



Jesus The Righteous King – Part 3

Luke 23



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The Key Passage: Luke 23:27-43 (NIV)



²⁷ A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. ²⁸ Jesus turned and said to them, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹ For the time will come when you will say, ‘Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ ³⁰ Then ““they will say to the mountains, “Fall on us!” and to the hills, “Cover us!””

³¹ For if people do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?”



The Key Passage: Luke 23:27-43 (NIV) cont.



³² Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. ³³ When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. ³⁴ Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. ³⁵ The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.” ³⁶ The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar ³⁷ and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.”



The Key Passage: Luke 23:27-43 (NIV) cont.



- ³⁸ There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.
- ³⁹ One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”
- ⁴⁰ But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? ⁴¹ We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. ⁴³ Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”



Daughters of Jerusalem - Don't Cry for Me, Cry for Yourself



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- Jesus's words foreshadow the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70.
- The event would be so terrible that it would be better to not have children than have them experience it. They will say to the mountains "Fall on us". People would long for death rather than endure that level of suffering.



If this is what they will do to the green tree, what will they do to the dry one?



Tim Green from Bradford, CC By 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons



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- "If people do these things to a live, green tree, can you imagine what they'll do with deadwood?" (MSG).
- Jesus was innocent of the charges against him of inciting the people to rebellion. If the Romans would do this to him, what will they do when the city is filled with actual rebels? Again foreshadows the Destruction of Jerusalem.
- Jesus is also saying now is the time to repent and follow Him.

Jesus was crucified at the place called the Skull, with one criminal on his right and one on his left



This place may have been called the Skull because of a rock formation there that resembled a skull or perhaps because of the executions that occurred there. The Latin word for Skull is Calvaria, which is where we get the word “Calvary”. “Golgotha” is the word in Aramaic.





Father forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.



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Jesus called on the Father to forgive his tormenters that had:

- Mocked him and his identity
- Falsely accused and lied about him
- Handed him over to be flogged
- Condemned him to be crucified



Forgiveness



We are also called to forgive.



Ephesians 4:31-32 (NIV)

³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.





And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.



Jesus is the suffering servant. The expression “Passion of Christ” comes from the Latin word *passio*, which means to suffer. During his crucifixion, Jesus quotes Psalm 22, which is a psalm written by David during a period of intense suffering and unprovoked attack from his enemies. The soldiers reinforced this prophetic imagery by fulfilling Psalm 22:18: They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.



We share in the suffering of Christ



Romans 8:17-19



¹⁷ Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

¹⁸ I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.



“Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise”.



- The rulers and soldiers taunted Jesus. “If you’re the king of the Jews, rescue yourself”.
- One criminal also insulted him. “Aren’t you the Messiah? Rescue yourself and us too”.
- The other said Jesus remember me when you become king. Jesus replied “today you’ll be with me in paradise”
- Paradise – a place of peace and rest for the dead in Christ prior to His return when they’ll be resurrected with resurrection bodies.



Jesus is indeed God's Messiah – The King



Embrace

- Being a "Green Tree" – a Source of Life, Healing, Hope and Restoration
- Suffering for the Sake of the Kingdom
- Calling People to Repentance
- Being Kind
- Being Compassionate
- Forgiving as Christ forgave us

Let Go Of

- Bitterness
- Rage
- Anger
- Brawling
- Slander
- Every Form of Malice (The desire to do evil. Ill will)