

CRIES from the CROSS

Lesson One • Luke 23:32-38

A Cry for Forgiveness

Jesus' First Cry from the Cross Is:

A prayer for FORGIVENESS for the "unforgiveable"!

Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." Luke 23:34

Jesus' Prayer for Forgiveness:

1. Shows Jesus' Great CONFIDENCE in God!

When did Jesus cry out to His Father?

When Jesus was CRUCIFIED on the Cross, when man had done his worst.

There were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death. And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them..." Luke 23:31-34 NKJV

When He was reviled, He did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but continued entrusting Himself to Him who judges justly. 1Peter 2:23 ESV

What do we learn from Jesus prayer?

Our need to TRUST God when wronged is much greater than we ever imagined.

2. Shows Jesus' Great LOVE for Sinners!

Two Observations About Jesus' Prayer for His Enemies:

- Jesus' prayer was a FULFILLMENT of prophecy. *Isaiah 53:12*
- Jesus' prayer was an EXAMPLE of His teaching. *Matthew 5:44*

What do we learn from Jesus prayer?

The MERCY of God is much greater than we ever imagined.

3. Shows Our Great NEED for Forgiveness!

Were Jesus' enemies really ignorant of what they were doing?

They knew what they had done, but they did not know ALL they had done due to their spiritual blindness.

None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 1Corinthians 2:8 NIV

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 2Corinthians 4:4 NIV

You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead...Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders...Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord. Acts 3:14-19 NIV

What do we learn from Jesus prayer?

Our SIN is much greater than we ever imagined.

Did God Answer Jesus' Prayer?

Yes, but it came at a great COST—the death of His Son Jesus on the Cross!

It's Your Move!

- Have you been forgiven for your sins?

In whom [Jesus] we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. Colossians 1:14 NKJV

- Have you forgiven others who have wronged you?

Forgiving one another if anyone has a complaint against another. Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive. Colossians 3:13 HCSB