

# **The Seven Last Sayings of Jesus on the Cross**

**North River Church of Christ**

**9 April 2017**

**D. A. Jacoby**

## **JESUS SERMON SERIES**

- |         |                                   |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| JAN. 29 | Legend, Liar, Lunatic, Lord       |
| FEB. 5  | Lord, Savior, Son of Man          |
| FEB. 12 | Jesus in the Old Testament        |
| FEB. 19 | Jesus & the Gospel                |
| FEB. 26 | Jesus and his Small Groups        |
| MAR. 5  | The Training of the 12            |
| MAR. 19 | Misquoted Jesus                   |
| MAR. 26 | Jesus on Heaven, Hell & Salvation |
| APR. 2  | The Cost of Following Jesus       |

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| APR. 2        | The Cost of Following Jesus       |
| <b>APR. 9</b> | <b>Jesus' Triumphal Entry</b>     |



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- MAR. 26 Jesus on Heaven, Hell & Salvation
- APR. 2 The Cost of Following Jesus
- APR. 9 PALM SUNDAY**

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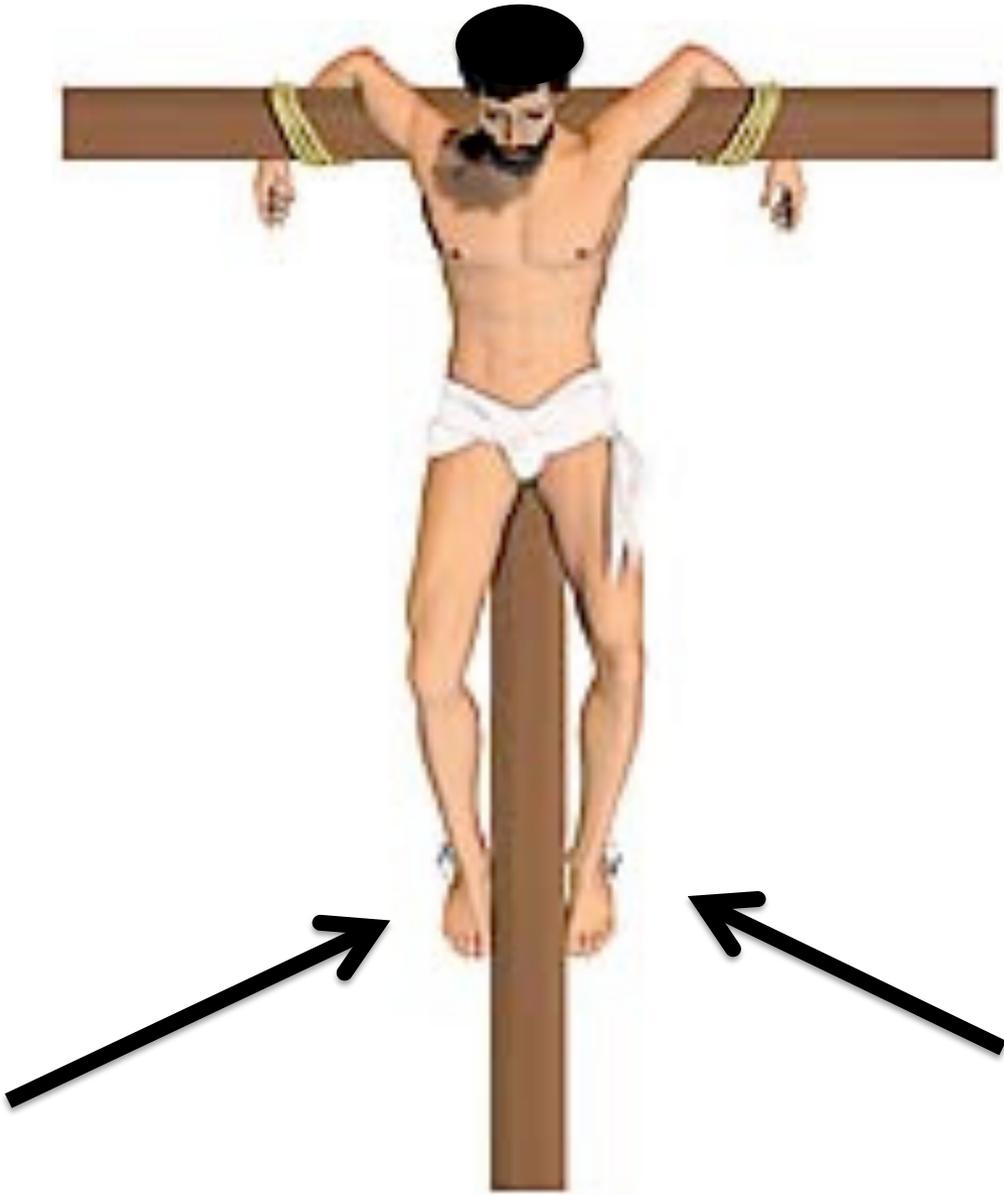
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| <b>APR. 9</b> | <b>Jesus' Sayings from the Cross</b> |
| APR. 16       | The Power of God: The Resurrection   |
| APR. 23       | The Ascension                        |

