

Study Guide | Mark 15:21-39

Further Study

Read Mark 15:21-39 and consider some or all of the questions below.

1. In Mark 15:20-32, we're told that Jesus is mocked by the soldiers (20) and the religious leaders (31), derided by those who passed by (29), and reviled by the robbers (32). Why do you think Mark highlights the scorn Jesus endured rather than emphasize the physical pain of the cross?

2. Read Psalm 22. What similarities do you see between the suffering described by the Psalmist and Mark's description of the crucifixion? Why do you think Jesus chose this Psalm to quote on the cross?

3. Look up some of the passages listed below. What are the implications of Christ's crucifixion for us?

Colossians 2:13-14.

Romans 6:6-7.

Romans 8:34-35.

Titus 2:13-14.

Hebrews 2:14-15.

Philippians 2:5-8.

4. How do the following passages help us understand and apply the shame and reproach Jesus endured from sinners: Hebrews 13:12-14, Mark 8:34-38, and 1 Peter 3:8-17?

5. Read Galatians 6:14. What does it mean to not boast in anything but the cross?

Application

Pick a few questions to discuss.

1. Have you ever endured scorn for the sake of the cross? In what scenarios, arenas, or relationships might you be subject to such shame?
2. Survey those around the cross (Simon, the soldiers, the crowd, the priests and scribes, and the thieves). Which best represents you before you came to trust Christ?
3. When were your eyes first opened to see Jesus as the Son of God? What did God use to help you see Jesus as Savior?
4. What song(s) about the cross awakens your mind and heart with the truths and wonders of the cross? Are there any lines in particular that minister to you?
5. Has there been particular times that the cross has been particularly dear to you? Explain.

Prayer

Write out a short prayer in response to Mark 15:21-39.