

“The Old Rugged Cross”

What does the Cross mean to you?

Luke 23:26-49

The Cross provides:

I. Conversation- “they know not what they do” (vs. 26-38)

It adds fuel to discussions concerning:

A. Grief – *“lamented Him”*

- *In light of eternity, we do things backwards. We celebrate births without contemplating all that the baby will have to deal with in its lifetime. We grieve at the passing away of loved ones wishing we could keep them from leaving us for paradise.*

B. Gain – *“parted His raiment ”*

- *Notice that verse 34 juxtaposes the small gain of clothes with the great gain of forgiveness.*

C. Gaming – *“mocked Him”*

- *They thought they were being cute and just joking around; the reality was that they were so close to the truth that the joke was really on them.*

II. Conversion - “thou be with Me” (vs. 39-43)

It Clarifies God’s perspective on:

A. Fear – *“thou fear God”*

➤ *Concerning:*

- *Sin and its consequences*
- *Jesus and His Righteousness*
- *God and His Judgment – John 3:36*

B. Friendship – *“remember me”*

- *James 2:23 – Abraham = friend of God*
- *James 4:4 – Friend of the World = enemy of God*

C. Freedom - *“with Me in paradise”*

John 8:32-36

Paradise = *This* Persian word, which had been taken over into Greek, symbolizes a place of beauty and delight. It means "park" or "garden" and refers to the Garden of Eden in [Genesis 2:8](#) Eden = "delight"

III. Confirmation- "beholding the things " (vs. 44-49)

It gives assurance concerning our:

A. Acceptance – "*darkness over all the earth*"

*** Like the blinking of the light on your computer acknowledging that your computer is processing information, the light of day blinked and acknowledged that God's moral demands were being met. The Father accepted the Son's payment on our behalf.*

Jesus said "It is Finished" The Father said amen and turned the lights out.

B. Access - "*the veil of the temple was rent* "