



Beholding Jesus on the Cross: The King & His Kingdom

Warm-Up Question:

Coming into this holy week, how would you describe your sensitivity to spiritual things and the cross of Christ?

READ: Luke 23:32-43

I. BEHOLD: THE CROWD

- Read vs. 18, 21, 23, 35-37 and describe the crowd, what was going on in their heart, and why they probably felt this way?
- Imagine yourself there that day in the crowd. What do you think you would be thinking and feeling and doing in the midst of it all? (Consider 1st quote to right)

II. BEHOLD: THE KING

- Read Isaiah 53:3-7, 10-11.
 - Describe the servant (vs. 3)
 - Why must the servant suffer (vs. 6)?
 - What was God's desire/will for his servant (vs. 10)?
 - What must he suffer (4-5)?
 - What was to be the outcome for those who believe in him (vs. 5, 11-12)?
- Read Phil. 2:6-8. How did Jesus fulfill Isaiah's prophecy?
- What benefits from Jesus's sacrifice are most personally precious to you?

III. BEHOLD: THE KINGDOM

- Describe the different views that the two criminals in vs. 39-43 had regarding their sin? How did that lead to differing views of Jesus?
- Do you struggle more with not seeing your sin and need of the cross OR more being overwhelmed with your sin and doubt the cross is enough?
- This holy week, what impact do you hope for from beholding the cross and then the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday?

What is one main take-away you want to apply in your life this week?

"Unless you see yourself standing there with the shrieking crowd, full of hostility and hatred for the holy and innocent Lamb of God, you don't really understand the nature and depth of your sin or the necessity of the cross."

— C.J. Mahaney

"Before we can begin to see the cross as something done for us, we have to see it as something done by us."

— John R.W. Stott

"It costs God nothing, so far as we know, to create nice things; but to convert rebellious wills cost Him crucifixion."

— C. S. Lewis

"It was not nails that held Jesus to that wretched cross; it was his unqualified resolution, out of love for his Father, to do his Father's will—and it was his love for sinners like me."

— D.A. Carson

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