

"I THIRST..."

THE FIFTH AND SHORTEST OF JESUS' SEVEN CRIES FROM THE CROSS

"After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." John 19:28.

dip-sa-ō

Like the rungs of a ladder, there is a mutual dependency and interlocking of each of the seven cries, so that one leads to another and that to another until Jesus finally says, "Father, into Thy hands I commit my spirit".

Five-Fold Lense for Our Soul's Eye

1. Jesus is FULLY HUMAN!

- "The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land." Psalm 95:5
- "My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws..." Psalm 22:15a

Meditation:

- How great is the love which led our Savior, creator of the heavens and the earth, to such a condescension as this?
- If Jesus said, "I thirst," then how practically and personally does he know all our weaknesses and afflictions?

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin." Hebrews 4:15

2. Jesus is OUR SUBSTITUTE!

- "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich." 2 Corinthians 8:9
- "For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." 2 Corinthians 5:21

Meditation:

- How is "to thirst" the (eternal) result of sin, and the craving for something which it has not, but painfully and endlessly pines for?
- "In Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.'" Luke 16:23-243
- Jesus' soft, dying sigh, "I thirst," has ended for us the thirst which else, voraciously ferocious, would have pounced upon us throughout eternity.
- Jesus had no sooner said "I thirst," and sipped the vinegar, then he shouted, "It is finished". The battle was fought and the victory won forever!

3. Jesus is a BUTT-END JOKE!

"And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" ... And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine (vinegar), put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." Mark 15:29,30,36

Meditation:

- What does Romans 3:9-18 and Ephesians 3:1-3 say about our natural relationship with God?
- What does it mean that vinegar was given to Jesus to drink?
- At first, when born, there was no room for Jesus and his parents at the inn; and at the last there was not one cool cup of water for him to drink!
- How often have we given Jesus vinegar to drink?

4. Jesus Thirsts FOR YOU!

- "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" Luke 2:49
- "Let me sing for my beloved..." Isaiah 5:1
- "...looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:2
- "I came to my garden, my sister, my bride, I gathered my myrrh with my spice, I ate my honeycomb with my honey, I drank my wine with my milk." Song of Songs 5:1
- "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me." Revelation 3:20
- "Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world." John 17:24

Meditation:

- Jesus thirsts for communion with each one of you, not because you can do him good, but because he can do you good.
- What makes Jesus love us so much?

5. We Thirst FOR JESUS!

- "As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God." Psalm 42:1-2a
- "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied." Matthew 5:6

Meditation:

- How are you thirsting and craving our Lord?
- How is it possible for one to grow more and more ravenous, thirstier after our divine Lord, and when he/she has much of Him would still cry for more and then for more and still for more?

Application:

Paul: "For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh." Romans 9:3

- Pray that the Lord would give you a greater thirst for Him.
- Pray that the Lord would give you a greater thirst for the souls of others.