

AT the CROSS ~ Romans 5:1-8

→ Scripture Reading Rom. 5:1-2 6-8, Col. 2:13-15

INTRODUCTION

1 Corinthians 1:22-23 (NIV) Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom,²³ but we preach Christ CRUCIFIED: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

Jesus Arrives AT the CROSS ~ John 13-18

John 13

¹⁵ I have given you an example to follow. **DO as I have done...** (NLT)

²¹ ...ONE of you **WILL betray Me.** (NLT)

²⁷ **Hurry and DO** what you're going to do. (NLT)

³⁸ ...Peter before the rooster crows tomorrow morning, you will DENY three times that you even know Me. (NLT)

John 15

¹⁸ If the world **hates you**, remember that **it HATED ME first.** (NLT)

²⁰ ...A slave is not greater than the master... (NLT)

Mark ^{14:36} ...take this cup from Me. Yet not what I will, but what You WILL. (NIV)

Mark 15:15 (NIV) Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. **He had Jesus flogged, and handed Him over to be crucified.**

Luke 23:33-34 (NIV) When they came to **the place called the Skull**, there **they crucified Him**, along with the criminals - one on his right, the other on his left. ³⁴ Jesus said, "**Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.**" And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

Different RESPONSES AT the CROSS

Those who MOCKED

Mark 15:29-32 (NIV) Those who PASSED BY **hurled insults at Him**, shaking their heads and saying, "So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days,³⁰ come down from the cross and save yourself!"³¹ In the same way the CHIEF PRIESTS and the TEACHERS OF THE LAW **mocked Him** among themselves. He saved others, they said, but he can't save himself.³² Let this Christ, this King of Israel, come down now from the cross, **THAT we may see and believe...**

Luke 23:35-37, 39 (NIV) The PEOPLE stood watching, and the RULERS even **sneered at Him**. They said, "He saved others; let Him save himself if He is the Christ of God, the Chosen One."³⁶ The SOLDIERS also came up and **mocked Him**. They offered Him wine vinegar³⁷ and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." ...³⁹ One of the CRIMINALS who hung there **hurled insults at Him**: "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

Matthew 27:45-47, 50-51 (NIV) From the sixth hour until the ninth hour **darkness came over all the land.**⁴⁶ About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "*Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?*"- which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"⁴⁷ When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah."

⁵⁰ And when Jesus had **cried out again in a loud voice, He gave up his spirit.**⁵¹ At that moment the **curtain of the temple was torn** in two from TOP to BOTTOM. The earth shook and the rocks split.

Those who MOURNED

Luke 23:40-41 (NIV) But the other CRIMINAL rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence?"⁴¹ We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But **this man has done NOTHING wrong.**"

Mark 15:39-41 (NIV) And when the CENTURION, who stood there in front of Jesus, heard his cry and saw how He died, he said, "**Surely this man was the Son of God!**"⁴⁰ Some women were watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome.⁴¹ In Galilee these women had followed him and cared for his needs. **Many other women** who had come up with him to Jerusalem **were also there.**

Luke 23:48-49 (NIV) When all the PEOPLE who had **gathered to witness** this sight saw what took place, they **beat their breasts and went away.**⁴⁹ But ALL those who KNEW Him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, **watching** these things.

God's LOVE is at Work AT the CROSS ~ Romans 5:5-8

⁵ And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his LOVE into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us. ⁶ You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, **Christ DIED for the ungodly.** ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But **God Demonstrates His own love for us** in this: **WHILE we were STILL sinners, Christ DIED for us.**

O, **Mighty Cross**, O Christ so pure, **LOVE held Him there**, Such Shame endure;
His sacrifice on Calvary, has made the mighty cross a **tree of life to ME.**

Max Lucado - The journey to Jerusalem didn't begin in Jericho. It didn't begin in Galilee. It didn't begin in Nazareth. It didn't even begin in Bethlehem. **The journey to the cross** began long before. As the echo of the crunching of fruit was still sounding in the Garden of Eden, **Jesus was leaving for Calvary.**

Ephesians 2:13 (NIV) But now in Christ Jesus you who once were FAR AWAY have been brought NEAR THROUGH the Blood of Christ.

God's POWER is Evident AT the CROSS ~ Colossians 2:13-15

Colossians 2:13-15 (NIV) When you were DEAD in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you ALIVE with Christ. He forgave us ALL our sins, ¹⁴ having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; He took it away, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ And having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, TRIUMPHING over them by the cross.

AT the Cross Jesus...

- DISARMED powers and authorities
- made a SPECTACLE of them
- TRIUMPHED over them

Ultimate CHANGE AT the CROSS ~ Romans 5:1-2

JUSTIFIED - declared innocent

Romans 5:1-2 (NIV) Therefore, since we have been JUSTIFIED through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

ATONEMENT- removal of punishment a complete and total cleansing

Romans 3:25 (NIV) God presented Him as a sacrifice of ATONEMENT, through faith in His blood. He did this to demonstrate His justice, because in His forbearance He had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished...

The Cross is the lightning rod of GRACE that **directs God's WRATH right to Jesus Christ** so that only the **Light** of His **Love** remains for believers. Wiersbe

RECONCILED- Restoring our relationship with GOD

Colossians 1:21-22 (NIV) Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. ²² But now **He has RECONCILED you by Christ's physical body through death** to present you **HOLY in His sight**, without blemish and free from accusation...

The Cross Becomes my...

- ANCHOR in the Storm
- SHIELD of Safety During the Battle
- SWORD that Destroys the Enemy and all my Fears
- BIRTH CERTIFICATE