

The Cross of Calvary

(Luke 23:46-49)

- Introduction:
1. Typically when you hear a sermon about the cross, the speaker will try to make the agony of the cross become real to you.
 2. And yet, the Bible simply says, "and they crucified Him" (Mark 15:24).
 3. I find it interesting that we give so much attention to the physical pain and horrors of the cross, while the Bible does not.
 4. That's not to suggest that the horrors of the cross are to be completely overlooked, for Paul spoke of it (Philippians 2:8).
 5. Maybe it's due to our morbid curiosity while God had more important things upon which to focus.
 6. In this lesson, I want you to look again at the cross, not so much the physical torture of a body, but a long thoughtful look at its implications.

I. Do You See The Enormity Of Sin?

- A. How are we to measure sin? Is it really all that bad?
- B. The cross reminds us that we don't see sin as God sees sin.
- C. (Isaiah 59:1-2).
- D. (Isaiah 53:4-6).
- E. In the shadow of the cross sin is not to be taken lightly and laughed off.

II. Do You See The Shame Of Man?

- A. It's mind-boggling that God took on flesh, dwelt among us, and we killed him!
- B. On December 8, 1941, President Roosevelt said that December 7, 1941 was a "date which will live in infamy."
- C. But this date pales in comparison to the cold, calculated murder of Jesus.
- D. Only once in the history of the world was there a perfect, sinless man, and we nailed him to a cross and murdered him.

III. Do You See The Love Of God?

- A. (Romans 5:8).
- B. Can you imagine the depth of love demonstrated in saying "no" to Jesus' prayer (Luke 22:39-44)?
- C. (Matthew 26:53) He could have called 12 legions of angels.
- D. (Hebrews 12:1-2) There was a joy that was set before Jesus.

- Conclusion:
1. The cross of Jesus stands as a billboard read by men throughout the ages.
 2. It's message is written in the blood of Jesus.
 3. And that message unmistakably says, "I love you."
 4. The question that remains to be answered this morning is if you love him?