

Last Words



FORGIVENESS AT THE CROSS

³² Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed.

³³ When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left.

LUKE 23:32-43

³⁴ Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

LUKE 23:32-43

³⁵ The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One."

LUKE 23:32-43

³⁶ The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar ³⁷ and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." ³⁸ There was a written notice above him, which read:

THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

LUKE 23:32-43

³⁹ One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰ But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence?”

LUKE 23:32-43

⁴¹ We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³ Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

LUKE 23:32-43

Which group would you belong to if you lived during the time of Jesus and witnessed the crucifixion of Jesus?

Would you be found among...

The criminals who insulted Jesus?

The soldiers of Rome who mocked Jesus?

The crowd of Jerusalem who watched Jesus?

The rulers who sneered Jesus?

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 person,

ROMANS 5:6-8

though for a good person 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.

ROMANS 5:6-8

**1) JESUS FORGAVE
HIS ENEMIES**

³⁴ Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

LUKE 23:34

The first group of enemies
were the Jewish rulers.

The rulers even sneered at him. They said,
“He saved others; let him save himself if
he is God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.”

LUKE 23:35

The second group of enemies
were the Roman soldiers.

³⁶ The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar ³⁷ and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

LUKE 23:36-37

⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.

MATTHEW 5:43-44

Jesus came to make friends with
enemies like you and me.

2) JESUS FORGAVE HIS NEIGHBOUR

³⁹ One of the criminals who hung there
hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the
Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the
other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you
fear God," he said, "since you are under
the same sentence?"

LUKE 23:39-43

⁴¹ We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³ Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

LUKE 23:39-43

Who is your neighbour?

A neighbour is anyone beside us
in need of mercy. Jesus
beautifully demonstrated His
teaching on loving your
neighbour on the cross.

⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom.”

LUKE 23:42

⁴³ Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you,
today you will be with me in paradise."

LUKE 23:43

The application of mercy
requires a confession of sin
and a request for forgiveness.

Jesus came to pardon criminals
like you and me.

**3) IF JESUS FORGAVE
US, WE SHOULD
FORGIVE OTHERS**

⁴⁵ That you may be children of your
Father in heaven.

MATTHEW 5:45

⁴⁸ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

MATTHEW 5:48

“Be holy because I, the LORD your God,
am holy.”

LEVITICUS 19:2

God's perfect way is the best way. Forgiveness is not an option to consider, but a command to be obeyed.

¹⁴ For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

MATTHEW 6:14-15

People say, "I will forgive,
but I will never forget."

“I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.”

ISAIAH 43:25

¹² As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our
transgressions from us

PSALM 103:12

[Love] keeps no record of wrongs.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:5

⁴⁷ Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.”

LUKE 7:47

Whoever has been forgiven
much, loves much. We forgive
and we love because He first
forgave and first loved us.

SERMON REVIEW:

- 1) JESUS FORGAVE HIS ENEMIES
- 2) JESUS FORGAVE HIS NEIGHBOURS
- 3) IF JESUS FORGAVE US, WE SHOULD
FORGIVE OTHERS

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