who Carried Jesus' Cross

1. Simon of Cyrene ENCOUNTERS Jesus as the Savior of the World!

Divine Appointment

- Simon is compelled to CARRY Jesus' cross (v. 26).
- Simon is compelled to HEAR Jesus' warning (v. 27-31).
- Simon is compelled to SEE Jesus' crucifixion (v. 32-33).

2. Simon of Cyrene FOLLOWS Jesus as the Lord of His Life!

Divine Transformation

- Simon TRUSTS in Jesus for his salvation (Acts 2:1-41).
- Simon TELLS his family about Jesus (Mk. 15:21; Rm. 16:13).

Jesus' Prophetic Warning

What Jesus predicted about the destruction of Jerusalem FORESHADOWS the final judgment on all nations that is still to come when Jesus returns.

The high places of Aven, the sin of Israel, shall be destroyed. Thorn and thistle shall grow up on their altars, and they shall say to the mountains, "Cover us," and to the hills, "Fall on us." Hosea 10:8

Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, calling to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?" Revelation 6:15-17

Jesus' Urgent Invitation

Jesus is not calling us to sympathy for Him; He's calling us to FAITH in Him for our salvation from God's judgment on sin.

But turning to them Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children." Luke 23:28

Simon's Vivid Example

Simon of Cyrene shows us that following Jesus involves the CROSS-BEARING life.

Every follower of Jesus is a somewhat like Simon of Cyrene in that we're called to pick up our cross and follow Jesus wherever He leads.

"If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me." ~Jesus, Luke 9:23

"Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple." ~Jesus, Luke 14:27