

## Remembering the Words of Christ on the Cross – part 1

- I. Introduction:
  - a. **(Luke 24:8)** “They remembered his words.”
    - i. Remembering the words of Christ caused the disciples to grow stronger in faith and confidence and joy.
    - ii. Instead of a crucified master, they had risen Christ!
    - iii. Instead of grief and despair, they had joy and hope!
  - b. **(Col 3:16)** “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”
  - c. **(Eph 5:18-19)** “...be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.”
    - i. Parallel verses – One equates the other
    - ii. Being filled with the Spirit = Letting the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom
  - d. There are seven sayings recorded that Christ said while on the cross
    - i. They are found not in one gospel but all four gospels
    - ii. There is no automatic
  - e. Let us remember these words of Christ while He was on the cross
- II. The Word of Forgiveness
  - a. **(Luke 23:34)** “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.”
  - b. The whole purpose and meaning of the cross was forgiveness and salvation
    - i. **(1 Cor 1:18)** “For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.”
  - c. What were they doing
    - i. Scourged Him
      1. **(John 19:1)** “Pilate therefore took Jesus, and scourged him.”
        - a. All that were condemned to die under Roman execution were scourged – Normal but horrific practice
          - i. The man was stripped of his clothes and his hands were tied to an upright post
          - ii. Scourging was intended to weaken the victim to a point just short of death
          - iii. The soldier would repeatedly hit the victim’s backside with full force with a whip
            1. This whip was usually a short whip with many several single or braided leather strips where small sharp sheep bones and iron balls were tied at intervals

- iv. Contusions would occur by the iron balls and lacerations would occur by the leather strips and sheep bones – to the point of exposing the skeletal muscles!
    - 2. **(Isa 52:14)** “His visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men.”
  - ii. Crucified Him
    - 1. Prophecy of Jesus’ death
      - a. **(Ps 22:16)** “For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have enclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet.”
    - 2. They took tapered iron spikes approximately 5 to 7 inches long and drove them through his hands.
    - 3. They took His feet and place one on top of the other and drove a spike through both on to the cross
    - 4. Placed in such a position that one has extreme trouble in breathing, especially in exhalation.
  - iii. Mocked Him
    - 1. Religious Leaders – Mocked Jesus of being the Messiah
    - 2. Roman Soldiers – Mocked Jesus of being a King
  - iv. Humiliated Him
    - 1. Stripped Jesus of His Clothes
    - 2. Spat upon Him and Hit Him
    - 3. Gambled for His garments while he was dying
      - a. Jesus’ coat was made of one fabric
        - i. **(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. 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.”
  - v. Not only did they do these things. They did them to an innocent man!
- d. Even in light of all these things, Jesus asked for them to be forgiven
  - i. Two types of forgiveness
    - 1. Personal or Human level – removal of grudge, bitterness
    - 2. Divine level – removal of guilt, acquittal
  - ii. Jesus forgave them on a personal and human level
  - iii. We can and have the example to forgive others – not hold a grudge – on a human level even if one does not repent – They were committing their sin of crucifying while Jesus prayed this prayer

1. **(Matt 6:14-15)** “For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”
  - a. Bless them
    - i. **(Matt 5:43-45)** “Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.”
    - ii. **(Rom 12:20-21)** “Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.”
2. Some say that you can’t forgive one until they repent
  - a. **(Luke 17:3-4)** “Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.”
    - i. Not a permit to withhold forgiveness, but is an exhortation against withholding forgiveness even after they repent.
- iv. We can not forgive one and acquit one of wrong doing until they repent – Jesus didn’t mean for them to be held guiltless but that God would withhold righteous wrath until they had a chance to repent.
  1. They that crucified Jesus were still guilty of this crime.
    - a. **(Acts 2:22-23)** “Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:”
    - b. **(Acts 2:36-38)** “Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and

Christ. Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

- c. Acquittal of this crime came when they did what Peter told them to do! – Repent and be Baptized (Obedience)
2. Example of Saul
  - a. Saul of Tarsus consented to the stoning of Stephen – was guilty of stoning a righteous man of God
  - b. **(Acts 7:60)** “And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.”
    - i. Stephen forgave on the human level – No grudge – didn’t want them to burn in Hell – Wanted them to be saved
  - c. Saul was still held accountable and was in sin until he obeyed the gospel
    - i. **(Acts 22:16)** “And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and **wash away thy sins**, calling on the name of the Lord.”
- e. The greatest of all examples of forgiveness is seen here with Jesus on the cross of Calvary.
  - i. The crucifixion of Christ has all to do with God’s love to you – Forgiveness of Sins
  - ii. Jesus came to forgive sinners
    1. **(Luke 19:10)** “For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”