

7/20/25

Love From The Cross
Jn. 19:25-27

Have you ever thought of how strange the words of Jesus are from the cross?

The words of our Lord and Savior Jesus are not the normal words of a dying man, particular from a cross.

Rather than crying out for vengeance, cursing his enemies who had condemned Him or seeing Himself as one in need of being rescued, He saw man as the one who was and is in need of help from God.

- I. Jesus in His first saying from the cross prayed for the forgiveness of His enemies because they did not know what they were doing. Lk. 23:34
- II. Jesus in His second saying from the cross prayed to assure the sinner of being in Paradise that very day, due to his repentance and forgiveness. Lk. 23:43

And now in His third saying Jesus regards the saint as He entrusts His Mother Mary to the care of John the apostle. Jn. 19:25-27

John records three of the seven saying from the cross, the third, fifth and sixth. Jn. 19:25-27, 28, 30

For our study we want to look at the third saying, which is marked by three things:

- I. The personal witness of love for Jesus by four women and one man. vs. 25-26a-b
- II. The proclamation of love by Jesus to His mother Mary. vs. 26c-e
- III. The proclamation of faithful love by Jesus to John. vs. 27

I. The personal witness of love for Jesus by four women and one man. vs. 25-26a-b

- A. There is Mary the mother of our Lord. vs. 25a
* “Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother.”
 - 1. She was that humble young woman who said to God, “Behold the maid servant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.” Lk. 1:38b-c
 - 2. She was the one who knowing that stoning was the penalty of the law for one found pregnant during the engagement but submitted to God’s will and trusted Him for the mockery and sneeing, the rest of her life. Matt. 1:18-19
 - 3. She was the one who trusted God to speak to Joseph’s heart. Matt. 1:20
 - 4. She was a woman who did not compromise with the will of God!

B. There is the Lord’s mother’s sister. vs. 25b

* “and His mother’s sister”.

1. She was the mother of James and John, the sons of Zebedee, the sons of thunder. Matt. 27:56
2. She is called Solome by Mark. Mk. 15:40
3. She is the one who was rebuked by our Lord when she petitioned the right hand and the left hand for her sons. Matt. 20:20-22
4. She must have been so thankful that Jesus had denied her selfish request, otherwise her two sons would of been crucified next to Him, one on the right and the other on the left!

C. There was Mary the wife of Clopas. vs. 25c
 * “Mary the wife of Clopas”

1. Nothing is known of her except that her husband was one of the two on the road to Emmaus when the Lord appeared to them. Lk. 24:18
2. She was a believer who loved her Lord.
3. She was a sympathetic and compassionate friend to comfort the Lord's mother in Her time of suffering!
 * Merely being present, not always having to say anything!

D. There was Mary Magdalene. vs. 25d
 * “and Mary Magdalene.”

1. She had been delivered of seven demons by the Lord and received a brand new life with purpose and meaning. Lk. 8:2
 * She is not to be confused with the prostitute who came to Jesus at the house of Simon. Lk. 7:36-50
2. She was one of the women from Galilee who provided for the Lord's ministry financially as did Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod's steward, and Susanna and many others also from Jerusalem. Lk. 8:2-3; Mk. 15:41
3. She is the first and only one mentioned by John as coming to the sepulcher early in the morning, while it was still dark, though the othee synoptic gospels mention the other women that brought spices and ointment to anoint the body of Jesus. Jn. 20:1; Matt. 27:61; 28:1; Mk. 16:1, Lk. 23:55-24:1
4. She was a grateful woman who had been delivered from the power of Satan and experienced the power of His loving touch resulting in peace!

E. There is John. vs. 26a-b

- * “When Jesus say His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by”.
1. He was one of the twelve disciples and apostles.

