



The King on a Cross

Luke 23:26-38
February 2, 2025

The Big Idea: For years Jesus had been saying that He **must** go to Jerusalem. It can be understood as the **"Divine Necessity."** From eternity the Father knew the Son must **die** so that we can **live**. Come to the Cross and see your King. Trust Him with your **all** and know His salvation.

Luke 23:26-38 (ESV)

²⁶ And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷ And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. ²⁸ But turning to them Jesus said, **"Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children."** ²⁹ For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' ³⁰ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' ³¹ For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

³² Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³ And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, **there they crucified him**, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ And Jesus said, **"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."** And they cast lots to divide his garments. ³⁵ And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and

saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, **"This is the King of the Jews."**

Lessons From Our Eternal King

- ◇ To follow Jesus is a **serious** and **weighty** thing. Simon gives us a visual of Jesus' words in Matthew 16:24-26.

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, **"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."** ²⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?
- ◇ To follow Jesus means we have no higher **loyalty** than our devotion to Jesus, His words, and His Kingdom. [Luke 9:57-62]

⁵⁷ As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸ And Jesus said to him, **"Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."** ⁵⁹ To another he said, **"Follow me."** But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." ⁶⁰ And Jesus said to him, **"Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."** ⁶¹ Yet another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." ⁶² Jesus said to him, **"No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."**
- ◇ Jesus warned that there will be times of great **suffering** for all people – and at times especially for His disciples..
- ◇ The Cross must never be thought of as something that simply evokes our **sympathy**, that wasn't His choice, or that wasn't **necessary** for our salvation. We are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. [Ephesians 2:8-9]

"If we want proof of God's love for us, then we must look first at the Cross where God offered up His Son as a sacrifice for our sins. Calvary is the one objective, absolute, irrefutable proof of God's love for us."

- Jerry Bridges
