

²¹ A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was passing by on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross. ²² They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means The Place of the Skull). ²³ Then they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. ²⁴ And they crucified him. Dividing up his clothes, they cast lots to see what each would get.

²⁵ It was the third hour when they crucified him. ²⁶ The written notice of the charge against him read: THE KING OF THE JEWS. ²⁷ They crucified two robbers with him, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹ Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, "So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰ come down from the cross and save yourself!"

³¹ In the same way the chief priests and the teachers of the law mocked him among themselves. "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! ³² Let this Christ, this King of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe." Those crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

³³ At the sixth hour darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. ³⁴ And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"—which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

³⁵ When some of those standing near heard this, they said, "Listen, he's calling Elijah."

³⁶ One man ran, filled a sponge with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink. "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to take him down," he said.

³⁷ With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.

³⁸ The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. ³⁹ And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, heard his cry and saw how he died, he said, "Surely this man was the Son of God!"

Studies in the Gospel of Mark

Jesus Comes to His Own

And Suffers the Judgment of God

Mark 15:21-39

April 17, 2011

*He himself bore our sins in His body on the cross,
so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness;
for by His wounds you were healed.*

1 Peter 2:24

Key Question: How did Jesus suffer on my behalf?

LIFE ON LIFE

Study Questions for Families, Small Groups & You



Discussion Questions:

You have heard people say, "Everyone has their own cross to bear." What is meant by this phrase?

Jesus says, "If anyone wants to become my follower, he must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me" (Mark 8:34). How are these two statements similar and/or different?

Study Questions:

Why didn't Jesus accept the wine mixed with myrrh (15:23)? Why would he refuse to deaden His pain in dying?

The crimes of the convicted were posted on the cross above his head. What is significant about the notice placed above Jesus (15:26)? Look back at Mark 15:14 and Luke 23:20-22.

What did God the Father see posted on the cross above Jesus head (Colossians 2:13-14)? For what crimes did Jesus die?

What forms of suffering did Jesus experience of the cross?

What irony is found in the insults that were hurled at Jesus?

- Those who passed by (15:29-30):
- The religious rulers (15:31-32):
- Criminals crucified with him (15:32):

Why didn't Jesus come down off the cross to display his power and glory?

Why did Jesus cry out "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me" (15:34)?

Did the witnesses understand his words (15:35-36)?

How are we to understand these words?
Consider Romans 3:25-26; 5:6-10; 1 Peter 2:23-24.

What took place right after Jesus breathed his last breath (15:38)?

What role did the veil serve in the temple?
See Exodus 26:31-34.

Who could pass behind the veil? When and why?
See Leviticus 16:1-34.

What is the significance of this veil being torn from top to bottom (15:38)?

Who can now enter God's holy presence? When and why?
See Hebrews 10:19-22.

Live It Questions:

Read Hebrews 2:14-18 and 4:14-16.

What temptation or what sin do you need Jesus help with?

When and how will you draw near to the throne of grace to receive help in your time of need?