

OLD UNION MINISTERS SCHOOL 2023

LESSON TITLE: **CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST**

ELDER JERRY R. MILLER

Scripture Text: **Matthew 27:33-38**

Crucifixion was used as a means of execution. When someone was crucified, they died.

Matthew 27:38 says there were two thieves **crucified with him**.

Mark 15:32 says they that were **crucified with him** reviled him.

John 19:32 says; Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was **crucified with him**.

These verses give us the only Biblical account where we are plainly told of anyone being crucified in the physical sense.

Jesus said to the apostle Peter: (John 21: 18-19) *Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdest thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldst: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldst not. This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me.*

According to historical accounts found in books like Martyr's Mirror or Foxe's Book of Martyr's Peter was crucified, as were others.

The word crucified was taken from a Greek word which means to impale on the cross and was the word used in the verses that speak only of Christ being crucified.

The word crucified, when speaking of those who were crucified with Him, was taken from a Greek word which means to impale on the cross, in company with someone else.

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

Galatians 2:20: Paul wrote; **I am crucified with Christ**: *nevertheless I live: yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*

In Paul's statement I am **crucified with Christ**, the same Greek word was used in those verses that speak of the thieves who were crucified with Jesus. But we know that Paul wasn't one who was physically crucified with Jesus, so obviously he was speaking of being crucified with Christ in a spiritual sense. The men who were crucified with Jesus died as a result, and so did Paul. When those thieves were crucified, it brought about a drastic change for them. They died and were no longer citizens of this world. The same change takes place (spiritually) for those who are **crucified with Christ** after the way in which Paul spoke: (**Galatians 6:14**); *But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.*

Philippians 3: 20-21; *For our conservation (citizenship) is in heaven, from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.*

Ephesians 2: 11-13; (11) *Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;* (12) *That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:* (13) *But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were afar off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. (**Verse 19**) Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, **but fellow citizens with the saints**, and of the household of God.*

Hebrews 11:13; *These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.*

John 17: 14-16: As Jesus prayed for His disciples, He made this statement to His Heavenly Father; (14) *I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. (15) I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. (16) They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.*

Romans 12: 1-2: (1) *I beseech you therefore, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. (2) And be not **conformed to this world**: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.*

Romans 6: 6-14; (6) *Knowing this, that our old man is **crucified with him**, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. (7) For he that is dead is freed from sin. (8) Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe we shall also live with him: (9) Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more, death hath no more dominion over him. (10) For*

in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.(11) **Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.** (12) Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. (13) Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: But yield yourselves unto God, as those that are **alive from the dead**, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. (14) For sin shall not have dominion over you: **for ye are not under the law, but under grace.**

The Galatians had heard and believed the false teaching of those who brought to them what Paul referred to as another gospel. A perverted gospel. They allowed themselves to be persuaded that salvation came by the works of the law. **Galatians 3: 1-3**; (1) O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? (2) This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? (3) Are ye so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh? **Galatians 3: 13-14**; (13) Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us; for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree. (14) That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. **Galatians 5: 1**; Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Colossians 2: 13-14; (13) And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; (14) Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances **that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross.**

Colossians 3: 1-4; (1) If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. (2) Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth. (3) For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. (4) When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Galatians 5:16; This is say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

Galatians 5:19-24; (19) Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, (20) Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, (21) Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you as I have told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. (22) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, (23) Meekness, temperance, against such there is no law. (24) And they that are Christ's have **crucified the flesh** with the affections and lusts.

I am **crucified with Christ**: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me, isn't only referring to having passed from death unto life, but also a changed lifestyle!

2nd Corinthians 5:17; Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. Not only do we become a new creature, but as Paul said in **Romans 6:4**, we also should walk in newness of life!

Ephesians 4:17-24; (17) *This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, (18) Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: (19) Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. (20) But ye have not so learned Christ; (21) If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: (22) That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts: (23) and be renewed in the spirit of your mind; (24) And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.*

Luke 9: 23; *And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.*

Luke 14:27; *And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.*

Matthew 10:37-38: *He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.*

Expository Dictionary Of New Testament Words, W.E. Vine, says this concerning the statement made in Matthew 10:38 about taking one's cross; The judicial custom by which the condemned person carried his stake to the place of execution, was applied by the Lord to those sufferings by which his faithful followers were to express their fellowship with Him.

Must Jesus bear the cross alone, and all the world go free? No, there's a cross for everyone, and there's a cross for me. How happy are the saints above, who once went sorrowing here! But now they taste unmingled love, and joy without a fear. The consecrated cross I'll bear, Till death shall set me free; And then go home my crown to wear, For there's a crown for me. Upon the crystal pavement down, At Jesus pierced feet, Joyful I'll cast my golden crown, And His dear Name repeat. O precious cross! O glorious crown! O resurrection day! When Christ the Lord from heaven comes down, and bears my soul away.