

Morning Sermon September 29, 2019
“Seeing Your Savior” John 19:17-18; :21 & :30

- I. *To see Christ as Savior, we must understand our own dread condition is the same as the two thieves crucified with Christ –*

¹⁷ And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called *the Place of a Skull*, which is called in Hebrew, *Golgotha*, ¹⁸ where they crucified Him, and two others with Him, one on either side, and Jesus in the center. John 19:17–18 (NKJV)

1. *These two were sinners, as we all are –*

³³ And when they had come to the place called *Calvary*, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. Luke 23:33

John calls them “others” which does not distinguishing them from Christ, but Luke calls them criminals, which they were. The designation “criminals” does distinguish them from Christ, in the greatest way, as He had not sinned! Yet as criminals were sinners, and so are we:

- A. *Sinners at heart –*

⁵Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. Genesis 6:5 (NKJV)

For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. Matthew 15:19

- B. *Sinners according to law –*

They were caught, tried and convicted and with Christ they were executed –

there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. Luke 23:33

2. *We are all guilty-*

Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh

will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. Romans 3:19-20

3. *We may not be executed immediately but we also face a death penalty –*

For the wages of sin is death, ...

4. *From both Scripture, and experience we see this –*
“... and he died.” Genesis 5:5; 5:8; 5:11; 5:14; 5:17 ...

5. *Death is not the worst part –*

And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, Hebrews 9:27

It is a horrible judgment, due even to those with only anger and / or sinful thoughts –

“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.’ But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, ‘Raca!’ shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, ‘You fool!’ shall be in danger of hell fire. Matthew 5:21-22

“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Look at these verses, isn’t Jesus preaching about a desperate situation?

If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. Matthew 5:27-30

- A. *These are things men cannot see, and so men can and should not judge, but God sees these things perfectly!*

- B. *Our only hope is Christ –*

so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. ... Hebrews 9:28

II. *To see Christ as Savior, we must see Him as in this world and on the cross because of our sin –*

So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!” And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit. John 19:30

Key words (words in English, word in Greek) here are obvious, “It is finished!”

The sixth word or saying that **Jesus** spoke from the cross was the single Greek word *tetelestai* which means **It is finished**. Papyri receipts for taxes have been recovered with the word *tetelestai* written across them, meaning “paid in full.” This word on Jesus’ lips was significant. When He said, “It is finished” (not “I am finished”), He meant His redemptive work was completed. He had been made sin for people (2 Cor. 5:21) and had suffered the penalty of God’s justice which sin deserved. E.A. Blum

Along with glorifying God, dying to save us from our sins was the main reason Jesus came into this world:

1. *It is the purpose He was named for –*

And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.” Matthew 1:12

2. *It is the purpose He claimed was why He came –*

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45

III. *To see Christ as Savior (or King both are needed) our eyes must be opened –*

1. *Truly His Kingship, Kingdom were not seen by everyone –*

Therefore 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.” ’ ” John 19:21

These people were not seeing Jesus, it is why they hated Him and wanted to crucify Him – Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, “Crucify Him, crucify Him!” ... John 19:6

But they cried out, “Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar!” John 19:15

2. *They could not see His Kingdom and they could not enter it (find salvation) without the New Birth –*

Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” John 3:3

⁵ Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. John 3:5

⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again. John 3:7

A. *Christ’s Kingdom is not of this world –*

³⁶ Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here.” John 18:36

B. *Those who know Christ’s / God’s Kingdom make it a priority, they pray -*

¹⁰ Your kingdom come.... Matthew 6:10

They seek it first -

³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Matthew 6:33

C. *Pilate did not see it, the Jews who crucified Jesus did not see it, even many who were once called “disciples” did not see it, but those who do see it KEEP FOLLOWING JESUS, they know it (His Kingdom) is worth it –*

⁶⁶ From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. ⁶⁷ Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?” ⁶⁸ But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” John 6:66-69

²¹ And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, ²² strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, “We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.” Acts 14:21-22

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