

It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, for the sun stopped shining.

Commentary: About noon until 3. God enabled one of the criminals to see his sin, be sorry, confess his sin, and believe in Jesus as his Savior. Then Jesus assured him that *TODAY he would be in heaven!*

4 – Jesus Spoke to God the Father

Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34

Mark 15:34-35: And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “**Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?**” –which means, “**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**” When some of those standing near heard this, they said, “Listen, he’s calling Elijah.”

Commentary: The ninth hour is about 3 PM. Jesus spoke in Aramaic. (For more, see these passages: Isaiah 53:6; 59:2; Galatians 3:13.)

5 – Jesus’ Announcement Preparation

John 19:28

John 19:28-29: ...so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “**I am thirsty.**” A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips.

Commentary: Jesus drank to fulfill the Scripture; *all of it WILL come to pass!*

6 – Jesus Declared His Victory

John 19:30

John 19:30: When he had received the drink, Jesus said, “**It is finished.**”

Commentary: Jesus declared His victory: *Paid in Full!* Now, *by the Spirit through the Word*, God is calling all people to turn **from** trust in self **to** trust in Jesus as their Savior!

7 – Jesus Laid Down His Life

Luke 23:46

Luke 23:46: Jesus called out with a loud voice, “**Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.**” When he had said this, he breathed his last.

Commentary: Jesus’ first and seventh words address God as Father; Jesus began and ended His time on the cross in a *right relationship* with God; however, in between, He was separated from Him because of our sins. Now, for us – *through our God-given faith in Jesus* – we are God’s holy children!

Matthew 27:51-54: At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split. The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. They came out of the tombs, and after Jesus’ resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many people. When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, “Surely he was the Son of God!”

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JESUS

From His Cross Spoke 7 Times



The Four Gospel Accounts In Chronological Order

Introduction

Jesus – *the Son of God, the Promised Savior of the world* – spoke seven times from His cross. Each time was significant, instructive, and beneficial! As you read and think about this brochure, *rejoice in Jesus and His work to remove your sins!*

The Setting

Matthew 27:33-34: They came to a place called Golgotha (which means The Place of the Skull). There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it.

Commentary: The wine and gall were offered to ease Jesus’ suffering, but, *wanting to remain fully alert*, He refused to drink!

1 – Jesus Prayed for the Soldiers

Luke 23:34

Luke 23:33-34: ...there [at Golgotha] they crucified him, along with the criminals--one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, **“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”**

Commentary: They crucified him, *that means the Roman soldiers drove nails through Jesus’ hands and feet!* The pain was EXCRUTIATING, but Jesus, *concerned about those soldiers*, asked His Father to forgive them. Vengeance is for God; *we are called to forgive as we have been forgiven!*

Mark 15:25: It was the third hour when they crucified him.

Commentary: According to Jewish time, the third hour is about 9 AM.

John 19:23-24: ... [the soldiers] took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. “Let’s not tear it,” they said to one another. “Let’s decide by lot who will get it.” This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled which said, “They divided my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.” So [that] is what the soldiers did.

Matthew 27:36: And sitting down, they kept watch over him there.

John 19:19-22: Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic [*literally in*

Hebrew], Latin and Greek. The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, “Do not write ‘The King of the Jews,’ but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews.” Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.”

Commentary: Crucifixion – *on a hill in plain view* – was used by the Romans to keep the people under control. Rome was saying: *Look at your king! If you want to be the next king, you will also end up on a cross!* Pilate, *to show his disapproval of the Jewish leaders*, refused to change the sign; he also *rightly* identified Jesus (Matt. 2:2; etc.)!

Matthew 27:39-44: Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, “You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!” In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. “He saved others,” they said, “but he can’t save himself! He’s the King of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” In the same way the robbers who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

Commentary: Notice who hurled insults: **‡**those who passed by, **‡**the chief priests, teachers, and elders, and **‡**both robbers.

2 – Jesus Spoke to His Mother, then to John

John 19:26-27

Commentary on the order of the second and third statements: I believe that Jesus

spoke to His mother and John **second**; these are three reasons: (1) Both robbers were initially mocking Jesus, (2) Jesus’ interaction with His mother and John could have been used by the H.S. to bring the robber to repentance, and (3) Jesus’ promise to the robber occurred at noon (Luke 23:43-44), *which also began the darkness and silence.*

John 19:25-27: Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, **“Dear woman, here is your son,”** and to the disciple, **“Here is your mother.”** From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

Commentary: Jesus, *the oldest son*, had been taking care of His mother. Since He could no longer do so, He passed that responsibility to John, His closest friend. At that time, Jesus’ brothers were not yet His followers (see Matt. 12:47; 13:55; John 7:5).

3 – Jesus Spoke to the Repentant Criminal

Luke 23:43

Luke 23:39-45: One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us!” But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Jesus answered him, **“I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.”**