

WERE YOU THERE WHEN THEY CRUCIFIED MY LORD?

1. Text: Matthew 27:33-38
2. The title of this lesson comes from a title of an old song. Were you there? Actually all of us representatively were there at the cross.
3. Let's see those faces around the cross. Which one represents us?

I. **The Callous**

1. Callous: emotionally hardened, unfeeling, indifferent.
2. This describes the soldiers whose job was to physically crucify Jesus. They divided up and gambled for His clothes (Matthew 27:35; John 19:23-24).
3. But change came within this group. Matthew 27:36 "They sat and watched Him." See 27:54 They saw what happened; The centurion said, "Truly this was the Son of God."
4. People can change.

II. **The Compelled**

1. Simon of Cyrene was forced to carry the Lord's cross (Matthew 27:32).
2. Imagine the shame and disgrace Simon felt.
3. Something happened in that compulsion. Mark 15:21 explains Simon was the father of Rufus and Alexander (probably known to the Roman Christians Mark was writing to).
4. The heart can be changed even in that which is first forced.

III. **The Curious**

1. Luke 23:35 "The people stood beholding." Why there? Probably this group there because interest aroused by earlier events.
2. They later are touched by what happened. Luke 23:48 "All the multitude that came to the sight when they beheld the things done returned smiting their breasts." This was a symbol of deep anguish (from show to woe).
3. This change prepares the soil from Acts 2.

IV. **The Contemptuous**

1. Matthew 27:41 has the chief priests, scribes, and elders mocking, scorning, scoffing at Christ. Their open disrespect showed how they despised Him.
2. This group did not change.

V. **The Condemned**

1. Matthew 27:38,44 Two robbers were crucified with Him and early they joined in the reproach.
2. Luke 23:39-43 But one changes: he defends the Lord, asks to be remembered, and receives the promise of Paradise.
3. Again change was rewarded even in an awkward moment.

VI. **The Committed**

1. Around the cross stood at least one committed male disciple (John 19:26), but "many women were there which had followed Jesus from Galilee ministering to Him." (Matthew 27:55) A few then are mentioned.
2. These wonderful servant women started loyal, stayed loyal, and would loyally serve the resurrected Lord.
3. They did not need to change.

Conclusion:

A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings
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