



PALM SUNDAY
Crosses, Crosses Everywhere
April 9, 2017

²²They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means “the place of the skull”). ²³Then they offered Him wine mixed with myrrh, but He did not take it. ²⁴And they crucified Him. Dividing up His clothes, they cast lots to see what each would get. ²⁵It was nine in the morning when they crucified Him. ²⁶The written notice of the charge against Him read: The King of the Jews. ²⁷They crucified two rebels with Him, one on His right and one on His left.
-- Mark 15:22-27

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE CROSS?

1. THE HORROR OF OUR SIN

⁵For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil. -- Genesis 3:5

¹⁸But the whole crowd shouted, “Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us!” ¹⁹(Barabbas had been thrown into prison for an insurrection in the city, and for murder.) ²⁰Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. ²¹But they kept shouting, “Crucify Him! Crucify Him!” --Luke 23:18-21

2. THE HEART OF GOD’S LOVE

¹⁶For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. --John 3:16

⁸But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since we have now been justified by His blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through Him! --Romans 5:8-9

¹²Follow God’s example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. --Ephesians 5:12

3. THE HERALD OF GOD’S POWER

³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶As it is written: “For Your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. --Romans 8:35-39

4. THE HOPE OF OUR FUTURE

²²For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. --1st Corinthians 15:22

¹⁷Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. --1st Timothy 6:17