

Easter Sunday



Introduction

What were Jesus' last words on the Cross and why were they important?

- They often reveal a person's most significant thoughts or intentions.
- Jesus' final words provide deep insights into his mission, suffering, and love.
- Each short statement opens the door to a larger spiritual truth that has lasting implications.

1. The Seven Sayings of Jesus on the Cross

"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34)

- Jesus' first statement reveals his mission: forgiveness. (Isaiah 53:5)

"Today you will be with me in Paradise." (Luke 23:43)

- Jesus assures believers of eternal life beyond this world.

"Woman, behold your son... Behold your mother." (John 19:26-27)

- Acts 2:42-47 – The Church as a new spiritual family. (Mk 10:

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46)

- A direct quote from Psalm 22:1, pointing to prophecy.

"I thirst." (John 19:28)

- Highlights Jesus' full humanity and suffering. Hebrews 4:15

"It is finished." (John 19:30)

- The Greek word "Tetelestai" means "Paid in full." Jesus' sacrifice is complete

"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." (Luke 23:46)

- We must surrender our lives to God.

2. Psalm 22 in More Depth

Jesus' statement "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46) refers to Psalm 22. Psalm 22 is a prophetic description of the crucifixion, written 1,000 years earlier by David. We look at the key elements in Psalm 22 that match Jesus' crucifixion.

3. How This Relates to You and Me

1. Jesus' suffering was real and it was enough
2. Prophecy proves God's power
3. God has a plan for YOU - see Psalm 139, Acts 17:26-27, Acts 2:38-39, John 6:44
 - Romans 10:13 – "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Discussion Questions:

1. Which of Jesus' seven last statements on the cross speaks to you the most, and why?
2. What does "It is finished" (John 19:30) mean for our understanding of salvation?
3. How does Jesus' suffering help us relate to Him in our own struggles?
4. How can you respond to Jesus' sacrifice today?

Other Bible Verses quoted in the talk:

Isa 53:5 NIV - "5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

Luk 16:22 "Abraham's bosom"

Heb 12:2 NKJV - "2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Mar 10:29-30 NKJV - "29 So Jesus answered and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel's, 30 "who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time--houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions--and in the age to come, eternal life."

Psa 22:1-19 NKJV - "1 My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning?

2 O My God, I cry in the daytime, but You do not hear; And in the night season, and am not silent.

3 But You are holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel...

6 But I am a worm, and no man; A reproach of men, and despised by the people.

7 All those who see Me ridicule Me; They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying,

8 "He trusted in the LORD, let Him rescue Him; Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!"

9 But You are He who took Me out of the womb; You made Me trust while on My mother's breasts...

12 Many bulls have surrounded Me; Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled Me.

13 They gape at Me with their mouths, Like a raging and roaring lion.

14 I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me.

15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of death.

16 For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet;

17 I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me.

18 They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.

19 But You, O LORD, do not be far from Me; O My Strength, hasten to help Me!

Mar 14:49 NKJV - "... the Scriptures must be fulfilled."

1Co 2:8 NKJV - "8 which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory."

Dan 9:24-27 - "Daniel's prophecy of "Seventy weeks" giving timing of Messiah (and the end times)