2. He is the one who leaned on the breast of Jesus at the Passover meal. Jn. 13:23, 25; 21:20
3. He is the one whom the Lord loved, a unique way John identifies himself in his gospel. Jn. 13:23; 19:26; 21:20
4. He is the one who Peter and others began to spread rumors that he would not die till the Lord returned. Jn. 21:22-23
5. He is the author of this gospel, three epistles, First, Second and Third John, and the one who received the Revelation on the Island of Patmos after attempting to be boiled in oil, then recorded it in writing. Rev. 1:9

F. There presence was in sharp contrast to the soldiers at the cross.

1. The soldiers
 - a. The soldiers were there by duty.
 - b. The soldiers were only interest in gambling for the Lord's possessions.
 - c. The soldiers were only there to witness the death of a condemned man.
 - d. The centurion hearing Jesus cry out from the cross and breathed His last, confessed, "Truly this Man was the son of God!" Mk. 15:39
2. The women and John.
 - a. The woman and John were there out of love.

- b. The woman and John were there only interested in the person of Christ.
- c. The women and John were there to witnesses an innocent man condemned to death.
 - * They would be identified with the criminal being executed!

The personal witness of love for Jesus by four women and one man!

II. The proclamation of love by Jesus to His mother Mary.

* "Woman, behold your son!" vs. 26c-e

- A. The title of woman is not one of disrespect but just the opposite showing respect and honor. vs. 26c-d
 - * "He said to His mother, "Woman".
1. Jesus had used it as He addressed her at the wedding feast at Cana of Galilee. Jn. 2:4
 - a. Remember when they ran out of wine His mother said to Jesus, "They have no wine". vs. 4
 - b. Jesus responded, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me, My hour is not yet come." vs. 5
2. Jesus used it of the woman of Samaria at the well. Jn. 2:21
 - * "Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither

on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem,
worship the Father.”

3. Jesus use it for the woman caught in the very act of adultery. Jn. 8:10
* “When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, “Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?”
 4. Jesus was honoring Mary for her obedience to God’s plan and the love poured out on Him for 33 years.
- B.** The title “woman” signified the breaking of the earthly relationship as mother and son and the establishing of the heavenly relationship as “Lord.” vs. 26d
1. Mary is never refereed to by Jesus as mother in any of the gospels, only the writers refer to her as such.
 - a. The Catholic Church has corrupted the person and place of Mary, declaring her to be a perpetual virgin, when in fact she had other children. Matt. 13:55-57; Jn. 7:3-5
 - b. The Cathoilic Church has made Mary virtully a co-redemptress, the highest medium to pray to.
 2. Mary was called “blessed among women” by Elizabeth **not above** women. Lk. 1:42
 - a. The word “blessed” means well spoken of, not sinless.

- b. The word does not make her a co-redemptress as the Catholic Church has made her.
 3. Mary acknowledged her own need of a Savior in her song known as the magnificent. Lk. 1:46-47
* “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior”.
 4. Mary is mentioned only one more time in the Scriptures, at the upper room gathering. Acts 1:14
 - a. The 120 continues in one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.”
 - b. No one was praying to Mary, Mary was praying to Jesus and she also spoke in tongues!
- C.** The relationship of Mary was to be transferred to the apostle John. vs. 26e
* “behold your son!”
1. Jesus was the oldest and therefore responsible for the home, since it is apparent that Joseph was dead at this point.
 2. Jesus' brothers were not believers and therefore would not care for her as the believers. Jn. 7:5
 3. Jesus was John's cousin therefore Mary was his aunt and he was her nephew. Lk. 1:36

4. Jesus knew that Mary was experiencing the suffering prophesied by Simeon. Lk. 2:34-35
 * Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, “Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against ”(yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”
5. She must of been around 46 to 48 years of age if she was 16 to 18 at the birth of Jesus.
 - a. I can think of no greater heart brake than to see the death of a son or daughter before your own.
 - b. I also am aware that she knew all along who Jesus was, yet she bore Him, carressed Him and nurtured Him!

The proclamation of love by Jesus to His mother Mary!

