

The Cross: The Hour Of Darkness
John 19:30

“When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.” **John 19:30**

1. Jesus Enemies Assessment Of His Death Is Correct.

“In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! He's the King of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him.” **Matthew 27:41-42**

Application: We never hear on 20/20 or CNN that the world’s problem is sin.

2. The Cross Reveals The Holiness of God And The Severity Of Sin.

“Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” **Lamentation 3:22-23**

“Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other.” **Psalm 85:10**

“Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God.” **Romans 11:22**

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.” **Romans 5:1-2**

“It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, for the sun stopped shining. About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani? (which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”). When some of those standing there heard this, they said, “He’s calling Elijah.” Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. The rest said, “Now leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to save him.” When he

had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. They came out of the tombs after Jesus’ resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people. When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, “Surely he was the Son of God!”

Matthew 27:46, 51-54, Luke 23:44-45, John 19:30

“We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.” **Isaiah 53:6**

“Behold the Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world.” **John 1:29**

“God himself, gave himself, to save us from himself.” **John Stott**

3. God’s Holiness Is Intertwined With God’s Infinite Love.

“What is your only comfort in life and in death? “That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.” **Heidelberg Catechism**

“For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit.” **1 Peter 3:18**

“How shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation?” **Hebrews 2:3**

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” **Romans 5:8**

“By a wonderful exchange our sins are not now ours, but Christ.” **Martin Luther**

Application