



# RESURRECTION

## *Service*

The Crowd at Golgoth



# PROGRESS CHURCH

*The Crowd at Golgotha*  
Mathew 27: 32-56

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## The Crowd at Golgotha

- The site where Jesus was crucified was a place called Golgotha.
- The Latin word is the word Calvary.
- The words mean a place of the skull.
- When Jesus was crucified, they took Him outside the city gates of Jerusalem to a place called Golgotha - the place of a skull.
- It was one of the most important places with respect to the ministry of Jesus.

## The Place Golgotha

**All four gospels testify that it was the place of Jesus' crucifixion:**

- **Mathew** states: *"And when they came to a place called Golgotha, which means Place of a Skull (Matthew 27:33)."*
- **Mark** states: *"Then they brought Him to the place Golgotha, which is translated, Place of a Skull (Mark 15:22)."*
- **Luke** records: *"When they came to the place called The Skull, there they crucified Him and the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left (Luke 23:33)."*
- **John** wrote: *"Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha), (John 19:17)."*

## The Place Golgotha

- ❑ Jesus the perfect One, He who was holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners.
- ❑ He was brought to a place polluted and defiled for public execution.
- ❑ Jesus, the greatest Servant whom the world has ever known, who went about doing good, whose life was love.
- ❑ He was brought to the place reserve for the violent, the dishonest, the assassins and the murderers of His day.
- ❑ Jesus the incarnate God, in whom all power was given in heaven and on earth, who's will the armies of heaven obey.
- ❑ He was seized by wicked men, and dragged as if He were a helpless victim of their cruelty, instead of being their Monarch and their Judge.
- ❑ They bring Him and He comes!

## The Place Golgotha

- ❑ They could not have brought Him against His will.
- ❑ One thought in opposition to their malice would have rescued Him from their impotent grasp.
- ❑ Therefore, if they brought Him, it was because He did not resist them.
- ❑ He said of His own life, "*No man takes it from me, I lay it down of Myself* (John 10:18)."
- ❑ The cross of the Lord Jesus Christ lets us know that Jesus did not just die.
- ❑ In Philippians 2:8 the Bible says that He "*...became obedient unto death even the death of the cross.*"
- ❑ All men die but the death of Jesus on the cross was a different kind of death altogether.



## **Golgotha was a Region of Death**

- ❑ The palace of the last enemy.
- ❑ It was death's chief temple; here ghastly sacrifices were continually offered up.
- ❑ Here, at the very citadel of death, they led Christ to do battle with death.



# Golgotha's Crowds

- Matthew is a beautiful artist because as he gives us the scenes of Calvary, he gives us some sketches of the crowds that were gathered there that day.

## Simon The Cyrene – Mathew 27: 32–33

- ❑ *“Now as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. Him they compelled to bear His cross. <sup>33</sup> And when they had come to a place called Golgotha, that is to say, Place of a Skull.”*
- ❑ We are told that there was a man named Simon who was compelled to bear the cross of Jesus.
- ❑ We learn from John 19 that Jesus went out toward Calvary bearing His own cross, but evidently the crushing load of Calvary - the crushing load of what Jesus Christ had gone through and was going through was more than His physical nature could bear so He bowed beneath the load of the cross.

## Simon The Cyrene

- ❑ They got this man, Simon, who had come from Cyrene to bear the cross of the Lord.
- ❑ Cyrene was a country in northern Africa. Some people believe that this could be evidence that Simon was a black man.
- ❑ Mark's Gospel states, for instance, that he was just passing by.
- ❑ Evidently where Jesus was crucified was a place where roads crossed and curious crowds must have been coming and going.
- ❑ So, here was a man who was just passing by. He had no plans to be at Golgotha.

## Simon The Cyrene

- ❑ He was not interested, probably, in what was taking place there and yet the Bible says he was compelled to bear the cross of Jesus.
- ❑ I can imagine it must have filled his heart with bitter resentment. He was at Golgotha and he didn't want to be there.
- ❑ You and I know that what he saw there and the things he witnessed there that day made it possible for him, as well as for us to come to know Christ as our personal Savior.
- ❑ He saw the death of the Lamb of God that day.
- ❑ He saw the sacrifice for sins slain on Calvary's altar that day.

## Simon The Cyrene

- ❑ In Mark's Gospel 15th chapter we are told that this Simon was the father of Rufus and Alexandria (Mark 15:21).
- ❑ The fact that this is mentioned is an indication to us that probably he was well-known to the early Christian community.
- ❑ In Romans 16 the apostle Paul was writing and greeting some believers. One of the believers he greets is a man named Rufus.
- ❑ Some people believe that evidently Simon who didn't want to be there, seeing what took place at Golgotha, received Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour.
- ❑ So, he became a blessing not only to his family, but he became a blessing to the apostle Paul and to us today.

