

The Despised Lamb of God

Matthew 27:27-44

1. Intro

1. Last week we saw Jesus as the Humble Lamb of God.
 1. We saw that Jesus gave up His heavenly home and became a servant of all.
 2. Today we see the events just prior to the Cross and see Jesus as the Despised Lamb of God.

2. Jesus Mocked

1. Jesus is mocked and ridiculed.
 1. We see even the religious leaders of the day starting the process (26:67-68)
 2. Before a regiment of military men (approx. 500)
 3. Mocked as King; crown of thorns, scarlet robe, reed for a scepter, bowed to this “king”.(27-29)
 4. Spit upon and beaten (30)
2. On the cross
 1. Sign – King of the Jews (37)
 2. Some people remembered what He had said concerning the temple (39-40) (John 2:19-21)
 3. They jeered that He saved others but cannot saved Himself. (42a)
 4. They mocked that this “King of Israel” had now been enthroned on a wooden cross. (42b)
 5. They ridiculed His trust in God and His claim to be the Son of God. (43)
 6. Many different people were mocking Jesus:
 1. The Roman soldiers(29), the mob (39), the Jewish leaders(41),and the criminals(44).
 1. Yet Jesus was there for their sins.

3. Ridiculed Today

1. And today it is much the same.
 1. Call Jesus a prophet, or a teacher, or a good man and you’ll get no flack.
 2. Call Him God and Saviour, call His Word the truth, call Him the one and only way to eternal life, and watch what happens.
 1. To believe such things means you are intolerant, bigoted, narrow-minded, hateful.
2. Satan will try to discredit Jesus any way he can, and making Him the object of ridicule is a favorite tool of his.
 1. It is favorite tool because we don’t take ridicule very well. It hurts. It’s embarrassing.
 1. The old saying - “Sticks and stone may break my bones but names will never hurt me” isn’t true.
 2. Would we rather have someone hit us rather than having words penetrate and break our hearts?
 3. We’re reluctant to speak out for the truth and risk ridicule.
 4. Sometimes we let the sin in the world go unchallenged and look the other way.
 1. We just don’t want to pay the price.

4. Jesus' Mercy

1. Jesus did not shrink from the mockery and ridicule thrown against Him, but took it.
 1. He took physical, emotional and spiritual abuse. (Ps 22:6-8)
2. It was as hard for Him as it would be for you and me.
 1. Knowing how hard it is for us should help us in our appreciation of what Jesus went through.

1. Constructive criticism.
3. He hung there for an ungrateful world; A hateful world. (Isa 50:5-6)
 1. No matter who we are or what we've done, our sins have been be paid for and forgiven.
4. It is the compassion which kept Jesus on the cross for a world blinded by sin.
 1. Unless the eyes of the blind are opened by faith, the ridicule will continue.
 2. If our eyes have already been opened, it is hard for us to understand how others cannot see.
 1. Yet we need to be as shining lights in the middle of a crooked and twisted generation (Phil 2:14-16).
 1. With that comes the possibility of ridicule.

3. Conclusion

1. Think not just about the physical suffering but the ridicule that Jesus took for us as He was treated like an animal and not a man; like a fool and not a king;
2. Though the true identity of Jesus was hidden on the cross, and is hidden to many today, the day of resurrection is coming
 1. The day when every knee shall bow before Jesus as the Lord of all.
3. As you continue to believe and live the truth from the cross, the ridicule will continue.
4. Jesus who came for you will also keep you until the day of His appearing when the Lamb of God who suffered ridicule is ridiculed no more.