

Good Friday 2021, Daily Devotions

☐ Monday - "Father Forgive Them."

Luke 23:34

"When they came to the place called The Skull, there they crucified [Jesus] and the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left. But Jesus was saying, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing'" (Lk. 23:33-34). If these impenitent men were forgiven because of Christ's prayer, how much more are God's own people held eternally secure by the Son of God's intercession (Heb. 7:25). Read Lk. 22:31-32

☐ Tuesday - "Today You Will Be With Me In Paradise."

Luke 23:43

"Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!" (Lk. 23:42). By this simple statement of faith, the penitent thief confessed that he was a sinner, and Christ the Savior. And Jesus response to such elementary faith was immediate, "Today you will be with me in Paradise" (Lk. 23:43). The penitent thief had done no good works, and he had not been baptized, but in his dying breath he received Christ as his personal Lord and Savior. Three men were crucified on Calvary that day. There were three crosses, and two eternal outcomes, but only One who can promise Paradise even at the very last hour, for those who repent and believe in Him. Read Romans 10:9-10

☐ Wednesday - "Why Have You Forsaken Me?"

Mt. 27:46, Mk. 15:34

"About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, 'My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?'" If the damned are eternally forsaken of God, then for Christ to be your substitute, He must be utterly forsaken for those He came to redeem. He was forsaken on your behalf, Christian, that you might never be separated from or forsaken by God (Rom. 8:35, 38-39). "I will never leave you or forsake you" (Heb. 13:5), is the promise purchased for you on Calvary, because Jesus was forsaken in your place. Read Isaiah 53:5

☐ Thursday - "I Thirst."

John 19:28

"After this, Jesus, knowing that all things had already been accomplished, to fulfill the Scripture, said, 'I am thirsty'" (John 19:28). He was moments from death, but that we might know He was still a man, He revealed His physical condition. For six hours on the cross, Jesus thought not of His own need, until He had first taken care of mine. He needed a drink; I needed salvation. For six hours, He denied His own thirst so that I might have unlimited access to "the waters of life without cost" (Rev. 21:6). Jesus knows real thirst. He is God, but He is also man, and He can sympathize with my human weaknesses, frailties and needs. O dear Jesus, You died putting my needs before Your own. Now let me live by Your power that I too might put others before myself (Phil. 2:3-5). Read Hebrews 2:17-18; 4:15-16

☐ Friday - "It is Finished."

John 19:30

When Jesus declared, "It is finished," it meant that God's wrath had been propitiated. Three times in the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus uttered this prayer, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not My will, but Thy will be done" (Mt. 26:39, 42, 44). This "cup" is described in Revelation as "the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger" (Rev. 14:10); that is to say, it is God's wrath against the sinner (Nahum 1:2; Rom. 1:18, 2:5). Yet if Jesus trembled in the garden at the thought of drinking from that cup, He did not waver on the cross, but drank it down to its bitter dregs. It was bad to the last drop. And not until it was emptied for all of those who believe in Him, did He declare, "It is finished!" God's eternal anger toward you, dear Christian, is over. His wrath has been propitiated for those who are in Christ Jesus. Read Rom. 5:9, 1 Thess. 1:10, 5:9; 1 Jn. 4:10, 17-18

☐ Saturday - "Father, Into Thy Hands I Commit My Spirit."

Luke 23:46

"And Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.' Having said this, He breathed His last" (Lk. 23:46). Jesus did not go to hell as some teach, but that very day He ushered his newest convert (the penitent thief) into heaven (Lk. 23:43). This is the blessed hope of all of God's people: To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord (1 Cor. 5:6, 8). Read Philippians 1:21-23