

KYCK22

THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS

EASTER DEVOTION #1 | GOOD FRIDAY

'DARKNESS'

MATTHEW 27:27-50

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'DARKNESS'

+ THINK

What does the reality of Jesus' death mean for you?

+ READ

MATTHEW 27:27-50

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

'DARKNESS'

+ READ

MATTHEW 27:27-50

Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, "This man is calling Elijah." And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

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+ REFLECT

- In v 27:50, we read that Jesus died on his own terms. Why do you think that Jesus, rather than letting his captors take his life, laid his own life down? What does this tell us about who he is?
- In verse 50, we read that Jesus died on his own terms. Why do you think that Jesus, rather than letting his captors take his life, laid his own life down? What does this tell us about who he is?
- What does it say about the seriousness of our sin when we consider how cruel and violent Jesus' crucifixion truly was?
- How does it change your feelings towards your own struggles when you realise that Jesus himself is no stranger to suffering and pain?
- What does the Cross mean for your life? How do you think you can 'take up your own cross' and follow Jesus into the fight against sin and darkness?

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+ PRAY

Dear LORD,

Thank You for sending Jesus to die on the Cross in my place. He faced unimaginable darkness so that I can call You 'Father' - please work in my heart, and don't let me forget the reality of the sacrifice he has made for me.

In Jesus' name,
AMEN

+ PRAISE

*"Feel the earth is shaking now,
See the veil is split in two,
And he stood before the wrath of God
Shielding sinners with his blood."*

- JERUSALEM | CITYALIGHT