

Speaker: Stephen Whitmore
Date: 10th October 2010
Reading: Matthew 27:26, v32-46, v54-56
Subject: “[They watched Him there](#)”

Who were they watching? What did they see?

They saw a man being led away to be crucified, a man who had been cruelly treated, a man in whom there was no fault and no true accusation against Him. A man who in response to this had said, “[Father forgive them for they know not what they do](#)”(Lu 23:34). A man who (Jo 19), had taken care of his mother committing her to John's care. A man who had “[done nothing amiss](#)”. One who came into the world to save sinners.

Who was watching?

Pilate

The man called to pass judgement that day. A man marked by fear, a man afraid to stand up to the multitude. He knew there was no cause for death. One who chose to listen to the crowd. He had a choice to make, Christ or the people and he chose the people. Afraid to make a confession before the people.

“[If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved](#)”(Rom 10:9).

Scribes, Pharisees and Rulers

They had the problem of being proud of their position. To own Christ would mean they couldn't set themselves up as teachers. They marvelled at His words (Matt. 22:22) His words carried power and authority (Matt 7:29), He had done works that no one had done before (John 15:24). They didn't want Jesus as Lord of their life or that of Israel. They deliberately chose to reject the Saviour.

Daughters of Jerusalem

They were proud of heart, wept at an innocent man taken and being crucified. They wept not for the fact of the judgment of God for sin. “[All have sinned and come short of the glory of God](#)”(Rom 3:23).

Are you happy to believe Christ died for sins in a general way but have you realised it was for you? Either Christ had to die or each one of us would die. Sin is so serious that only the death of Christ could satisfy the heart of God. The work of Christ is so great that there is no person who cannot be saved as a result of it.

Simon of Cyrene

He was compelled to carry the cross. He carried it physically but we are called to carry it metaphorically “[if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me](#)” (Matt. 16:24).

Do I stand with Christ and give up what the world offers or do I stand with the world and lose Christ?

This is pictured as a new christian is baptised. “[Risen to walk in newness of life](#)” (Rom 6:4).

Has your life been changed?

Dying thief

“[Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise](#)” (Luke 23:43. He had an experience that changed his eternal destiny.

The Lord will save and keep, He will change life and destiny.

Centurion(a Roman from Europe) and Women(from Middle East)

People from all parts of the world came into the good of the work of the cross.

There is a choice, you may choose to turn your back or you can put you life in His hands, take Him as Saviour and Lord, have new life and new destiny.

“[That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life](#)” (John 3:15).