

Sermon: Three Crosses

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Bible Verses: Luke 23: 32-43

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"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.""

(Luke 23:32-43 NIV)

THREE CROSSES - THREE ATTITUDES

1. The thief dying _____ sin

(Gen. 3:1) (Matt. 4:1-6) (Mat 27:39, 42-43) (Luke 23:39) (Eph. 4:18) (Heb. 4:7)

2. The thief dying _____ sin

(Luke 23:40-42) (Romans 6:2)

"If you want to clear the stream, get the hog out of the spring."

African-American Proverb

3. The Savior dying _____ sin.

(Luke 23:43) (Romans 5:6,8) (1 Peter 3:18) (2 Corinthians 5:15)

***The cross on the hill divides all humanity into one of two categories --
those who reject Christ and die in sin, and those who receive Christ and die to sin.***