

# AMERICA'S DARKEST DAY THE WORLD DARKEST HOURS MATTHEW 27:45-54

Text: Matthew 27:45

## **Matthew 27:45**

<sup>45</sup> Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.

Introduction:

It is proper and fitting that we pause to reflect and remember the men and women who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

This day was the America's darkest hours, but we read from the Bible of the Worlds Darkest Day. May we never forget.

## **1. MAY WE NEVER FORGET THE CRUELTY**

### **A. The Cruel Crown**

#### **Matthew 27:27-31**

<sup>27</sup> Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band *of soldiers*. <sup>28</sup> And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe. <sup>29</sup> And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put *it* upon his head, and

a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! <sup>30</sup> And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head. <sup>31</sup> And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify *him*.

- The King of eternity came to the world He made and He was rejected by the very people He made in His image. They refused to have Him “**reign over**” them.

### **Luke 19:14**

<sup>14</sup> But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this *man* to reign over us.

## B. The Cruel Crowd

### **Matthew 27:39-44**

<sup>39</sup> And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads, <sup>40</sup> And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest *it* in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross. <sup>41</sup> Likewise also the chief priests mocking *him*, with the scribes and elders, said, <sup>42</sup> He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. <sup>43</sup> He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God. <sup>44</sup> The thieves also, which were crucified with him, cast the same in his teeth.

## C. The Cruel Cross

### **Matthew 27:35-37**

<sup>35</sup> And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They

parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots. <sup>36</sup> And sitting down they watched him there; <sup>37</sup> And set up over his head his accusation written, THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

- The sufferings of the cross

### **Psalms 22:15-18**

<sup>15</sup> My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death. <sup>16</sup> For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet. <sup>17</sup> I may tell all my bones: they look *and* stare upon me. <sup>18</sup> They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

### **Isaiah 53:4-6**

<sup>4</sup> Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. <sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

### **Psalms 129:3**

<sup>3</sup> The plowers plowed upon my back: they made long their furrows.

### **Isaiah 50:6**

<sup>6</sup> I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting.

### **Isaiah 52:14**

<sup>14</sup> As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men:

## 2. MAY WE NEVER FORGET THE CRIES

### A. A Forgiving Cry

#### **Luke 23:34**

<sup>34</sup> Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

### B. A Forsaken Cry

#### **Matthew 27:46**

<sup>46</sup> And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

### C. A Finishing Cry

#### **John 19:30**

<sup>30</sup> When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

## 3. MAY WE NEVER FORGET THE CAUSE

### A. Our Condition

- We are all sinners.

#### **Romans 3:10-23**

<sup>10</sup> As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: <sup>11</sup> There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. <sup>12</sup> They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. <sup>13</sup> Their throat *is* an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used

deceit; the poison of asps *is* under their lips: <sup>14</sup> Whose mouth *is* full of cursing and bitterness: <sup>15</sup> Their feet *are* swift to shed blood: <sup>16</sup> Destruction and misery *are* in their ways: <sup>17</sup> And the way of peace have they not known: <sup>18</sup> There is no fear of God before their eyes. <sup>19</sup> Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. <sup>20</sup> Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin. <sup>21</sup> But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; <sup>22</sup> Even the righteousness of God *which is* by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: <sup>23</sup> For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

- We are already judged and doomed

### **Romans 6:23**

<sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **John 3:18**

<sup>18</sup> 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.

- Jesus came to deliver us from that condition

### **Luke 19:10**

<sup>10</sup> For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

### **Mark 10:45**

<sup>45</sup> For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

## **1 Timothy 1:15**

<sup>15</sup> This *is* a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

## **2 Corinthians 5:21**

<sup>21</sup> For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

## **Isaiah 53:5**

<sup>5</sup> But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

## **B. His Compassion**

Why did He do what He did on that cross? His mission can be summed up in one word: Love! He did what He did because He loves you and me.

## **Revelation 1:5**

<sup>5</sup> And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

## **Romans 5:6-10**

<sup>6</sup> For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. <sup>10</sup> For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

**1 John 3:16**

<sup>16</sup> Hereby perceive we the love *of God*, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.

**John 15:13**

<sup>13</sup> Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Close

Today we reflect on the horrible dark day that so many lost their life at the hands of terrorists. But years before, we see the darkest hours of the world.

The day the Lord gave His life for you and for me.