

# SERMON NOTES

## Easter – What Did Jesus Say on The Cross

1. **Luke 23:33-34 (NKJV)** - 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." And they divided His garments and cast lots.

- It's all about Forgiveness.

**1 John 1:9 (NKJV)** - If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2. **Luke 23:39-43 (NKJV)**- 39 Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us."

40 But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation?"

41 "And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong."

42 Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom."

43 And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

- He was thinking about Heaven -
- Salvation is by grace not works - The thief could do no good works
- "Today" - Eternity is both "now" and forever –

3. **John 19:26-27 (NKJV)** - 26 When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!"

27 Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.

- He was thinking about Family, and the Church -

**Ephesians 1:6 (NKJV)** - To the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

**Ephesians 3:15 (NKJV)**- From whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

**Mark 10:29-30 (NKJV)** - 29 So Jesus answered and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel's,

30 "who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time--houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions--and in the age to come, eternal life.

4. **Matthew 27:46 (NKJV)** - And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

- This is the Only time Jesus didn't refer to God as "Father"
- It was a quote - **Psalms 22:7-8, 12-18 (NKJV)**- 7 All those who see Me ridicule Me; They

shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying,

8 "He trusted in the LORD, let Him rescue Him; Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!" ...

12 Many bulls have surrounded Me; Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled Me.

13 They gape at Me with their mouths, Like a raging and roaring lion.

14 I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me.

**15** My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of death.

**16** For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet;

**17** I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me.

**18** They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.

- Old Testament prophecy is true and important - J. Barton Payne, has found as many as 574 verses in the Old Testament that somehow point to or describe or reference the coming Messiah. Alfred Edersheim found 456. Chances In his book, Science Speaks, Peter Stoner applies the modern science of probability to just eight prophecies regarding Christ. He says, "The chance that any man might have ...fulfilled all eight prophecies is one in 10 to the 17th. That would be 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000." (one hundred quadrillion).

- An interesting and important play on words - **Mark 15:34 (NKJV)** — And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

Quoting ps 22

Why do they quote it in foreign language?

Matthew and Mark give a Greek alliteration of what it sounds like - they don't write it in hebrew/aramaic

They are pointing to ps 22 BUT Ps 22 says "azavthani" NOT sabachthani Explanation:

1. It's in foreign language to point to ps 22 AND to show there's more to this than meets the eye
2. Matthew and Mark transliterated what it sounded like but both versions given as it could be both Hebrew and aramaic meanings. Both are interesting.

Matthew = Hebrew ("eli")

Mark = aramaic ("eloi")

If Matthew stays in Hebrew then he is saying "zabak"thani (why have you sacrificed me) If Mark stays in Aramaic then he is saying "shebak"thani (why have you left me alone)

- Studying the Bible is important

5. **John 19:28 (NKJV)** - After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!"

- Humanity - He was just like us -
- He gave us a pattern for life –

**Hebrews 4:15 (NKJV)**- For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

6. **John 19:30 (NKJV)** - So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!"

- Fully paid - Greek = "tetelestai". Rest in this.

7. **Luke 23:44-46 (NKJV)** - **44** Now it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour.

**45** Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two.

**46** And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit.' "

Having said this, He breathed His last.

- Intimacy - will you do it now?

● **John 1:12-13 (NKJV)** - **12** But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

**13** who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

# SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDES

Remember that the aim of the small group is to foster discussion and community, rather than for the leader or one individual to preach to everyone.

**1** - Often an **Icebreaker question** is a great way to start discussion. You could ask a question like:

- What were the highs or lows of your week?
- What is your earliest memory?
- If you had to describe yourself as one animal, what would it be and why?
- What is your favourite type of holiday destination?

**2** - Next, **read the passage**. You can ask various people in the group to help by each reading a portion of the passage.

**3** - These are the **main questions** to ask to understand the passage:

- What is the main message of this talk / passage?  
Allow discussion and even diverging from the main topic if it is helpful.
- What did you find particularly helpful or challenging?
- What did you not fully understand?
- What can we do **PRACTICALLY** in response to this teaching?

**4** - Close by offering **prayer** for each person.

- Ask, "how can we pray for you / each other now?"
- Ask each person to pray or you, as leader, pray for each person's need

**The blessing** and opportunity in Small Groups is the possibility for...

- Each person to contribute and/or ask questions,
- People to pray for each other and to ask for prayer,
- People to learn to use and grow in their gifts,
- Community, friendship and intimacy in relationships.

God Bless you in this very important ministry.