## Jesus' 7 Last Sayings on the Cross

1. Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do (Luke 23:34).
2. Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise (Luke 23:43).
3. Woman, behold your son: behold your mother (John 19:26-27).
4. *Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?* (Matt 27:46, Mark 15:34)
5. I thirst (John 19:28).
6. It is finished (John 19:30).
7. Father, into your hands I commit my spirit (Luke 23:46).

# Jesus' 7 Last Sayings on the Cross

1. They are a lot shorter than his words *before* the Cross—naturally.





**Α Β Γ Δ Ε Ζ Η Θ**

Alpha Beta Gamma Delta Epsilon Zeta Eta Theta

**Ι Κ Λ Μ Ν Ξ Ο Π**

Iota Kappa Lambda Mu Nu Xi Omicron Pi

**Ρ Σ Τ Υ Φ Χ Ψ Ω**

Rho Sigma Tau Upsilon Phi Chi Psi Omega



***Ep. Barn.*, 9:7; 12:2**

**Lucian, *Tr. Ct. Vow.*, 12.4-13**

**Matt 27:37; Luke 23:38; John 19:19; [Mark 15:26]**

# Jesus' 7 Last Sayings *before* the Cross (Matt-Luke)

**Matt 26:34** This very night... you will deny me three times.

**Mark 14:36** Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.

**Mark 14:37** Simon, are you asleep?

**Mark 14:42** Rise, let us go; here comes my betrayer.

**Mark 14:48-49** Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me?... but let the Scriptures be fulfilled.

**Matt 26:64** ... From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.

**Luke 23:28** Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.

# Jesus' 7 Last Sayings on the Cross

1. They are a lot shorter than his words *before* the Cross—naturally.
2. They do not all appear in any single gospel account, but are scattered in the Passion Narratives of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.
3. We will look at them in their probable order.

## Jesus' 7 Last Sayings on the Cross

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# 1.

Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do (Luke 23:34).



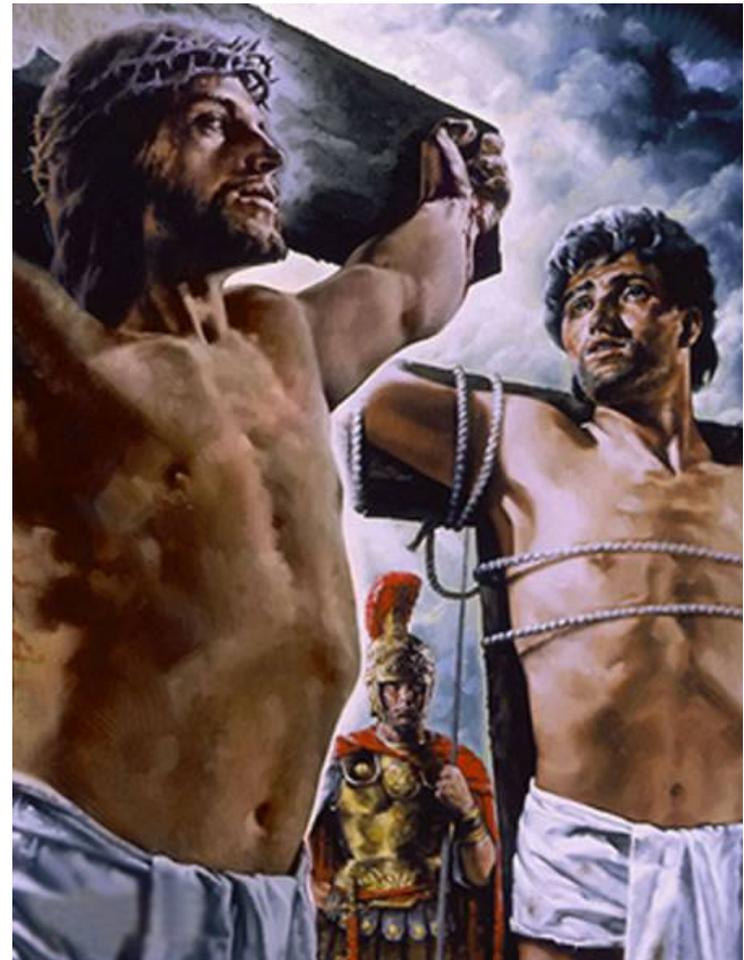
# 1.

Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do (Luke 23:34).

- We want people to suffer—to be taught a lesson. An insult, or unfair treatment, usually meets with an angry retort. Not in the case of the King of Kings.
- Reply to violence with love (Mt 5, Rm 12)
- Jesus didn't "unfriend" those who let him down. Note on [1 Sam 23:16!](#)

# 2.

Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise (Luke 23:43).



# 2.

Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise (Luke 23:43).

- Jesus' visit to the underworld.
- Sheol = Hades, location of Paradise
- John 3:13!
- The thief took responsibility.
- God gives a last-minute reprieve.
- Don't write people off.

# 3.

Woman, behold your son: behold your mother  
(John 19:26-27).



# 3.

Woman, behold your son: behold your mother (John 19:26-27).

- Who's standing around? Not the apostles – only the beloved disciple! And Jesus' aunt and Mary Magdalene.
- With the first three sayings, Jesus cares about others—despite his pain.
- Next time you're in physical or emotional or mental pain, think about others.

**4.**

*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?* (Matt 27:46, Mark 15:34).

# 4.

*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?* (Matt 27:46, Mark 15:34)

- Psalm 22—a prayer not of dereliction, but confidence (see 22:22).
- Perfect scripture for this situation, embracing pain and victory.
- *Eli* (my God) sounds like Elijah...
- Keep trusting God, even when he feels absent.



**5.**

I thirst (John 19:28).

# 5.

I thirst (John 19:28).

- Thirst—open about feelings.
- The one who provides living water to quench our deep thirst *himself* thirsts!
- Fulfillment: Psalm 69.

**6.**

It is finished (John 19:30).

# 6.

It is finished (John 19:30).

- It is finished—the work of salvation.
- We don't save ourselves; Jesus does.
- Notice the theme of *time* in John:  
2:4    4:21    4:23    7:6    7:8    7:30    8:20  
12:23    12:27    13:1    16:1    19:28    19:30
- Don't look for rescue outside of Christ!

**7.**

Father, into your hands I commit my spirit  
(Luke 23:46).

# 7.

Father, into your hands I commit my spirit  
(Luke 23:46).

- Stephen (Acts 7)—multiple parallels between his execution and Jesus's.
- Psalm 31—confidence in deliverance!
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> saying connected to Psalms.
- I studied Psalms to work through the pain, so that I could *thrive*.
- Trust *God*—not people—in our own pain, confusion, loneliness, disappointment, despair.

## Jesus's 7 Sayings *after* the Cross (selected)

**Luke 24:7** What were you talking about on the road?

**John 20:15** Woman, why are you weeping?

**John 20:27** Put your finger here, and see my hands...

**John 21:12** Come and have breakfast.

**John 21:15** Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?

**Matt 28:20** I am with you always, to the end of the age.

**Luke 24:49** Stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.

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7. Father, into your hands I commit my spirit (Luke 23:46).
- 8. Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews  
(the saying *above* the Cross)**

ישוע הנצרי ומלך היהודים

Ἰησοῦς ὁ Ναζωραῖος ὁ βασιλεὺς τῶν Ἰουδαίων

IESVS NAZARENVS REX IYDAEORVM

# CONCLUSION: WHEN WE'RE IN PAIN

- Don't give up on God. Pray.
- Don't push others away.
- Be open about how I'm feeling.
- Keep priorities straight (family, finances, friends).
- Don't blame or become bitter when others don't meet our needs. Get them met in God!
- Trust God—place our life in *his* hands.
- Get perspective and draw confidence from the scriptures, like the Psalms.
- Allow God to work in our lives—in *his* time.