III. The proclamation of faithful love by Jesus to John.

- A. The responsibility of caring for Mary was not to just anyone, but to the disciple John. vs. 27a
 * “Then He said to the disiple.”
 1. A disciple means one who is a student or pupil.

2. A disciple is one who emulated and imitates his Master or teacher.
 3. A disciple out of many who was chosen to be one of the twelve apostle, one sent out to share the Gospel of good news.
 4. A disciple who would live longer than the other eleven.
 5. A disciple whom the Lord loved and allowed it to be recorded often in the gospel. Jn. 13:23, 35; 20:2; 21:7, 20
 6. A disciple who had forsaken the Lord, like the other ten when Jesus was arrested at Gethsemane, but repented. Matt. 26:31
 7. A disciple, the only man who was present at the cross.
 8. A disciple who would believe the report of Mary Magdelene regarding the resurrection and run to the sepulcher and see it empty. Jn. 20:1-2
 9. A disciple who would be the first to recognize the Lord’s voice as they were fishing at Galilee. Jn. 21:4-7
- B. The responsibility of caring for Mary was to be as a son. vs. 27b**
 * “Behold your mother!”
1. One who would honor and respect her.
 2. One who would protect her.
 3. One who would provide provisions for her.
 4. One who would comfort her in her difficult times as the present.

C. The responsibility was accepted from that moment on. vs. 27c

* “And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.”

1. The disciple John took her to his house from that hour.
2. The passage in Mark has been interpreted as if these witnesses were looking from afar off and then moved closer to the cross, but a close reading will reveal that in fact they were at the cross receiving this third saying and then moved away to view the death from afar off. Mk. 15:33-40

a. Mark tells us that it was the sixth hour, twelve o’clock. vs. 33

* The first three saying took place from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M., under the wrath of man!

b. Mark records the fourth saying, which took place from 12:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. under the wrath of God. vs. 34.

c. Mark tells us that Jesus breathed His last. vs. 37

d Mark records the words of the centurion after Jesus died, “Truly this was the Son on God”. vs. 39

e. Mark reveals that John took Mary that very hour away from the cross as a faithful son, not allowing her to see the suffering and agony of Jesus, the

remaining mockery and His final death.
vs. 40

The proclamation of faithful love by Jesus to John!

Illustration

Into the life of Charles Lamb there came a deep attachment to a woman, but he willingly forsook marriage when he saw the need of his own family. Brother, son, and husband, he became the guardian angel of that home, and especially of his sister Mary, who was at times mentally deranged.

After she had stabbed her mother to death in one of her mad moments, Charles Lamb stripped himself for sister Mary as Jonathan stripped himself for David; and for thirty-eight years he watched over her with a tender solicitude. A friend tells how he would sometimes see the brother and sister walking hand in hand across the field to the old asylum, both their faces bathed in tears. A sad story, and yet a grand story. Charles Lamb had his place in his home, and it was never left empty. (C. E. Macartney)

Conclusion

The third saying of Jesus is marked by these three things:

- I. The personal witness of the four women and John was a witness of their love!
 - a. What is the witness of my love for Jesus in this life?

- b. Is my witness faithful as theirs when everyone is against Jesus?
- II. The proclamation by Jesus to His mother Mary: "Behold your son", was an expression of the love of Jesus!
 - a. Jesus brings every believer to a new family, the family of God.
 - b. Jesus knows that those in the family of God will care for you more and better than blood relatives at times.
- III. The proclamation of faithful love by Jesus to John: "Behold your mother!", was an acknowledgment of John's faithful love!
 - a. Jesus will have many of us to care for those who will have nobody at times.
 - b. Jesus will have us love them as our own, through His love.

"Those We Love" #3215

They say the world is round--and yet
 I often think it's square,
 So many little hurts we get
 From corners, here and there.
 But there's one truth in life I've found
 While journeying East and west:
 The only folks we really wound
 Are those we love the best.
 We flatter those we scarcely know;
 We please the fleeting guest,
 And deal full many a thoughtless blows
 To those we love the best.