## Simon The Cyrene

- ❑ Simon is an illustration of those who come to the cross by compulsion.
- ❑ They come because someone puts the pressure on them to come.
- ❑ I think it is altogether possible today there are those watching online, who really didn't want to be doing this today.
- ❑ Maybe your spouse has just nagged you and bugged you about it until you decided, "I'll just sit down and watch with them."
- ❑ Maybe there are some children watching today who didn't exactly want to be up this early. Maybe you were compelled, you were put under compulsion to get up this Resurrection Sunday.
- ❑ You ought to be grateful somebody is that interested in you. You ought to be thankful somebody put a little pressure on you to get up early this morning.

## Simon The Cyrene

- ❑ David said one time in the Psalms: "No man cared for my soul." But you can't say that. Somebody cared enough about you to bug you a little to get you up this early Resurrection Sunday morning and ask you to join them in watching this broadcast today.
- ❑ Some of you watching right now who know the Lord as their Savior, you came to Christ under the same circumstances.
- ❑ They really didn't want to come, yet they came.
- ❑ Once they got there, God got a hold of their heart through the music, the preaching of the Word pricked their heart and brought conviction to their soul and they came to know Christ even though they were put under pressure to come.
- ❑ So, you may live to see the day when you thank God that somebody cared enough about you to bug you a little bit to get you to the cross of Jesus Christ.

## Soldiers – Matthew 27: 34

- ❑ Matthew continues to draw. He draws us a picture of the soldiers who were there. When we look at them, we just see callused men who are evidently unmoved by what's taking place there.
- ❑ **Mathew 27: 34**; *"They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink."*
- ❑ That was evidently given as a kind of narcotic to deaden the pain, to stupefy the victim that the pain wouldn't be as severe.
- ❑ Historians tell us that in Jerusalem at that particular time there was a group of ladies who came to assist those who were dying and tried to minimize the agony and pain of their death.



## Soldiers

- ❑ Scripture had predicted that Jesus would be offered this to drink.
- ❑ Yet, the Bible says that when he tasted it he refused to drink.
- ❑ When Jesus went to the cross, He was going to experience the full agony and pain of it all.
- ❑ His senses would be fully alive as He would die for the sins of the world.
- ❑ The Scripture says in Matthew 27:35 that they casted lots for His garments.
- ❑ This fulfills Scripture also in Psalm 22:18. They are gambling for the garments of Jesus.

## Soldiers

- They are just sitting there (Matthew 27:36) and watching him.
- In other words, the soldiers were just going about their daily job.
- This was just routine to them.
- It didn't move them.
- It didn't concern them.
- It was just every day ordinary activity.
- Too often we are just like those soldiers.
- It's become so routine, so every day to us.

## Soldiers

- ❑ We sing songs about the cross and hardly give thought to the words that are leaping off the pages into our minds and onto our lips.
- ❑ We read the Scriptures where it says they crucified Him. We are just so familiar with it all, it's just something else we read.
- ❑ You and I ought never get used to the cross. Our hearts ought to always be moved by the cross.
- ❑ We ought to always be stirred with gratitude and thanksgiving and never be like the soldiers who just witnessed the cross with callused hearts.

## The Two Thieves – Mathew 27:38

- ❑ **Mathew 27: 38**; *“Then two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the right and another on the left.”*
- ❑ These were vile men.
- ❑ They were men who lived in sin.
- ❑ They were men who got their living from sin.
- ❑ They thrived financially from robbing, from maiming, from inflicting pain and sometimes even murder.
- ❑ It's amazing, I believe, when I read this passage to see these two men

## The Two Thieves

- ❑ In Luke 23:39, one of them was a mocker. Think of it!
- ❑ He's hanging there in agony, the blood is dripping from him, the sweat is running down his brow.
- ❑ He is being crucified for his crimes. He deserves it.
- ❑ He is just about to step onto the threshold of eternity without Christ - and he goes out mocking Him.
- ❑ It is a criminal, mind - it's not a saint.
- ❑ He stands in condemnation, and he mocks the Lord Jesus Christ at His death.
- ❑ *'He's saved others. He walked around talking about saving others, didn't He?'*
- ❑ When one of these thieves was railing an accusation against the Lord, one of them changed his mind

## The Two Thieves

- ❑ **Luke 23:40**; *"But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation?"*
- ❑ If you were standing before Christ today, can you imagine mocking Him?
- ❑ Can you imagine blaspheming Him, calling Him names?
- ❑ He said: *"Do you not even fear God?"*. Can I ask you today, do you not fear God?
- ❑ God is almighty
- ❑ God is sovereign
- ❑ God is holy
- ❑ Do you not fear that? Do you not fear, when you reject Christ and when you say I'm not ready?

## The Two Thieves

- ❑ Salvation is not by works, but whosoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.
- ❑ The other thief he asked Christ that Christ would remember him.
- ❑ As he was standing on the threshold of eternity, he cried to Christ: "*Remember me!*"
- ❑ A couple of minutes before he was cursing Christ, and now from that un-redemptive state, as we would say today and the world would say, that man cried out in repentance and penitence.
- ❑ Then the Savior said: 'Today!'.
- ❑ That's instant! He didn't say: 'Next week!'
- ❑ He didn't say: 'Try your best and clean yourself up a little'.
- ❑ "*Today thou shalt be with me in paradise (Luke 23:43).*"
- ❑ It was definite! 'You shall' - He didn't say: 'Maybe.'

