

Have You Ever Had A Bad Day?

Introduction: When most people approach their bad days, they could often agree with Humphrey Bogart when he said, “Things are never so bad they can’t be made worse.” You couldn’t have blamed Jesus Christ for thinking that on the way to the Cross just over 2,000 years ago. He had to go through 6 mock trials to get to the decision that had been made before the trials had even begun. They said, “Guilty! He deserves death! Crucify Him!” They tried to off-load his sentence to the Roman Procurator, Pontius Pilate, who wanted nothing to do with it. He tried to off-load the sentence to Herod, who also wanted nothing to do with this political hot-potato. It came back to Pilate, and he had no recourse but to follow through with the sentence: death by crucifixion, for someone who was completely innocent.

But there was more going on than just an every day execution. The sins that Pilate committed, as well as Herod’s, and even the religious Sanhedrin were on the line that day. In fact, so were yours, and mine. The entire world could stand to benefit from a death that day. Most of mankind, from history past to the present, would never realize what Jesus did. But it was truly history (His-story) in the making.

Scripture: Luke 23:26-43

- I. In the Darkest Moment of History, We Found the Best in Him**
 - a. God decides to engage us on OUR level, and OUR playing field.
 - b. He steps into history, a Holy God, wrapped up in human skin.
 - c. And He lives a perfect, human life.
 - d. But He comes with an agenda, to offer us a life we never deserved.

- II. Evil was a Word He Grappled With, Even When We Wouldn’t**
 - a. Jesus brings sin to the surface: If this is what you do to me now, can you imagine what’s really going on inside of you?
 - b. Jesus, when nailed to the Cross was still able to deal with sin on the left, and the right of where He was crucified.
 - c. Jesus showed his secret agenda... when they crushed him, he bled love. When he bled love, he showed an outpouring of forgiveness.
 - d. In our worst moments, he still longed for us to know his compassion, mercy, love, and forgiveness.

- III. Jesus was Crucified between the Middle of Sin and Cynicism**
 - a. Sin isn’t really the dividing line we can’t get over. It’s cynicism that provides an insurmountable obstacle. There will always be someone who just “doesn’t get it.”
 - b. They’re still blaming other people, and even God himself, but can’t understand that they are responsible for their own lives.
 - c. Could it be that it’s the wrong time to be an atheist, especially when you’re hanging on a cross, right next to God?
 - d. Despite that, God was willing to pay a price for all mankind to approach Him, off-load their sins, and trust in the price God was willing to pay to redeem their very souls.

- IV. The Goal, the Promise, and the Answer was given in Isaiah 53:1-5**
 - a. He would live among us, where we are, so one day we could be where He is.
 - b. He asked one question: Why don’t you let me come inside of you, so I can bring light where there has only been darkness.
 - c. If you will, your universe will be overtaken by LOVE!