

# Let's Worship God

4th-9th February 2019  
Luke



# THE GOSPEL

## ACCORDING TO LUKE

### **Monday - Luke 22:63-71 - Bold Humility**

Our Lord Jesus Christ isn't just taken, unjustly, as a prisoner - He is insulted and humiliated. We can't even begin to imagine what this world would be like if God did not restrain men and women from being as sinful as they possibly could. These verses are just a glimpse of the evil that results when God's hand is removed. But because of Jesus' deep love towards sinners, He patiently and calmly endures this awful treatment. If He wants to, He can stop His enemies instantly, summon thousands of angels to His side, and wreak havoc on Satan. But His heart is set on the work He has come to earth to do. He has agreed to purchase our redemption by His life and death, and He will not flinch from paying the last penny of the price. Patience like Jesus' should teach Christians a big lesson. What do the occasional insults we have to hear matter compared to the insults heaped upon Christ? But when He is so greatly humiliated, He does not respond with insults or threats. His example we can all follow.

Jesus does prophesy to His insulting enemies of His coming glory. The day will come for each of them when they will see Him as King of heaven and earth. Far too often we tend to forget about this aspect of Christ when we talk about Him. We need to remind ourselves and others that Christ is King, ruling over all, and one day all people will have to face Him.

Some people say that Jesus never claims to be God, but here He makes it very clear to His enemies that He is the Son of God, the Messiah. If Jesus can be so bold about who He is and what He has come to do, in the face of those who will put Him to death, how can we as His followers keep it quiet. Let us take the opportunities that fall in front of us every day to clearly state who Jesus is and what He has done.

### **Questions**

1. Why does Jesus allow Himself to be insulted?
2. How can we be bolder about saying who Christ is?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray that the fear of what others will say and think will not keep us silent.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."  
Luke 23:43

**Praise:** Psalm 27 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.

# THE GOSPEL

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## **Tuesday - Luke 23:1-12 - Herod**

There is not a word of truth in the accusations that the Jews make against Jesus. They are trying to persuade Pilate that Jesus is leading a rebellion against Caesar, and they hope that this Roman governor will panic and get rid of Jesus for them. False witnesses and slander are two favourite weapons of Satan. He has been a liar from the beginning and is still the father of lies. If he can't stop God's work, he tries to destroy the character of God's servants and ruin their testimony. Christians should not be surprised when they face treatment like Christ's. The most blameless character will not keep us safe from lying tongues, and like Christ, we must bear this treatment patiently, believing that in the long run, truth will prevail.

The hearts of unbelievers are a mess of conflicting desires. Herod is a good example. Here is a man who loves the world, has murdered John the Baptist, and is living in adultery with his brother's wife. We'd think he'd have no desire to see Christ. But he has an uneasy conscience and a lot of curiosity. He has heard of Jesus' miracles and teaching, and he wants to see it for himself. There are many people whose guilty consciences and curiosity bring them to church, but sadly they never get any further. Their hearts are still tied to the world, and despite their on-again, off-again interest in spiritual things, they never turn to Christ for salvation.

We don't know why Herod and Pilate are enemies. Whatever the reason, it is put aside when a common object of fear and hatred is put in front of them. Whatever else they disagree about, Pilate and Herod can agree to despise and persecute Christ. Again, this applies to unbelievers today. Men of completely different opinions can unite in attacking the Gospel and those who bring the Gospel.

## **Questions**

1. What are the Jews trying to persuade Pilate of?
2. Why does Herod want to see Christ?

## **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for Christians being persecuted in other countries.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## **Memory Verse**

And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."  
Luke 23:43

**Praise: Psalm 28 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

## **Wednesday -Luke 23:13-25 - Our Perfect Substitute**

There is a necessity about Christ being publicly proclaimed innocent. Jesus is about to be offered as a sacrifice for our sins. It is right that those who examine Him should formally pronounce Him guiltless and blameless. The Lamb of God is to be a perfect Lamb, and God so orders the events of Jesus' trial that even when His enemies are judges, they can find no fault in Him. We should be thankful every day that our Substitute is perfect. Christ undertakes to stand in our place, to pay the debt we owe, and to keep the law we have broken. He does keep that law perfectly, satisfying all its demands, and accomplishing all its requirements. In Christ, all believers are counted perfect keepers of the law. God looks at us clothed in Christ's perfect righteousness. If Christ is not perfect, His work as our Substitute is useless. God will not see perfect righteousness when He looks at us, Christ will have died for His own sins, not ours, and we will never be saved.

Man hates God and never is this more obvious than when the Son of God comes to earth and lives among His chosen people who despise Him, reject Him, and kill Him. The fearful responsibility that the Jews take upon themselves in crucifying Christ is not forgotten by God. From the destruction of Jerusalem 70 years after Christ's death to their scattering throughout the world and their history of persecution, the Jews are a warning that it is a fearful thing to reject the Lord Jesus Christ, and that the nation that speaks against God must not be surprised if God deals with them accordingly. Yet even for the Jews there is mercy and forgiveness in Christ. If you are a Christian take comfort in the fact that you, like Barabbas, deserve death, judgement, and Hell, but a sinless Saviour has suffered in your place, and by believing in Him, the guilty may go free.