## The Crowd – Mathew 27: 39-40

- ❑ **Mathew 27: 39-40;** *"And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads 40 and saying, "You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross."*
- ❑ The crowd that just passes by. They wag their heads at him with distain, hate and animosity. **They cry out to him.**
- ❑ Keep in mind this is Jesus dying on a cross.
- ❑ Keep in mind Jesus Christ is being crucified.
- ❑ The Bible doesn't give a great deal of detail about the crucifixion but we know from what crucifixion involved how awful an agony it was.
- ❑ Nails in His hands and feet, placed in an uncomfortable position on the cross so that when the pain of the nails became too much He would try to lift himself on the cross and that would put pain on his feet.

## The Crowd

- ❑ Jesus' veins were lacerated and His tendons were crushed.
- ❑ His arteries were surcharged with blood.
- ❑ Of course, there was that raging, burning thirst that He must have experienced.
- ❑ There was that hot middle eastern sun.
- ❑ There was the pericardium around his heart filling with fluids that was bringing a deep, crushing pain upon His heart.
- ❑ Friends, the agony that Jesus was going through on that cross.
- ❑ Yet, here are people passing by who are shouting and cat calling and ridiculing the Savior in the very hour He was dying on the cross for the sins of the whole world.

## The Crowd

- ❑ Matthew 27:40 states; *"You who destroy the temple, and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross."*
- ❑ This is the cry that the Lord Jesus Christ had been hearing all of His ministry.
- ❑ It started in the wilderness temptation when the devil said, if you are the Son of God, fall down and worship me (Matthew 4:6-10).
- ❑ The devil was trying to get him to avoid the cross - to take a shortcut.
- ❑ Thoughtless, mindless crowds now are hurling the same into the face of Jesus.

## The Crowd

- ❑ The chief priests, the rulers, the religious people of the day picked up the same cry in verse 42.
- ❑ They never spoke to Jesus, they spoke about Him.
- ❑ *"He saved others; Himself he cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now, if He will have Him; for He said, 'I am the Son of God' (Matthew 27:42-43)."*
- ❑ What would you be doing if you were in the crowd that day?
- ❑ It's easy to think you would have been with the disciples, quietly watching in shock.
- ❑ Jesus' accusers knew His sermons.



## The Crowd

- ❑ They were quoting the things He had said.
- ❑ These were people who saw the miracles and shouted, “Hosanna” just a week before, yet here they were mocking Him.
- ❑ Would you and I have been caught up in the rush of the moment to attack a person who was being humiliated publicly?
- ❑ I’m sure every bit of Jesus’ human nature was screaming at Him to come off the cross to prove to them that He was the Son of God and to silence them.
- ❑ Thankfully He obeyed the Spirit’s voice that had Him die on the cross that day.



## The Crowd

- ❑ Because He stayed on the cross, He was able to open the doors of Heaven to all those in the crowd that day who were insulting Him.
- ❑ His blood that was spilled that day was enough to pay the debt of any sin that was ever committed or ever would be.
- ❑ He didn't save Himself that day so that He could save you and me.

## The Religious Leaders – Mathew 27: 41-43

- ❑ The religious leaders just drop all of their scruples and join the cry of the rabble.
- ❑ They say, if you are all you say you are, just come on down from the cross.
- ❑ Aren't you glad Jesus didn't come down from that cross?
- ❑ It is not that Jesus could not come down; it is that Jesus would not come down.
- ❑ It is because Jesus would not save himself that He can save you and I.
- ❑ It was not the nails that kept Jesus to the cross.
- ❑ It was not the fear of the Roman spears that kept our Lord there.



## The Religious Leaders

- ❑ It was love that kept Jesus on that cross.
- ❑ It was love for you and me - and a willingness on the part of our Lord to stay on that cross and pay the price for our sins that kept him there.

## The Disciples Of Jesus Christ and The Angel –

### Mathew 28: 1-5

- ❑ The story of the resurrection of Jesus Christ has been told and retold for 2000 years and yet, like the sunrise, it is always new and fresh.
- ❑ *He is not here; for He is Risen*
- ❑ The sting of death is broken.
- ❑ The tomb is empty
- ❑ *Come, see the place where they laid him, He is not here.*
- ❑ *Go quickly and tell his disciples*

## The Disciples Of Jesus Christ and The Angel

- ❑ There is almost no more exciting Biblical-theological truth with which we can occupy our minds as we come to celebrate Resurrection Sunday.
- ❑ According to the Gospel of John. Angels were inside the empty tomb of Jesus
- ❑ Mary Magdalene's encountered Angels at the garden tomb.
- ❑ John tells us that when Mary stooped to look into the tomb, *"...she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain (John 20:11-12)."*
- ❑ The resurrection of Jesus Christ has shaped the history of the world unlike anything before it or after it.