



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Mark Sermon Series

Supports Session 12: Sacrificed

Sermon Title: "The Price" (Mark 15:22-39)

Connection to Session 12

Jesus's last week on earth is known as the Passion Week. The week began with Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem and culminated with His resurrection. He was betrayed, arrested, and falsely accused. After a brutal scourging, He died on the cross. How we each respond to Jesus's death and resurrection is crucial.

Introduction/Opening

When we embrace the magnitude of Jesus's death, we will effectively share our witness with a world in desperate need of the gospel.

Outline

1. The Scene (vv. 22-27)

- a. Roman soldiers led Jesus through Jerusalem to Golgotha, also known as the Place of the Skull.
- b. He had been sentenced as the King of the Jews, so this charge was written on a placard and placed above His head. While Jesus was charged with claiming to be a King, the placard indeed proclaimed the truth.
- c. Jesus was killed at nine in the morning. Two criminals were also killed that day, with one on His right and one on His left.

2. The Crucifixion (vv. 29-32)

- a. Jesus endured mocking insults and shouts from people in the crowd. Using His own words against Him, they yelled "Ha! The one who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself by coming down from the cross!" (vv. 29-30).

- b. Chief priests and scribes also jeered at Jesus, noting that He could save others but not Himself.
- c. In truth, Jesus was yielding to the Father's plan. He willingly stayed on the cross to be the sacrifice for our sin, paying the price for our sin debt.
- d. Even the two men being crucified with Him taunted Him. He literally was exposed to mocking from all sides.
- e. While Jesus suffered on the cross, many questioned His identity. If He was who He claimed to be, He could end His own suffering. It would be the most logical step. However, not ending His own suffering only highlights Jesus's identity as the Son of God. Only a perfect sacrifice would suffice, and only the Son of God was perfect.

3. The Recognition (vv. 33-39)

- a. At noon, darkness came over the whole land and lasted until three in the afternoon. This was a visible demonstration of God's supernatural power. At that point, Jesus cried out "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" (v. 34).
- b. Some in the crowd thought Jesus was calling for Elijah for assistance. Others fixed a sponge with sour wine for Jesus; this action fulfilled Psalm 69:21.
- c. When Jesus let out a final cry and breathed His last breath, the curtain in the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.
- d. At this point, the centurion declared the truth, "Truly this man was the Son of God!" (v. 39).
- e. Jesus's death only confirmed His identity as the Son of God, fully God and fully human.

Conclusion

Jesus is the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies of a coming Messiah. Salvation is found in Him alone. As we accept the magnificence of this gospel message, we will be filled with an awe-inspired faith that we willingly share with a broken world.

Ken and Welda Cox live in New Boston, Texas. In 2012 Ken retired from First Baptist Church after 20 years of service. Ken has been active in prison ministry since 1995 and presently serves as interim pastor of Mount Moriah Baptist Church, Omaha, Texas. Ken and Welda have six children and nine grandchildren.

All Scripture quotations are taken from the Christian Standard Bible, Copyright 2020 by Holman Bible Publishers.