

## The Crucible Final Scene

I would like to begin this essay with a fair warning that this literary piece in itself is one giant spoiler. I will be evaluating a film called *The Crucible*. More specifically, I will be evaluating the end. I found the ending scene to be very eloquent and it summarizes the morals behind the story perfectly.

*The Crucible* is about the Salem Witch Trials. The trials were essentially a compilation of ignorance and false accusations based off the Puritan's fear of the devil. Accusations resulted in confessions or and inevitable death sentence. Granted, this lead to many false confessions to witchcraft to save individual lives.

The final scene begins as a three shot; three innocent people all standing awaiting their death after refusing to confess to witchcraft. All of them are sending a message to the town that they will not be damned to lie. The camera dollies into a medium shot on each character as they recite a prayer in unison. At the very end there is a close-up of John Proctor. A man wraps a noose around his neck, and he is pushed out of the frame to his death. Next, you see the rope swinging and then the credits begin rolling. The way this scene was shot created a gob of suspense and ends it with a powerful statement as you mourn the death of the dignified citizens.

The prayer recited by the three accused is commonly known as "The Lord's Prayer". Not only does it summarize the bravery and indestructible morals displayed by the characters, it is also said to summarize the Gospel. It's essentially saying we shall forgive our enemies as well as ourselves for god will give us the means to live or save us from evil.

I feel this scene related to me on a personal level. The emotions throughout the movie can't compare to the emotion I felt when John Proctor died. I can compare his will to times in which I have stood up for myself despite how it was disapproved or how many contrary opinions harmed me.

Overall, I loved this movie. Arthur Miller's writing was spectacular and I definitely will be further exploring his work.