



Lesson 26

Our Savior Dies

*Matthew 27:45-54; Mark 15:33-39;
Luke 23:34,39-47; John 19:25-30*

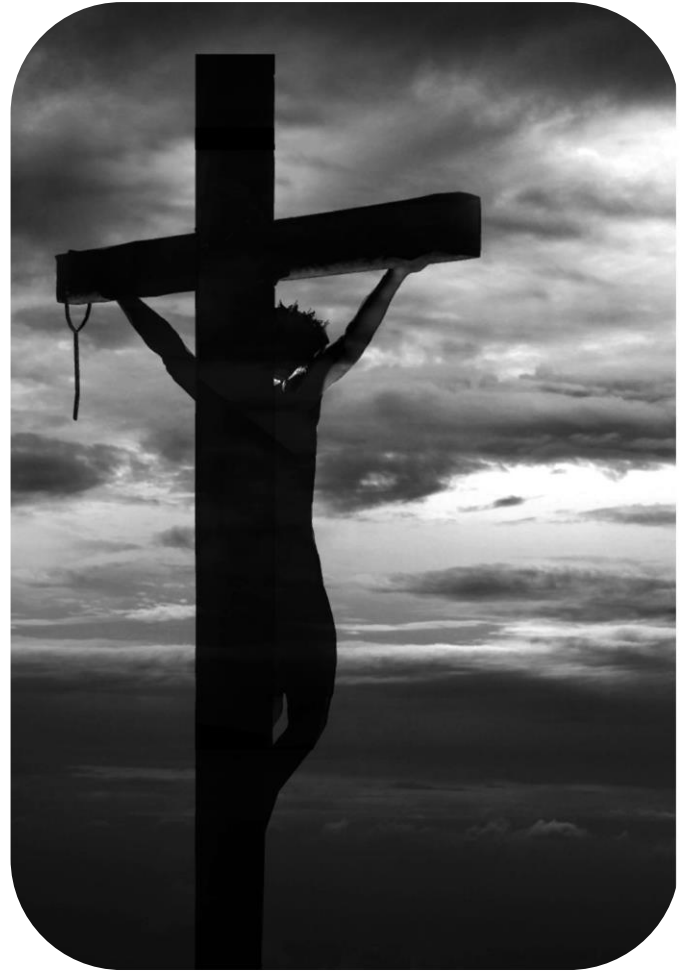
Gospel Harmony of the Crucifixion

There were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death. And they brought Him to the place called in Hebrew Golgotha, which is translated Calvary, the Place of a Skull. And when they had come there, they gave Him sour wine mingled with myrrh and gall to drink. But when He had tasted it, He would not drink; He did not take it.

Then they crucified Him there, and two others with Him, robbers and criminals, one on the right hand, and the other on the left, and Jesus in the center. So the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "And He was numbered with the transgressors." Now it was the third hour [9:00 a.m., according to Jewish time] when they crucified Him.

Then Jesus said, "**Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they do.**"

Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and divided them up among themselves into four parts, to each soldier a part, casting lots for them to determine what every man should take. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece. They said therefore among themselves, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it



shall be;" that the Scripture might be fulfilled, which says, "They divided My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots." Therefore the soldiers did these things; and, sitting down, they kept watch over Him there.

Now Pilate wrote a title or inscription of His accusation over Him. And the soldiers put it above His head on the cross. And it was written: "This is Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Then many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in letters of Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but 'He said, "I am the King of the Jews.'""

Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."

And **the people stood**, looking on. And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross."

Likewise **even the rulers, the chief priests, together with the scribes, the Pharisees, and the elders**, sneered at Him and mocked Him among themselves and said, "He saved others; Himself He cannot save. Let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the Chosen of God. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, that we may see and believe in Him. He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now, if He will have Him; for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'"

And the soldiers also mocked Him, coming and offering Him sour wine, and saying, "If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself!"

Even the robbers who were crucified with Him reviled Him with the same thing. One of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If you are the Christ, save Yourself and us!" But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong." Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me

when You come into Your kingdom!" And Jesus said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary, the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus, therefore, saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved, standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.

And it was about the sixth hour [12:00 noon]. Then the sun was darkened. From this hour darkness fell over the whole land until the ninth hour [3:00 p.m.]. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani!" Which is translated, "My God, My God, why have You [hast Thou] forsaken Me?" And when some of those who stood by heard that, they said, "Look! This Man is calling for Elijah."

After this, Jesus, seeing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst." Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there. Then immediately someone ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed, on hyssop, and put it to His mouth and offered it to Him to drink. He and the others said, "Let Him alone! Let us see if Elijah will come to save Him and take Him down."

So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!"

And when Jesus had cried out again with a loud voice, He said, "Father, into Your hands I commend My spirit." And having said this, He bowed His head and gave up His spirit, and breathed His last.

Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom, and the earth quaked; and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and, coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.

Now when the centurion, who stood opposite Jesus, saw what had happened and that He cried out like this, he glorified God, saying, "Certainly this was a righteous Man." When the

centurion, and those with him who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying, "Truly this Man was the Son of God."

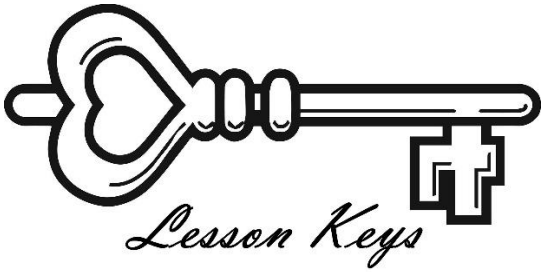
And the whole crowd who came together to that sight, seeing what had been done, beat their breasts and returned. But all His acquaintances and many women also were there, standing at a distance, looking on from afar, watching these things. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James the Less and of Joses, and Salome, the mother of Zebedee's sons. When Jesus was in Galilee, they followed Him and ministered to Him, and they had followed Him from Galilee, ministering to Him. And there were many other women who had accompanied Him from Galilee and came up with Him to Jerusalem.

Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Then the soldiers came, and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who was crucified with Jesus; but when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs; but one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.

And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe. For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, "Not one of His bones shall be broken." And again, another Scripture says, "They shall look on Him whom they pierced."

[Jesus Christ] was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification. (Romans 4:25)

The blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1:7)



1. Keep focus on the true misery of Jesus' suffering Hell's punishment for us –
"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"
2. The lessons from each of Jesus' statements from the cross.
3. The reality of Jesus death and its purpose.
4. Use favorite Lent/Good Friday hymns to review Jesus' suffering and death in poetic form—reading and/or singing the hymns.