

SIGHTSEERS AT THE CROSS

Matthew 27:29-37

Introduction:

1. Sightseers are rather common and look about the same.
2. I am sure you'll find sightseers even in the Bible . . . Noah and the ark . . . Elijah at Mt. Carmel . . . Church on the day of Pentecost.
3. But one of the strangest places to find sightseers is at the cross. (verse 36)
4. Many simply sat and watched . . . others went by and made fun. (verses 39-40)
5. Yet, that cross has had a greater impact upon mankind than any other event in history.
6. What does the cross do???

I. THE CROSS DIRECTS.

- A. Yes, the cross directs our attention to the Lord Jesus Christ.
- B. Here was the greatest man who ever lived.
- C. Here was God – incarnate in human flesh.
- D. This cross will break your heart as you look upon the One who died in our behalf.

II. THE CROSS DIVIDES.

- A. The cross divided the two thieves on each side of Jesus.
Scripture: **Luke 23:39-42**
 1. One of the thieves was lost.
 2. The other was saved.
- B. The cross divided the crowd on Calvary's hill.
 1. There were some saved who stood near by and watched.
 2. But there were many who were lost.
- C. The cross divides all mankind today.
 1. Some are saved.
 2. Multitudes are lost.
 3. Men put their trust in many things but only Christ can save.
Scripture: **Ephesians 2:8** *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:”*

III. THE CROSS DAMNS.

- A. There is no doubt whatsoever that the cross damns.
Scripture: **John 3:18** **“He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”**
- B. Modernists speak of many things but avoid the blood of the cross.
Illustration: Many boys saved in hotel – Sword of Lord 5-31-74

IV. THE CROSS DELIVERS.

- A. The Bible tells us that the cross also delivers.
Scripture: **Colossians 1:19-20** **“For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.”**
- B. We have deliverance from many things.
 1. Yes, freedom from hell.
 2. Yes, deliverance from eternal torment and suffering.

3. But more . . . much more . . . we have peace right here and now in this world
Illustration: Poem by G. A. Studdert-Kennedy Sword 5-31-74

Conclusion:

1. Yes, you may try to avoid it but you can't.
2. Would you right now, turn to the Christ of that Cross?