## **Questions**

1. Why was it necessary for Christ to live a perfect life?
2. How are we like Barabbas?

## **Prayer Points**

1. Give thanks that Christ is a perfect Substitute.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## **Memory Verse**

And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."  
Luke 23:43

**Praise: Psalm 29 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# THE GOSPEL

## ACCORDING TO LUKE

### Thursday - Luke 23:26-38 - Warning and Prayer

Jesus' words in these verses contain two things: a warning and a prayer. First, through His prophesy He warns the women of Jerusalem. In the Jewish mindset being childless is a huge disgrace. The idea of this being a blessing is a completely foreign concept. But 70 years after Christ's death Jerusalem comes under siege by the Romans bringing upon the residents of the city the most horrible sufferings from famine and disease. Women actually eat their own children because they are starving. We must always remember that there is justice with Christ as well as mercy. There are judgments being prepared for those who are unbelieving and have hardened their hearts. The same Saviour who holds out mercy and forgiveness now to sinners will one day come in judgment on those who have not believed. If we truly love our unbelieving friends we will tell them of Christ's forgiveness, but we will warn them of Christ's judgment.

But Christ's words here also contain a gracious prayer. When He is crucified, He pleads with God to forgive His murderers. His own agony does not make Him forget others. His prophetic role He has just shown in predicting the judgment of Jerusalem. His kingly role He will soon show by opening the door of Heaven to a repentant thief. But His priestly role He is now showing by praying to God on behalf of those who crucify Him. We have no idea how many of the conversions that take place in the early life of the church are the result of this prayer. But it is one more proof of Christ's infinite love towards sinners. None are too wicked for Christ to care for. Love like this is a love beyond understanding.

### Questions

1. What does Jesus warn the women of Jerusalem about?
2. Who does Jesus pray for?
3. Why does He pray for them?

### Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for Christ's love for sinners.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### Memory Verse

And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."  
Luke 23:43

**Praise: Psalm 30 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# THE GOSPEL

## ACCORDING TO LUKE

### **Friday - Luke 23:39-43 - The Dying Thief**

The two thieves are both near to Christ. They both see and hear all that is happening. They are both dying men and in terrible pain. They are both wicked sinners needing forgiveness. But one dies in his sins as he has lived - hard, unrepentant, and unbelieving. The other repents, believes, cries to Jesus for mercy, and is saved. Why does this happen? How is it that under the same circumstances one man is converted and another remains dead in sins - why is the very same sermon heard by one man with perfect indifference and causes another man to pray and seek Christ? We can't say why God chooses to save some and not others - we only know He does, and that the responsibility is still ours to repent and believe. He promises that all who come to Him, He will not cast out.

This man is saved right before he dies, but even then, he shows fruit of true faith. He is concerned about his friend's wickedness in insulting Christ. He admits his own sin. He confesses that Christ is innocent. He has faith in Christ's power and will to save him. He prays asking Christ to help him, and he is humble. His time is very short for giving proof of his conversion, but it is time well used, and the proof is there.

Even in the hour of our Lord's greatest weakness, He grants a sinner's prayer and opens to him the door of life. Do we want proof that salvation is of grace and not works? We have it here. The dying thief is nailed hand and foot to the cross. He can do literally nothing for his own soul. But he, through Christ's infinite grace, is saved. And at the very moment a believer dies, his soul is in happiness and safe keeping. Let us try to remember this when our believing friends die. In the moment that they leave us, they are with Christ.

### **Questions**

1. Why are some people saved and others aren't?
2. What happens at the moment of death?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Give thanks for Christ's power and grace.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."  
Luke 23:43

**Praise: Psalm 31 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# THE GOSPEL

## ACCORDING TO LUKE

### **Saturday - Luke 23:44-49 - Death**

Several miracles go along with Jesus' death. There is darkness over all the earth for three hours, and the temple curtain is torn in half. The darkness is used by God to get Jerusalem's attention and make them think. The tearing of the temple curtain between the holy place and the holy of holies will fill every priest's heart with amazement. But even more than that, it is a sign that now the way to the mercy seat of God (the top of the ark of the covenant), through the work of Jesus Christ, is open. We no longer need priests to enter the holy of holies once a year to ask for forgiveness of our sins. We can come before God ourselves, through prayer, and because of the blood of the Lamb of God, shed on our behalf, can ask for forgiveness.

Christ dies, not as we die when our hour is come, not because He is forced to, but voluntarily, and of His own free will. But He shows us the way in which death should be met by all of God's children. We should not be afraid of death, but wait for it with calmness and patience, and believe that when our body fails our soul will be in good keeping.

The Roman officer is convinced that he has crucified an innocent person. The crowds feel their conscience prick them at the thought that they have helped in doing something terribly wrong. With guilty consciences they leave Calvary. We don't know if their uneasy conscience leads them to seek salvation later. Thousands like them, when presented with the work of Christ, are troubled and uneasy. Let us pray that the guilt they feel drives them to seek the peace that only comes with salvation.

### **Questions**

1. What is the significance of the temple curtain being torn?
2. How do we come before the mercy seat of God?
3. What should our attitude be when faced with death?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Luke 23:43

**Praise: Psalm 32 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that  
Ezra read from  
the book of the Law  
day after day  
and that  
the people of God  
were filled with joy!**

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