

The Cross of Christ: Innocence, Compassion, and Identity

Sermon Questions

1. Simon of Cyrene was the father of Christian disciples, Rufus and Alexander. (True/False)
2. Jesus calls the women of Jerusalem to not mourn for him but mourn for: (circle the best answer)
 - i. The sinfulness of Jerusalem.
 - ii. The coming destruction of Jerusalem.
 - iii. The rulers of the city.
3. The place of the Skull was named because there were mass graves in that area. (True/False)
4. The words, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do" show Jesus' _____.
5. When was Jesus' prayer for forgiveness answered? _____
6. We can learn from Jesus to pray for our _____.
7. List three reactions to Jesus from those who observed the cross?

8. Give one reason why we should expect God's Christ to suffer: _____
9. The converted criminal's faith is seen when he confesses his own _____, rebukes the wicked, and makes a request to _____ for mercy.
10. The conversion of the criminal on the cross gives the worst sinners great _____.
11. The darkness for three hours is best explained by an eclipse. (True/False)
12. The curtain said, because of your _____ you can't come in, but the cross says, "You can come in!"
13. In total, there were _____ confessions of Christ's innocence in Luke 23.
14. What should your response be? He is _____, compassionate, and truly the _____.

Discussion/Meditation Questions

1. The conversion of the criminal on the cross shows that even the vilest sinner can find grace at the last moment. How does this give you hope for yourself or for others in your life who seem far from God?
2. Jesus' prayer for His enemies and the sermon's call to pray for those who oppose us can be challenging. Who in your life—whether a leader, coworker, or personal adversary—could you commit to praying for this week, asking God to show them mercy?
3. The tearing of the temple curtain symbolizes open access to God through Jesus' sacrifice. How can this reality encourage you to approach God more confidently in prayer or worship?
4. What was your most significant take-away from this passage and sermon? Share this with another brother or sister in the fellowship.