LOOKING AT THE CROSS

Scripture Reading: Mark 15:28-32

Introduction:
1. When Jesus was nailed to the cross, different people saw different aspects:
   - A man put to death among the criminals; as a criminal.
   - Scribes and priest: the death of their rival.
   - Disciples: death of their anticipated Messiah.
2. What do we see when we look at the cross of Jesus?
3. When we look at the cross, there are some undeniable lessons we learn.

I. SIN HAS A PRICE - Rom 6:23a
   A. SOME IGNORE THE PRICE OF SIN
      1. Many in our culture do not want to hear about sin.
      2. They want to believe that everything is permissible before God.
         a. Divorce, Adultery, Homosexuality, Abortion, etc.
         b. They can find teachers that appeal to their thinking -2Ti 4:3, 4
   B. THE PRICE OF SIN IS DEATH
      1. Separates one from God -Is 59:1, 2
      2. When man sins, someone or something has to die.
         a. Nadab and Abihu -Le 10:1-3
         b. Uzzah -1Ch 13
         c. Achan -Jo 7
      3. Jesus took on the consequence for sin upon the cross -1Pe 2:24
      4. Jesus paid the price of sin; He is the propitiation for our sins -1Jn 2:2

II. SIN HAS A DESTINY
   A. HELL IS A REAL PLACE
      1. Some try and ignore this fact. They live as though there is no hell.
      2. The bible confirms hell is real
         a. Lake of fire -Mt 18:9; Re 20:14, 15
         b. It is eternal -Mt 25:46; Re 14:11; Mk 9:47, 48; Mt 10:28
      3. Hell is for the wicked -Re 21:8; 1Co 6:9, 10; Ga 5:19-21
      4. Hell is for those who do not obey the gospel -2Th 1:8, 9
   B. JESUS CAME TO SAVE US FROM HELL
      1. Jesus draws the proverbial line in the sand -Jn 3:14-21
      2. The parable of the wedding feast -Mt 22:1-14
      3. The words of Paul -Ro 5:8, 9
III. **SIN HAS A CURE**

A. **SUFFERING SAVIOR**
   1. The scourging of Jesus / crown of thorns - Jn 19:1-4
   2. The soldiers mock Jesus - Mk 15:16-20
   3. The pain of the cross

B. **THE BLOOD HE SHED**
   1. His blood washes us - Ac 22:16
   2. His blood Redeems us - Ep 1:7; Ac 20:28
   3. His blood sanctifies us - Heb 10:29
   4. His blood prepares us - Re 7:14-17

Conclusion:
1. When we look at the cross, we cannot help but see the punishment for sin.
2. When we look at the cross, we clearly see the love of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
3. It is then a question of response.
   - No one can be indifferent.
   - The cross is either cherished or forsaken
   - What then will our answer be?