

Title: The Greatest Love
Subtitle: Love Demonstrated
Text: Luke 23:32-56
Date: April 10, 2022
Subject Matter: Grace. Mercy. Love.

1. Revel _____ (vv.32-43)

Luke 23

32 Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. 33 And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. 34 And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. 35 And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" 36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine 37 and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" 38 There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." 39 One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" 40 But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." 42 And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." 43 And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise." 44 It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, 45 while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last. 47 Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!" 48 And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. 49 And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things. 50 Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, 51 who had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God. 52 This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. 53 Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid. 54 It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. 55 The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. 56 Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

2. Reflect _____ (vv.44-49)

3. Respond _____ (vv.50-56)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Read **Romans 5:9**; **Ephesians 2:1-3** and **1 Thessalonians 1:9-10**. How might you recommend a Christian maintain a proper view of the seriousness of the plight from which we were saved?
2. Read **Ephesians 2:4-10**. What are some of the problems associated with losing sight of the amazing nature of God's grace toward the penitent?
3. Read **1 Thessalonians 1:8-10**. How is the gospel distorted and the response less-than-biblical when the profound and costly payment of the cross is not adequately presented and considered?
4. Read **Hebrews 6:17-20** and **10:19-23**. How does this "temple veil" imagery help you to press on to know God better and appreciate the work of Christ more fully?
5. Read **Ephesians 2:8-10**. What are the two distinct ways we are to understand the role of "good works" in this passage and why is this distinction so important? What is the problem when one or the other is misunderstood?