

## JESUS - WHO WOULD NOT SAVE HIMSELF

Scripture Reading: Matthew 27:38-44

### Introduction:

1. Jesus mocked while on the cross -Mt 27:38-44
  - a. He saved others, but not Himself
  - b. He was ridiculed for this
2. We see in Jesus a Savior Who did not have to die, but laid down His life for us.

**-- In this lesson we will examine 2 key elements in the sacrifice Christ made on the cross for our sins --**

### I. NO ONE COULD TAKE HIS LIFE - Jn 10:17, 18

- A. SOME HAD TRIED...
  1. Herod - Mt 2:16
    - a. Had all the male babies 2yrs and younger killed.
    - b. He was unsuccessful at killing Christ before the time
  2. Citizens of Nazareth -Lk 4:28-30
    - a. They did not accept His teaching
    - b. They attempted to push Him off a cliff
    - c. Jesus just walked through their midst
- B. WHEN DELIVERED OVER TO ROMAN AUTHORITY
  1. In the Garden - Mt 26:52-54
    - a. Peter cuts off Malchus ear
    - b. Jesus could call more than 12 legions of angels
      - 1) One angel destroyed 185,000 -2Ki 19:35
      - 2) Legion consisted of 6,000 foot men & 600 horsemen in the days of Christ. 12 legions equals 79,200.
  2. Before Pilate -Jn 19:10, 11
    - a. Pilate thought he was in charge
    - b. Jesus adjusted his thinking.
- C. ALL WAS DONE TO FULFILL PROPHECY
  1. To Nicodemus -Jn 3:14-17
  2. In the Garden - Mt 26:55, 56
  3. Prophecy by Isaiah - 50:6, 53:2-11
  4. Mentioned after the fact by Peter -Ac 2:22, 23

### II. HE LAID IT DOWN WILLINGLY - Jn 15:13

- A. TO SET MAN FREE FROM THE LAW
  1. He fulfilled the law -Mt 5:17, 18
  2. He gave us something greater
    - a. Old law - physical worship
    - b. New law - spiritual worship
  3. No one could keep the law perfectly
    - a. All sin is lawlessness - 1Jn 3:4
    - b. Law brings a curse, but Jesus redeems us - Ga 3:10-14
- B. TO SET MAN FREE FROM SIN
  1. One sin makes one a slave unto it -Jn 8:34; Ro 6:16
    - a. Separates man from God -Is 59:2
    - b. Leads to death - Ro 6:23; Ja 1:15
  2. Christ came into the world to save sinners -1Ti 1:15
    - a. Blood of Jesus can cleanse any sin
    - b. God waits for man to repent -Lk 15:20; 2Pe 3:9
  3. Grace abounds more than sin - Ro 5:20
    - a. This is not a license to sin -Ro 6:1, 2
    - b. We are not to let sin reign in our bodies -Ro 6:12

### Conclusion:

1. Our greatest blessing in life is Jesus...
  - a. His great love for us
  - b. His great sacrifice made on our behalf
2. The ultimate reason Jesus died upon the cross...  
- "...that where I am, there you may be also." -Jn 14:3