

The Suffering Of Christ Transcript

My friend, Jesus loves you more far than you'll ever know. He loves you so much that He was willing to give His life for you on the cross. Just think of it! The King of glory left Heaven and came down to this old sinful world and was born as baby in Bethlehem. He was born in a draughty old stable, He wasn't born in a palace. There was no cradle for Him, He had to make do with a cattle trough.

He walked this Earth for thirty three years doing nothing but good. He healed the sick and raised the dead. He was full of love, as indeed He still is today. Yet, at the age of thirty three, cruel men took Him and nailed Him to a wooden cross.

The night before He was crucified He went to the Garden of Gethsemane. His soul was in agony, and He sweat as it were great drops of blood which fell to the ground. He prayed to His Heavenly Father *"If it be possible let this cup pass from Me, but nevertheless not My will, but Yours be done."* I can just imagine the Father as He looks down at His Son and replies "My Son, there is no other way, there is no other way. Men and women will go down to Hell unless you bleed and die for them", and you know, my friend, there is no other way. The world says there's lots of ways, but there is no other way. We either come by the way of the Cross or we don't come at all. Jesus said "I Am, The Way, The Truth and The Life no-one can come to the Father except by Me". Jesus is the only way.

Jesus knew that not only was He to face death on the cross, but that He had to bear the sin of the world, and also be forsaken by His Father. God sent an angel to strengthen Him.

In His hour of need all His friends forsook Him. One denied knowing Him and one even betrayed Him for just thirty pieces of silver, which was no more than the price of a slave.

He was taken from judgement hall, to judgement hall in the dead of night. They plucked the beard from His cheeks, they beat Him, they spat in His face, and whipped Him. And every time the whip struck, it tore great gashes in His back. Until it looked like a field that had been newly plowed. They placed upon His head a crown of thorns, which sunk deep into His brow.

After all the scourging of the hour, He was made to carry His own cross on which He was to be crucified. He was so weak from the scourging, that on the way to the place of crucifixion He fell beneath the weight of it. They had to get someone from the crowd to help Him to carry it.

When they reached the place called Calvary, they crucified Him between two common thieves. They took Him, and drove great spikes right through His hands and feet, and nailed Him to the cross, and there He hung for six hours in agony.

Even on the cross they taunted Him saying “He saved others, Himself He cannot save. He trusted in God let Him deliver Him now, if He will have Him: for He said I am the Son Of God. And you know my friend, yes, Jesus could’ve come down from the Cross, but if He had there would have been no hope for you and me. He stayed there out of love. It wasn’t the nails that held Him to the Cross, it was His love for you and me.

Let me ask you, my friend, “would you forgive those who had treated you so cruelly?” Yet the amazing and wonderful thing is that from the cross Jesus said “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.”

From the sixth hour to the ninth there was a terrible darkness. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out saying “*My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?*” God the Father had to turn His back on His Son. Why? Because Jesus was bearing your sin and mine, and God the Father is so Holy that He cannot look upon sin. Then Jesus cried out “**It Is Finished!**” Now you may ask, “what is

finished”? He has completed the work He came to do. The way of forgiveness has been made, the Devil is defeated, there is power to be victorious over sin. Death, Hell, and the grave are defeated.

After He had said ‘it is finished’ Jesus said “Father into Thy Hands I commit My Spirit” and with these words He died.

Three days later He rose from the dead and forty days later He ascended to Heaven. Where He now sits at the right Hand of God the Father on High.

Jesus did all of this so that you and I can be forgiven of all our sins and He did it because He loves us.

But this forgiveness is not automatic. He will only forgive those who ask Him from their heart for mercy and forgiveness.

You may say “I would like to do this, but I don’t know how”!

Well it is very simple.

Firstly you must acknowledge that you are a sinner (and every one of us is a sinner from birth).

Secondly you must be willing to turn away from everything you know to be wrong.

Thirdly you must accept the gift of eternal life that Jesus offers us.

I’m going to pray a short prayer line by line, and if you would like to know your sins forgiven, then I’d like you to pray it after me? Now it is not the words that will save you, but the sincerity of your heart. If you pray this prayer and mean it with all your heart you will be saved.

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, I realise that I am a sinner and in need of Your forgiveness. I am sorry for my sin. I am willing to turn away from everything I know to be sinful. I put my trust in You, and You alone, and what You did on the cross for my salvation. I ask You to forgive me now, and save me. Please give me a new start in life, and wash away all my past sins and wrong doings. I want to follow and serve You for the rest of my life. In Your precious Name. Amen.

If you prayed that pray from your heart you are now a child of God and you can claim the promise of Romans 10:13 *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*