

John 19:28-30

“Three words that will change your life”

I. Intro.

II. Vs. 28-30 Words from the wood

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Devotion is a difficult thing to measure but one thing is for certain, it can't be measured by words alone but by action. Consider the following truths about His follower's devotion:

1. When Jesus began His ministry with works and words the multitudes flocked around to the degree that he was endanger of being trampled.
2. When He began to speak of the cost of following Him the numbers declined to hundreds.
3. When He invited those to share in ministry proclaiming the truth in towns it shrunk to 70 (Luke 10:1)
4. When He spoke of His death and the cost of following Him there were only 12.
5. In the Garden of agony only three came forward and Peter couldn't stay awake.
6. And finally at the foot of the cross there was only John left.

Verse 25 reveals that along with John there were four women who stood devotedly by Him.

Those four women looked up at the One they loved on that cross and watched Him die, they heard the insults being hurled at Him, they watched the blood drip from His battered body. Yet they stayed there at His feet no matter how hard it was. What caused them to remain when all but John had left? Because they loved Him!! There hope was not fixed upon His ideals, nor upon His promises. No, they simply followed Him even though they didn't fully understand His words or His works they were there because they loved Him. Jesus made seven statements while He was on the cross; they are known as “*the seven words from the cross.*”

- A. In the first three, He thought of others: those who crucified Him (Luke 23:34), the believing thief (Luke 23:39-43), and finally His mother (John 19:25-27).
- B. The central word had to do with His relationship to the Father (Matt. 27:45-49).
- C. The last three statements focused on Himself: His **body** (John 19:28-29), His **soul** (John 19:30; and see Isa. 53:10), and His **spirit** (Luke 23:46).

Vs. 28-30 Here we are given the final earthly words of the very one that John had said in the first chapter was the Word of God. Just prior to this Jesus had quoted Psalm 22:1

“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me, and from the words of My groaning?” He then glanced over to one of the thief’s who was crucified next to Him and assured him that *“today you will be with Me in Paradise”*. **And through all of this we need to remember that He said I thirst, all those words of Jesus were brought forth in the midst of the greatest of personal needs, His thirst.** His final words came as a lamb that had passed every inspection, **“It is finished”**! Every other religion adds something else after these words of Jesus. *“Oh it’s not finished, you must go out on a mission and give 10%”*. No, others say, *“You have to go door to door and hand out tracts then you will be able to inherit the world”*. Friends, nothing else remains to be done for our salvation it is finished all we do now is enjoy our relationship and bask in His abiding love.

In Luke 23:45-46 we are told that, *“the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, “Father, ‘into Your hands I commit My spirit.’ ” Having said this, He breathed His last.”* Matthew in 27:51-53 tells us that when *“the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.”* So we have the first rock concert and pardon the pun but it was live worship!! But what did all this mean? Well, in Rom. 8:22 we read that *“..the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.”* As the crowds worshipped Jesus as He entered Jerusalem the religious leaders rebuked Jesus commanding Him to tell them to stop to which He replied in Luke 19:40 *“I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out.”* Folks this was the true **Rolling Stones** rocking out declaring that the curse had been lifted! The earthquake had another effect as the stones that covered over the tombs

were opened. So what happened was that the bodies of the some of the believers were made visible! Why this sign? Well if you go to 1 Cor. 15:55-58 you read, *“O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”* I believe that God was showing that death could not hold the saints in the grave. It says that these same believers came out of the graves after Jesus resurrection and that they went into Jerusalem and appeared too many. The word *“appear”* means to ***“to exhibit (in person) or disclose (by words), declare (plainly), to inform.”*** Paul tells us in Eph 4:8-9 that when Jesus *“..ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men. (Now this, "He ascended"; what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth?”* And Peter tells us in 1 Peter 3:19 that Jesus *“preached to the spirits in prison,”* It is my opinion that it is these O.T. saints that Jesus went to share the liberty that they had looked forward too. They were out there sharing that only through Jesus could you be made perfect! There is not much given on this whole seen, but it is interesting to think that King David would come up to you and start talking to you proclaiming the victory won you in Jesus alone! And remember all of this took place on the first Resurrection Sunday! There was a man once who came up to an evangelist after a crusade when all the people had left and wanted to know what he could do to get saved even though he hadn't responded to the invitation. The Evangelist just simply replied, *“It's too late!”* The panicked fellow hadn't anticipated the reply and said, *“What do you mean it's too late, surely there must be something you can do?”* *“Nope nothing I can do either!”* Now beginning to weep the man again utter his request, *“Is there nothing I can do to be saved?”* At this the evangelist said, *“No there is nothing you can do to be saved because it has already been done all you can do is believe!!!”*