

Cries From The Cross

A journey into the heart of Jesus

Devotionals adapted and edited from the book,
Cries from the Cross: A Journey into the Heart of Jesus by Erwin W. Lutzer

EASTER DEVOTIONAL SERIES | THE "EXCITING" SINGING HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH | 2022

Passion Week: A Cry of Suffering

After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!"

† John 19:28 †

"After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled..."

The narrative of the Cross is difficult to comprehend. The thief on the left hand side of Christ asked the logical question: "If You are who You say You are; why don't You save yourself..." What the thief did not know was God was demonstrating His love for us while we were still sinners. The Cross of Christ is that demonstration (Rom. 5:8). Christ died for you and me. As we continue through Cries from the Cross, Easter grants all the opportunity to join with Jesus in submitting to the will of God for their lives. We know that God see us; We know that He knows all things. But what we really want to know is whether God feels our pain. As we allow our minds and imaginations to return to the scene of Golgotha's anguish, we need not wonder any longer! Jesus felt the sting of rejection, injustice, and the pain of thirst.

Are we in need of forgiveness? Are we in need of restoration for our relationships? Do we often times feel neglected and forsaken by God? Do we think our dignity has been stripped of us? Are we in physical pain? Let us remember this cry of suffering. Christ Jesus carried it all to the Cross... and nailed it! The script that Jesus would follow had been foreshadowed long before He arrived in bodily form. Beginning with Genesis 3:15 and on throughout Old Testament scriptures, Jesus was submitting to the will of the

Series Overview

Week 1	A Cry of Pardon Luke 23:34
Week 2	A Cry of Assurance Luke 23:43
Week 3	A Cry of Compassion John 19:26-27
Week 4	A Cry of Anguish Mark 15:34

Passion Week

Monday	A Cry of Suffering John 19:28
Wednesday	A Cry of Victor John 19:30
Good Friday	A Cry of Submission Luke 23:46

Father... and the Father's will includes suffering.

Question to Explore This Week: Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the world go free?

"I thirst!"

One of the first signs of life is thirst. We are all born thirsty, as every new mother knows. But just as we come into this world with physical thirst, we also have a spiritual thirst built into the soul. The issue is not whether we thirst or even what we thirst for, but rather how long will we thirst. Remember Lazarus and the rich man, we have all speculated on what it must be like for those in Gahanna. If they are able to speak, what would they say? They would probably rehearse the rich man's sentiment: "I am thirsty!" Thankfully, Jesus suffered parched lips that we might be able to drink from the well of salvation. Christ endured the pain, shame, and anguish of Gahanna in order to quench its fires for us. As those living in the shadows of the Cross, from our position in Christ we read and live, "Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their Shepherd; He will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." (Rev. 7: 16-17). The last invitation in the Bible reads, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely." (Rev. 22:17). Those who come to the One who was once thirsty need never thirst again. Amen?