

Series "The Seven Words"
"The Word Of Forgiveness"
Luke 23:34
Word-1

Luke 23:32-34

1st Word: "The Word of Forgiveness," Luke 23:34.

"The Seven Words:"

1st Word – "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do" – Luke 23:34.

2nd Word – "You will be with Me in Paradise" – Luke 23:43.

3rd Word – "Woman, behold your son!" – John 19:26-27.

4th Word – "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" – Matthew 27:46.

5th Word – "I thirst!" – John 19:28.

6th Word – "It is finished!" – John 19:30.

7th Word – "Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit'" – Luke 23:46.

"Seven" – is God's perfect number. It represents completeness and wholeness. Seven Words cover the basic needs of mankind.

Thought Of The Passage: "Jesus' Prayer To The Father Was For The Forgiveness Of The Enormity Of The Sins Of The World."

1. The Address

2. The Appeal

3. The Argument

4. The Answer

1. The Address: "But Jesus was saying, "Father," – Jesus, being the Son of God, prayed and addressed this prayer to His "Father."

Jesus, in teaching His disciples to pray, said in Matthew 6:9 – "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father'"

"Father" was used 14 X's in the O.T. It was used in a general sense only, nation of Israel, not a personal sense.

"Father" used 60 X's by Jesus during His ministry. "Righteous Father," "Holy Father."

The First Words Uttered By Jesus Are Recorded In The Gospel Of Luke:
Luke 2:49.

Last Words Uttered By Jesus Was Upon The Cross: Luke 23:46.

There Was Only One Time That Jesus Did Not Use The Name "Father" In Prayer: Matthew 27:46.

"Father" is used 275 X's in the N.T. The term "Father" has been called "The Christian name for God."

Romans 8:15-17; Galatians 4:6-7

Matthew 3:17

Do we have faith to leave justice in the hands of our Heavenly Father?

Jesus committed Himself to the Father's will: John 18:11.

2. The Appeal: "Forgive them" – in the Greek, it is repeated; Jesus said "Father, Forgive them" several times. (How Many Times?)

Matthew 5:43-45; Matthew 18:21-22

Jesus prayed for those who were sinning to fulfill God's Word, Isaiah 53:12.

If We Don't Forgive, We Are In No Condition To Receive Forgiveness:
Matthew 6:14-15.

John 17:20-21

Who Was Jesus Praying For?

Execution party, soldiers of the Roman garrison: Luke 23:34.

The Two Criminals, One On Each Side Of Jesus: Luke 23:32-33;
Mark 15:32.

The Religious Leaders, Priests Who Hated Jesus: Mark 15:31-32.

The Crowd Who Had Cried, "Crucify Him" At His Trial: Mark 15:29-30.

Pilate: 1 Corinthians 2:8

His Disciples That Had Deserted Him: Only John returned.

Nicodemus And Joseph, Who Were To Minister To The Dead Body Of Jesus.

All These Groups Either Actively Or Passively Helped To Crucify Jesus – They Were All Guilty: 1 Peter 2:24.

The Purpose Of Jesus' Death Was The Forgiveness Of Sin: "Forgive them" – Jesus came to forgive sinners.

Paralytic – Luke 5:20

The sinful woman that anointed Jesus – Luke 7:47-50

3. The Argument: "for they do not know what they are doing." – They are ignorant of the enormity of their own sins.

This does not mean that through Jesus' prayer all people are automatically forgiven of their sins. Ignorance is no excuse in the sight of the Law. Romans 1:20.

Jesus was asking the Father to charge His account so that Christ could pay with His own life (Postponement of the consequences).

1 Timothy 1:15

1 John 2:1-2

The Wonder Of This Word From The Cross Is Forgiveness.

Ignorant Of Their Own Actions: Forgiveness for the soldiers who nailed him to the cross. They did not know they were fulfilling Scripture – Luke 23:34; Psalm 22:18.

Gave Jesus vinegar to drink – Luke 23:36; Psalm 69:21.

Jesus Was Crucified With Transgressors – Luke 23:33; Isaiah 53:12.

Ignorant Of Their Own Sin: The Law allowed for sins of ignorance, the sin offering, Leviticus 4. No forgiveness of defiant sin committed with knowledge, Numbers 15:30. The NT, the unpardonable sin: Rejection of Jesus Christ.

Peter Said To A Crowd In Jerusalem: Acts 3:14-15, 17.

1 Timothy 1:13

1 John 1:9

The first Christian martyr, Stephen, showed this spirit when he was being stoned to death, Acts 7:58-60.

Sometimes Forgiveness Does Not Lead To Reconciliation.

1 Peter 2:23

4. The Answer: When Was This Prayer Answered? Jesus' prayer was answered within minutes or a few hours – Luke 23:42-43; Acts 2:41; Acts 6:7.

Psalm 85:10

Application:

1. Are Some Sins Unpardonable? No! If The Murder Of The Son Of God Can Be Forgivable For Those Who Sought Forgiveness, Then All Sins Can Be Forgiven.
2. There Is No Unpardonable Sin For Those Who Come To Christ For Forgiveness. For Those Who Refuse Him, All Sins Are Unpardonable.
3. God Can Forgive Any Sin. We, At The Same Time, Must Be Content That God Has Forgiven Us, Even Though Some Persons May Not Extend Forgiveness.
4. Do We Forgive Those That Don't Ask For Forgiveness? Yes, We Forgive In The Sense That We Release Our Bitterness To God And Commit Our Adversaries To Him: Sometimes Forgiveness Does Not Lead To Reconciliation.