

Seven Words from the Cross

Look up the passages listed below and write down the seven statements recorded to have come from the lips of Jesus while hanging on the cross. Then answer the two questions listed under each.

1. Luke 23:34-
 - a. How does passage aid in an understanding of Matthew 5:43-48 and 1 Peter 2:21-25?
 - b. How could this be applied in one's life today?

2. Luke 23:42-43-
 - a. A constant refrain throughout the various gospel accounts is the call to "repent" (Matthew 3:2; 4:17; Mark 1:15; 6:12; Luke 13:3, 5; 16:30; 17:3, 4). How does this passage illustrate the idea of repentance?
 - b. How does this story illustrate the idea of grace?

3. John 19:26-27-
 - a. How might this passage illustrate the meaning of Deuteronomy 5:16 (Ephesians 6:3-3)?
 - b. Mark 7:7-13 tells of a tradition of some of the Jews that was in opposition to Deuteronomy 5:16. Can you think of an example of how one could be guilty of acting in a way similar to that mentioned here?

4. Matthew 27:45-46,
 - a. What do you think it means for Jesus to say, "My God, why have you forsaken me?"
 - b. Look at 2 Corinthians 5:21. Some have suggested that this may explain part of what is meant by Jesus' cry... what do you think? (See also Romans 8:32; Galatians 3:13)

5. John 19:28-
 - a. Look at 1 John 4:2, 3 and then look at these words of Jesus... How would they address the issue with which John concerns himself at this time?
 - b. Consider the request made in Luke 16:24 and compare it to the one made here by Jesus. What does this tell you about his torment?

6. John 19:30-
 - a. What was finished?
 - b. In what sense could this be applied to one's life today?

7. Luke 23:46-
 - a. How are these words similar to those of Stephen in Acts 7? Do you think it possible Stephen knew of them?
 - b. In what sense would this passage have brought hope to Christians suffering persecution?