

Three Responds To The Cross

(Luke 23:32-43)

Introduction

- A) Through out history, God has placed people on earth who by their personality, their role in life, or their decisions, have solicited a radically diverse response. We might call them controversial people.
- 1) Dr. Adrian Rogers (pucker or duck)
 - 2) Abraham Lincoln
 - 3) Ronald Reagan
 - 4) Barack Obama
 - 5) Jesus Christ
- B) When a person hears of the death and resurrection of Christ it invokes a response. This response can be one of faith, unbelief or indifference. Even those present at Jesus' crucifixion either believed, disbelieved, or were indifferent. Today, I want you to compare your response to those we meet in the Bible.
- C) Contextualize this Day.
- D) Contextualize this Scripture Passage.

I. The Response of Indifference (23:32-35a)

- A) Consumed by work (23:32)
- B) Consumed by greed (23:34)
- C) Curious for a show (23:35)

Preoccupation with the unimportant can be deadly.

Illustration: Tell story of woman texting while driving along highway near El Dorado, Arkansas.

Application: One of life's greatest tragedies is to miss the Savior because of life's other interests.

II. The Response of Skepticism (23:39)

- A) Ridicule of the Leaders (23:35)
- B) Sarcasm of the Soldiers (23:36-38)
- C) Insults of the Criminal (23:39)

Illustration: Story of Lee Strobel

Application: Skepticism toward Christ is often the result of a misunderstanding of who Jesus is!!

III. The Response of Faith (23:40-42)

- A) Negatively

- a. Not based on any human preparation.
- b. Not based on a long knowledge of Jesus.
- c. Not based on a religious institution
- d. Not based on any religious activity

B) Positively

- a. Based on an encounter with Jesus Christ.

Illustration: The Gospel Video

IV. The Response of Faith (23:43)

- A) Sure Result
- B) Instant Result
- C) Personal Result
- D) Eternal Result

Illustration: I have seen or heard of people coming to Christ in many different places, with many different responses, under many different circumstances, but they all came to Jesus the same way – repentant and surrendered!!

Conclusion.

How will you respond today?