



“Jesus Makes Atonement”

Luke 23:39-46

March 21, 2021

Questions for Application and Fellowship

MY STORY

1. In what ways have you experienced the joy of reconciliation? That is, when have you seen relationships restored to peace and harmony after conflict?

QUICK REVIEW

The crucifixion of Jesus has come. Jesus is now at the place called The Skull where He is nailed to the cross. He is subjected to the torturous, humiliating form of capital punishment called crucifixion. Further, the Lord is laying on Him the iniquities of us all. At this awesome moment, Jesus is making atonement for His people. This involves propitiation (the satisfaction of the wrath of God) and reconciliation (the restoration of intimacy with God).

Four miracles of the atonement:

1. The _____ of a _____ (23:39-43)
2. The _____ of the _____ (23:44-45)
3. The _____ of the _____ (23:45)
4. The _____ of His _____ (23:46)

Was any point in this weekend’s message particularly challenging, encouraging or helpful for you?

Why did God want you to hear this message now

DIGGING DEEPER

1. We think of the story of the thief on the cross as a “deathbed conversion,” as it is. It’s an example of contrition and repentance at the very end of life. Reflecting on his words and actions carefully, what evidence of a changed heart do you see in this thief?
2. What does the Lord’s promise to the thief on the cross tell us about the condition of the believers upon physical death? What happens when we die? See also II Corinthians 5:6-10, Philippians 1:18-26, and Hebrews 12:22-24. In view of these things, how should we understand the imagery of “falling asleep” in the Lord at death (I Thessalonians 4:13-18)?
3. The imagery of the torn temple curtain is expanded on in Hebrews 10:19-25. What encouragement is given to each Christian and each church in view of this awesome reality? How are you/we living this instruction out?
4. How were the words of Jesus in Luke 23:34, 46 echoed by Stephen in Acts 7:59-60? How do these things lead you and encourage you in view of your pending physical death?
5. During the great darkness of Good Friday, we are told in Matthew 27:45-46 that Jesus cried out with the words of Psalm 22:1. Reading this Psalm, how does it deepen our awareness of the Lord’s agony and signal us to the victory that to come?