

“Father, forgive them”

Luke 23:26-56

“Father, forgive them”

Luke 23:26-27

26 As the soldiers led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. **27** A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him.

“Father, forgive them”

**“Found only in this Gospel,
Luke emphasizes the role of
women in the Gospel story.”**

NIV 1984 Study Bible

“Father, forgive them”

Luke 23:28-31

28 Jesus turned and said to them, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children.

29 For the time will come when you will say, ‘Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ **30** Then “ ‘they will say to the mountains, “Fall on us!” and to the hills, “Cover us!” ’ **31** For if people do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

“Father, forgive them”

“Because of the terrible suffering to befall Jerusalem about 40 years later when the Romans would besiege the city and utterly destroy the temple... It would be better not to have children than to have them experience such suffering...”

People would seek to escape through destruction in death rather endure continuing suffering and judgement... If they treated the Messiah this way why the “tree” is well-watered and green, what would their plight be when He is withdrawn from them and they suffer for their rejection in the dry period?”

NIV 2011 Study Bible

“Father, forgive them”

Luke 23:32-34

32 Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. **33** When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals — one on his right, the other on his left. **34** Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

“Father, forgive them”

Psalm 22:18

**18 They divide my clothes
among them and cast lots for
my garment.**

“Father, forgive them”

“Jesus asked God to forgive the people who were putting Him to death-Jewish leaders, Roman politicians and soldiers, bystanders-and God answered that prayer by opening up the way of salvation even to Jesus’ murderers. Jesus was suffering the most horrible, painful death ever devised by sinful men, and He looked at the people responsible for His suffering and prayed for their forgiveness.”

NIV 1984 Life Application Study Bible

“Father, forgive them”

“They did not recognize Him as the true Messiah. They were blind to the light of divine truth. Still, their ignorance certainly did not mean that they deserved forgiveness; rather, their spiritual blindness itself was a manifestation of their guilt. But Christ’s prayer while they were in the very act of mocking Him is an expression of the boundless compassion of divine grace.”

MacArthur NIV 2011 Study Bible

“Father, forgive them”

Luke 23:35-38

35 The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.” **36** The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar **37** and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.” **38** There was a written notice above him, which read: **THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.**

“Father, forgive them”

Psalm 22:7-8

7 All who see me mock me;
they hurl insults, shaking
their heads. **8** “He trusts in
the LORD,” they say, “let the
LORD rescue him. Let him
deliver him, since he delights
in him.”

“Father, forgive them”

Luke 23:39-43

39 One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him:

“Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” **40** But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence?”

41 We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” **42** Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” **43** Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

“Father, forgive them”

“The penitent thief’s prayer reflected his belief that the soul lives on after death, that Christ has a right to rule over a kingdom of the souls of men, and that He would soon enter that kingdom despite his impending death.

His request to be remembered was a plea for mercy, which also reveals that the thief understood that he had no hope except for divine grace, and that the dispensing of that grace lay in Jesus' power. All this demonstrated true faith on the part of the dying thief, and that Christ graciously affirms the man's salvation."

MacArthur NIV 2011 Study Bible

“Father, forgive them”

Luke 23:44-49

44 It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, **45** for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. **46** Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” When he had said this, he breathed his last.

47 The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, “Surely this was a righteous man.” **48** When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. **49** But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

“Father, forgive them”

Matthew 27:50-54

50 And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. **51** At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split **52** and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life.

53 They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people. **54** 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!"

“Father, forgive them”

**“This was a supernatural
darkness.”**

MacArthur NIV 2011 Study Bible

“Father, forgive them”

“The curtain that was torn was the one that closed off the Most Holy Place from view. At Christ’s death, the barrier between God and man was split in two. Now all people can approach God directly through Christ.”

NIV 1984 Life Application Study Bible

“Father, forgive them”

Hebrews 9:24-28

24 For Christ did not enter a man-made sanctuary that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God’s presence. **25** Nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own.

26 Otherwise Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself. **27** Just as man are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, **28** so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

“Father, forgive them”

Luke 23:50-56

50 Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man, **51** who had not consented to their decision and action.

He came from the Judean town of Arimathea, and he himself was waiting for the kingdom of God. **52** Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body.

53 Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid. **54** It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin. **55** The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it. **56** Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.

“Father, forgive them”

“Joseph of Arimathea was a wealthy and honored member of the Jewish Council. He was also a secret disciple of Jesus. The disciples who had publicly followed Jesus fled, but Joseph boldly took a stand that could have cost him dearly. He cared enough about Jesus to ask for His body so he could give it a proper burial.”

NIV 1984 Life Application Study Bible

“Father, forgive them”

“The Galilean women followed Joseph to the tomb... They stayed at the cross when most of the disciples fled, and they got ready to anoint their Lord’s body. Because of their devotion, they were the first to know about the Resurrection.”

NIV 1984 Life Application Study Bible

Application

**Only Jesus can
forgive all sins**

Final Thoughts

“The cross is at its heart the offer of God’s gracious forgiveness for those who embrace it. To embrace the cross means to renounce our own works as the basis of salvation. Our relationship with God comes through trusting Jesus and His finished work.”

Darrell Bock

Final Thoughts

Isaiah 53:3-5, 10

3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. **4** Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.

5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

10 Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

Final Thoughts

Romans 5:6-8

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. **7** Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. **8** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.