



When They Crucified Him

Mark 15:24

Wednesday, March 15, 2023 · Pastor Josiah Kagin

Introduction:

The soldiers who oversaw the crucifixion of Christ were accustomed to the horrors of that style of execution. After Jesus was on the cross, the soldiers gathered and divided up His belongings by casting lots. How is it that in the shadow of such a gruesome execution these soldiers would be concerned with gaining the physical belongings of Christ? Let's consider their view of the cross of Christ and our's as well.

1. What was the _____ View of the Cross of Christ?

A. An _____ Crucifixion

Mark 15:24 And when they had crucified him...

John 19:31–35 The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. 32 Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. 33 But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: 34 But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his

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side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. 35 And he that saw it bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe.

CRUCIFIXION — A form of torture and execution in the ancient world that involved fixing a person to a wooden post or tree using ropes or nails.

QUOTE: “The Sovereign has been made unrecognizable by his naked body, and is not even allowed a garment to keep him from view” (Passion 97; translation in Hall, Melito, 55).

B. An Opportunity to _____

Mark 15:24 And when they had crucified him, they parted his garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take.

John 19:23–24 Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took his garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part; and also his coat: now the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout. 24 They said therefore among themselves, Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be: that the scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots. These things therefore the soldiers did.

QUOTE: A victim’s personal belongings became the property of the execution squad. In Jesus’ case the four-man squad (cf. John 19:23) cast lots, probably dice, for His clothes—an inner and outer garment, a belt, sandals, and perhaps a head covering—to see what each one would get. Unwittingly they fulfilled Psalm 22:18, another aspect of Jesus’ humiliation. —
BKC

Matthew 27:35–36 And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots. 36 And sitting down they watched him there;

2. What is _____ View of the Cross of Christ?

A. Has it become just an _____ Story?

QUOTE: "...the most pitiable of deaths..." —Josephus

Deuteronomy 21:23 His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; (for he that is hanged is accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled, which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.

Luke 22:19 And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.

B. Has it become an object from which I expect only to _____?

1 Peter 2:24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

Philippians 1:29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

Philippians 3:10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

DEFINITION—FELLOWSHIP: *participation fellowship; the act of sharing in the activities or privileges of an intimate association or group; especially used of marriage and churches.*

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

Mark 8:34 And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Conclusion

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

