

FATHER, FORGIVE THEM!

Luke 23:26-49

Key verse 23:34a

"Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.'"

1. Read verse 26.
Why did the Roman soldiers lay the cross on Simon as they led Jesus away to be crucified? What impact did Simon's forced following of Jesus have on his life? (Mark 15:21; Romans 16:13)
 2. Read verses 27-31.
What did Jesus say to the crowd and the women who mourned and wept for him?
What was being done to the green wood and what would become of the dry wood as a result? (1 Peter 4:17,18)
 3. Read verses 32-34. Why did Jesus have to be crucified? (Isaiah 53:5,6)
Why was Jesus crucified between two criminals? (32,33; Isaiah 53:12)
What did Jesus pray for to his heavenly Father on the cross? (34)
What do we learn from this about sin and Jesus' love?
What does Jesus' prayer mean to you?
 4. Read verses 35-39. What was the common point of man's mockery of Jesus?
How could Jesus have helped himself and what would this have meant?
Why did Jesus not save himself?
 5. What did one of the criminals confess and what did he hope for? (40-42)
What did Jesus promise him? (43)
What did the tearing of the curtain in the temple mean? (45; Hebrews 10:19-22)
What was Jesus' last word? (46)
What did the centurion say about Jesus after he had seen him die? (47)
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