

What Manner of Man Is This? — 02/16/20

He Was The Son of God

TEXT — Mat 27:51-54 *And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many. 54 Now when the centurion, and they that were with him watching Jesus saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.*

Luke 23:45-47 *And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst. 46 And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost. 47 Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, Certainly this was a righteous man.*

INTRO — What manner of man is this? Truly He was the righteous and holy Son of God.

I. An Unjust Sentence

A. Pilate acknowledged personal responsibility

John 19:10 *Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?*

Pilate was personally responsible, along with the Jewish leaders, the Roman soldiers and Judas Iscariot

Mat 26:14-15 *Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.*

Every person that rejects Christ is doing the same thing as Pilate and the others.

Rembrandt painted himself into the painting of the raising of the cross.

2 Co 5:21 *For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*

B. The animosity of the mob

John 15:18-19 *If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.*

- Political pressure

John 19:12 *If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's friend: whosoever maketh himself a king speaketh against Caesar.*

- Personal pressure

John 19:7-8 *The Jews answered him, We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God. When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he was the more afraid;*

Never has there been a greater miscarriage of justice

II. The Crucifixion

A. Unusual phenomenon

- Three hours of darkness
- The earthquake and open graves of the dead
- Tearing of the Temple curtain

The path to the cross leads to the cross not a bed of flowers

Jesus was not only crucified but he suffered greatly

B. The spectators at the cross

- The soldiers interested in carrying out their orders
- The chief priests and scribes

They taunted Jesus

Mat 27:40-43 *And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross. 41 Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said, 42 He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. 43 He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God.*

- The Disciples

John, probably Peter and perhaps several other of the Disciples watched.

Jesus mother, Mary, who was to be cared for by John

Imagine the emotions of Jesus mother watching her son suffer and die

- On-lookers

They followed the mob

Millions are following the mob of this world simply looking on with no understanding of what is going on.

There are those that have nominal interest and others that have scorn for the things of God.

We must reach young people at an early age to protect them from the ways of the world.

III. The Purpose of the Cross

A. Jesus fulfilled prophecy and redemption's plan

John 19:28 *After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst.*

Mat 5:17 *Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.*

B. His death was necessary to redeem man

Mat 26:39 *And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.*

Acts 4:12 *Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*

2 Co 5:21 *For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*

C. Jesus willingly gave His life

John 10:18 *No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.*

Mat 20:28 *Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.*

CONCL – There are no crown-wearers in heaven who were not cross-bearers here below. **Charles Haddon Spurgeon.**