

Remembering the Words of Christ on the Cross: The words of Love and Affection

- I. Introduction:
 - a. **(John 19:16-27)**
 - i. Only four are mentioned being there with Christ
 - 1. Jesus Mother – Mary
 - 2. His Mother’s Sister – Mary
 - 3. Mary Magdalene
 - 4. The disciple, whom he loved – John
- II. John
 - a. All else deserted Him
 - i. At one time we read:
 - 1. Cries of Praise:
 - a. **(Matt 21:8-9)** “And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strowed them in the way. And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.”
 - b. **(John 12:13)** “Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord.”
 - i. Hosanna – “oh save! - an exclamation of adoration” (New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary)
 - 2. Cries of Blood:
 - a. **(Mark 15:12-14)** “And Pilate answered and said again unto them, What will ye then that I shall do unto him whom ye call the King of the Jews? And they cried out again, Crucify him. Then Pilate said unto them, Why, what evil hath he done? And they cried out the more exceedingly, Crucify him.”
 - b. **(John 19:6)** “When the chief priests therefore and officers saw him, they cried out, saying, Crucify him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Take ye him, and crucify him: for I find no fault in him.”
 - ii. **(Matt 26:56)** “...all the disciples forsook him, and fled.”
 - iii. Only John is known to be there with Jesus
 - iv. There was a particularly loyal and personal relationship between Jesus and John
 - 1. **(John 13:23)** “Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved.”

- a. According to the custom of the times, the guests surrounded the table, which was not an elevated platform at all, such as modern tables, but only a slightly elevated place, or only a covering placed on the floor. Each guest lay on his elbow, leaving one hand free for eating.
 - b. 'In the bosom' meant to be on the right hand side right beside the host of a feast
 - 2. Bosom – "Abraham's Bosom"
 - a. "To have one in our bosom implies kindness, secrecy, intimacy... ..Christ is in the bosom of the Father; that is, possesses the closest intimacy with, and most perfect knowledge of, the Father (**John 1:18**). Our Saviour is said to carry his lambs in his bosom, which touchingly represents his tender care and watchfulness over them (**Isa 40:11**). (McClintock and Strong Encyclopedia)
- III. Mary – Mother of Jesus
 - a. Notice Jesus words, "Woman, behold thy son!" (**John 19:26**)
 - i. Jesus didn't use the phrase 'Mother of God', she was not mother of God – but mother of Jesus' humanity
 - b. The Son of God exist before he became flesh
 - i. The Word before everything – Before Mary
 - 1. (**John 1:1-3**) "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."
 - 2. (**John 8:56-58**) "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad. Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham? Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Before Abraham was, I am.**"
 - ii. The Word became flesh
 - 1. (**John 1:14**) "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."
 - iii. Mary was the mother of Jesus' humanity
 - c. Mary was not a perpetual virgin
 - i. (**Matt 1:25**) "And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS."
 - ii. (**Matt 13:55-56**) "Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things?"
 - d. Nevertheless Mary was the mother of Jesus

- i. Gave birth to Jesus and nurtured Him
 - 1. **(Luke 2:5-7)** “To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being **great with child**. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And **she brought forth her firstborn son**, and **wrapped him in swaddling clothes**, and **laid him** in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.”
- ii. Mary, just like any good mother, loved and worried about her son
 - 1. **(Luke 2:48-49)** “And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?”
- iii. She watched as they crucified her son
 - 1. **(John 19:25)** “Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene.”
 - 2. She saw Jesus, her son, suspended between heaven and earth, surrounded by His enemies.
 - 3. She stood beside Him in the midst of those enemies
- e. No doubt Mary Remembered the Prophecy
 - i. **(Luke 2:34-35)** “And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; **(Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,)** that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”

IV. The selfless act

- a. Jesus puts his aging mother in the care of His loyal disciple
 - i. **(John 19:26-27)** “When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home.
- b. Even in the shadow of death – he cared for and met his human obligations
 - i. **(Ex 20:12)** “Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.”
 - ii. **(1 Tim 5:8)** “But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.”
 - iii. Jesus made John to be the substitute for the Substitute
- c. Shows the depth of Jesus' Love
 - i. Cares for our physical wellbeing
 - 1. **(Matt 6:28-32)** “And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even

Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.”

2. **(James 1:17)** “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”
3. **(Phil 4:6)** “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.”

ii. Cares for our spiritual wellbeing

1. **(Matt 6:33-34)** “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.”

iii. While Jesus took care of Mary’s physical wellbeing He was taking care of her spiritual wellbeing. – not only hers but ours too

1. The greatest of all selfless acts

iv. This was the purpose of His coming

1. **(Matt 1:21)** “And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.”
2. Jesus said, “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for **his friends**. Ye are **my friends**, if ye do whatsoever **I command you**.” **(John 15:13-14)**

v. Jesus Loved His Mother, And He Loves Us Also!

1. **(Matt 12:48-50)** “But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the **will of my Father** which is in heaven, the **same** is my **brother**, and **sister**, and **mother**.”

V. The words of Love and Affection are to us also

- a. **(1 Cor 15:1-3)** “Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; **By which also ye are saved**, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that **Christ died for our sins** according to the scriptures;”

i. Why did He die? – Why did he give his life for me?

- b. **(Rom 3:23)** “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”

- c. **(Rom 6:23)** “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”
 - i. We have all sinned – Sin = Death
 - ii. Eternal life is through Jesus Christ
- d. **(Rom 5:6-8)** “For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, **while we were yet sinners,** Christ **died** for us.”
 - i. This is what Christ has done for us!
- e. What can we do?
 - i. **(Rom 6:3-4)** “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”
 - ii. **(Rom 6:17-18)** “But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.”
- f. Why?
 - i. **(Mark 16:15-16)** “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
 - ii. Because Jesus commanded it
 - 1. Remember: Ye are his friend if you do whatsoever He commands!
- g. And continue in His commands
 - i. **(Luke 9:62)** “No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”
 - ii. **(Matt 24:12-13)** “And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.”
 - iii. **(Rev 2:10)** “Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”
- h. He has taken care of the price – He wants you to be obedient to His commands – Will you do that now? – Become His ‘friend’ as we stand and sing!