

THE LAMENTATIONS OF JESUS'S DEATH (Luke 23:26-49)

JESUS CRIES OUT TO THE WOMEN

And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. But turning to them,

Jesus said, **“Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”** (23:26-31 ESV)

- The LORD determined to lay in ruins the wall of the daughter of Zion;
- he stretched out the measuring line; he did not restrain his hand from destroying;
- he caused rampart and wall to lament; they languished together.

- Her gates have sunk into the ground; he has ruined and broken her bars;
- her king and princes are among the nations; the law is no more,
- and her prophets find no vision from the LORD.

- The elders of the daughter of Zion sit on the ground in silence;
- they have thrown dust on their heads and put on sackcloth;
- the young women of Jerusalem have bowed their heads to the ground.

- My eyes are spent with weeping; my stomach churns;
- my bile is poured out to the ground because of the destruction of the daughter of my people,
- because infants and babies faint in the streets of the city.

- They cry to their mothers, “Where is bread and wine?”
- as they faint like a wounded man in the streets of the city,
- as their life is poured out on their mothers' bosom.

- What can I say for you, to what compare you, O daughter of Jerusalem?
- What can I liken to you, that I may comfort you, O virgin daughter of Zion?
- For your ruin is vast as the sea; who can heal you?

- Your prophets have seen for you false and deceptive visions;
- they have not exposed your iniquity to restore your fortunes,
- but have seen for you oracles that are false and misleading.

- All who pass along the way clap their hands at you;
- they hiss and wag their heads at the daughter of Jerusalem:
- “Is this the city that was called the perfection of beauty, the joy of all the earth?”

- All your enemies rail against you;
- they hiss, they gnash their teeth, they cry: “We have swallowed her!
- Ah, this is the day we longed for; now we have it; we see it!”

- The LORD has done what he purposed; he has carried out his word,
- which he commanded long ago; he has thrown down without pity;
- he has made the enemy rejoice over you and exalted the might of your foes.

- Their heart cried to the Lord. O wall of the daughter of Zion,

- let tears stream down like a torrent day and night!
- Give yourself no rest, your eyes no respite!
- “Arise, cry out in the night, at the beginning of the night watches!
- Pour out your heart like water before the presence of the Lord!
- Lift your hands to him for the lives of your children, who faint for hunger at the head of every street.”
- Look, O LORD, and see! With whom have you dealt thus?
- Should women eat the fruit of their womb, the children of their tender care?
- Should priest and prophet be killed in the sanctuary of the Lord?
- In the dust of the streets lie the young and the old;
- my young women and my young men have fallen by the sword;
- you have killed them in the day of your anger, slaughtering without pity.
- You summoned as if to a festival day my terrors on every side,
- and on the day of the anger of the LORD no one escaped or survived;
- those whom I held and raised my enemy destroyed. (Lamentations 2:8-22 ESV)

JESUS CRIES OUT TO THE MOCKERS

Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

And Jesus said, **“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”**

And they cast lots to divide his garments. And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!” The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.” (23:32-38 ESV)

- But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:
- The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end;
- they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
- “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”
- The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him.
- It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.
- It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.
- Let him sit alone in silence when it is laid on him;
- let him put his mouth in the dust— there may yet be hope;
- let him give his cheek to the one who strikes, and let him be filled with insults.
- For the Lord will not cast off forever,
- but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
- for he does not afflict from his heart or grieve the children of men.
- To crush underfoot all the prisoners of the earth,
- to deny a man justice in the presence of the Most High,
- to subvert a man in his lawsuit, the Lord does not approve.
- Who has spoken and it came to pass, unless the Lord has commanded it?
- Is it not from the mouth of the Most High that good and bad come?

- Why should a living man complain, a man, about the punishment of his sins? (Lamentations 3:21-39 ESV)

JESUS CRIES OUT TO THE CRIMINAL

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!”

But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

And he said to him, **“Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”** (23:39-43 ESV)

- Let us test and examine our ways, and return to the LORD!
- Let us lift up our hearts and hands to God in heaven:
- “We have transgressed and rebelled, and you have not forgiven.

- “You have wrapped yourself with anger and pursued us, killing without pity;
- you have wrapped yourself with a cloud so that no prayer can pass through.
- You have made us scum and garbage among the peoples.

- “All our enemies open their mouths against us;
- panic and pitfall have come upon us, devastation and destruction;
- my eyes flow with rivers of tears because of the destruction of the daughter of my people.

- “My eyes will flow without ceasing, without respite,
- until the LORD from heaven looks down and sees;
- my eyes cause me grief at the fate of all the daughters of my city.

- “I have been hunted like a bird by those who were my enemies without cause;
- they flung me alive into the pit and cast stones on me;
- water closed over my head; I said, ‘I am lost.’

- “I called on your name, O LORD, from the depths of the pit;
- you heard my plea, ‘Do not close your ear to my cry for help!’
- You came near when I called on you; you said, ‘Do not fear!’

- “You have taken up my cause, O Lord; you have redeemed my life.
- You have seen the wrong done to me, O LORD; judge my cause.
- You have seen all their vengeance, all their plots against me.

- “You have heard their taunts, O LORD, all their plots against me.
- The lips and thoughts of my assailants are against me all the day long.
- Behold their sitting and their rising; I am the object of their taunts.

- “You will repay them, O LORD, according to the work of their hands.
- You will give them dullness of heart; your curse will be on them.
- You will pursue them in anger and destroy them from under your heavens, O LORD.” (Lamentations 3:40-66 ESV)

JESUS CRIES OUT TO HIS FATHER

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, **“Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!”** And having said this he breathed his last.

Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, “Certainly this man was innocent!” And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things. (23:44-49 ESV)

- I am the man who has seen affliction under the rod of his wrath;
- he has driven and brought me into darkness without any light;
- surely against me he turns his hand again and again the whole day long.

- He has made my flesh and my skin waste away; he has broken my bones;
- he has besieged and enveloped me with bitterness and tribulation;
- he has made me dwell in darkness like the dead of long ago.

- He has walled me about so that I cannot escape; he has made my chains heavy;
- though I call and cry for help, he shuts out my prayer;
- he has blocked my ways with blocks of stones; he has made my paths crooked.

- He is a bear lying in wait for me, a lion in hiding;
- he turned aside my steps and tore me to pieces; he has made me desolate;
- he bent his bow and set me as a target for his arrow.

- He drove into my kidneys the arrows of his quiver;
- I have become the laughingstock of all peoples, the object of their taunts all day long.
- He has filled me with bitterness; he has sated me with wormwood.

- He has made my teeth grind on gravel, and made me cower in ashes;
- my soul is bereft of peace; I have forgotten what happiness is;
- so I say, “My endurance has perished; so has my hope from the LORD.”

- Remember my affliction and my wanderings, the wormwood and the gall!
- My soul continually remembers it and is bowed down within me.(Lamentations 3:1-20 ESV)

Introduction: For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.” (Romans 1:16-17 ESV)

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

1. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are **justified by his grace as a gift**, (Jesus Cries Out to the Mockers)
2. through **the redemption that is in Christ Jesus**, (Jesus Cries Out to the Criminal)
3. whom God put forward as **a propitiation by his blood**, to be received by faith. (Jesus Cries Out to His Father)

4. This was to show God's righteousness, because in **his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins**. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. (Jesus Cries out to the Women) (Romans 3:19-26 ESV)