

Walking through the Shadow of the Cross

Luke 23:32-46 (NIV) Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. 33 When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals — one on his right, the other on his left. 34 Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. 35 The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One." 36 The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar 37 and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." 38 There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. 39 One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!" 40 But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? 41 We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." 42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." 43 Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise." 44 It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, 45 for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

The Truth about My Shadows

Shadows loom larger than **what the circumstances really are.**

There is always **light behind our shadows.**

Ps. 91:1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

I can **walk right through them. They can't stop me.**

Ps. 23:4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for you are with me."

My Walk Through the Shadows of the Cross

I can walk through my **failures to find forgiveness.**

v. 34 Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

I can walk through my **worst days to find my best days.**

v. 42-43 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."

I can walk through **unfair circumstances to find God's secure hands.**

v.46 Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

Additional Readings about the Suffering Savior

Monday Matthew 26-27

Tuesday John 18-19

Wednesday Isaiah 52

Thursday Isaiah 53

Friday Psalm 22