

4/10/20, 3/29/13, 3/25/05, 4/5/96, 3/25/05

Jesus Thirsted For Every Man

Jn. 19:28

Have you ever been thirsty and there was no way for you to quench your thirst?

* The thirst drive is an amazing aspect of God's creation, messages are sent up to your brain so that you don't dehydrate and maintain the adequate balance.

Crucifixion caused a horrible thirst, as a man hung without any relief.

* The cross was used as an example to all who dared to rise up against Rome, fear struck all as Rome lined her roads with those condemned men.

Jesus has been hanging on the cross for six hours, the spectators have had their fun with Jesus as well as the religious men, and yet He is different from all others who have been crucified.

In the first three hours Jesus uttered His first three sayings, focusing on others as the wrath of man was hurled at Him.

1. Jesus prayed that God would forgive his enemies in His first saying. Lk. 23:34
2. Jesus assured the thief on the cross that he would be with Him in Paradise, in His second saying. Lk. 23:43

3. Jesus entrusted the care of His mother to John, in His third saying. Jn. 19:27

The last three hours Jesus uttered His last four sayings, focusing on Himself as the wrath of God was poured out on Him.

1. Jesus cried out in agony over His separation in fellowship from the Father .
2. Jesus expressed His horrible thirst both physical and spiritual.
3. Jesus proclaimed victory of soul, It is finished.
4. Jesus joyfully dismissed his spirit to the Father.

We have looked at the first four saying in the last four years and now we come to the fifth, which is the shortest of all seven.

* In English it is made up of two words "I thirst", but in the Greek it is just one word.

The fifth saying of Jesus from the cross focuses on His humanity, which is marked by three things.

- I. The incredible commentary: "After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished." vs. 28a-c
 - II. The inescapable concern: "That the Scriptures might be fulfilled." vs. 28d
 - III. The incredible cry: said, "I thirst!" vs. 28e-f
- I. **The incredible commentary. "After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished." vs. 28a-c**

- A.** The commentary gives us a time reference by the phrase “After this”. vs. 28a
1. The phrase does not refer to the third saying in verse 26-27, but to the fourth. Matt. 27:46
 2. This fifth saying took place after Jesus had incurred the wrath of God on Himself for the sins of the world.
 - a. The Father made Jesus to be sin for us who knew no sin that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. 2Cor. 5:21
 - b. He was the lamb of God Who would take away the sins of the world. Jn. 1:29
 - c. He was the propitiation for our sins and not for ours only but also for the whole world. 1Jn. 2:2
 - d. He was the scapegoat of the Old Testament to remove the sins from the camp. Lev. 16
 - e. He bore our sins on the tree. 1Pet. 2:24
 3. God forsook Jesus for the sake of humanity.
 - a. God is of purer eyes than to behold evil, and can not look on wickedness with approval. Hab. 1:13a-b
 - b. God by virtue of His holiness had to forsake His Son for He is holy. Ps. 22:3a
 - c. God broke fellowship with His Son for the first time from all eternity in such a way that is unexplicable and incomprehensible to mankind.

- 1) The agony of such a separation is evident by the prayer of Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane, as Jesus prayed for the removal of the cup, yet He resigned Himself to the Father by declaring, “Not My will but Yours be done”. Lk. 22:42
 - 2) The agony of his prayer was so intense that Jesus sweat great drops of blood that fell to the ground. Lk. 22:44
- B.** The commentary gives us an important truth about Jesus, “Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished.” vs. 28b-c
1. Jesus was in full control of His faculties able to comprehend.
 - a. The word knowing “eido”, means to see and perceive with the eyes or by any of the senses.
 - b. The idea is of a person being conscience and aware of his surroundings.
 - c. Jesus was not delirious nor hallucinating.
 2. Jesus perceive and took notice of time.
 - a. The first three hours had been the wrath of man hurled at Him.
 - b. The last three hours was the wrath of God poured out on Him.
 3. Jesus perceived the fulfillment of the prophecies to this point.

- a. The word all “pas”, first refers to the events that had happened prior to the cross that led to the cross.
- 1) He foretold of His death over and over to His disciples, referring to it as the cup and baptism. Mk. 10:38-39
 - 2) He foretold of His betrayal by the Judas Iscariot, who sat in the place of the guest of honor. Jn. 13:26
* The amazing thing is that each of the twelve said, “Lord, is it I”, not one excluded themselves from the possibility and began to question themselves as to which of them would do this! Matt. 26:21-22; Mk. 14:18-19; Lk. 22:22-23; Jn. 13:21-22
 - 3) He foretold of His false accusations by the religious rulers, handed over to the authorities, His arrest, trial and condemnation and His resurrection. Matt. 16:21
- b. The word all “pas”, also refers to the previous four sayings from the cross.
- 1) Jesus had prayed for the forgiveness of His enemies, those crucifying Him.
 - 2) Jesus had assured sinners of forgiveness through repentance, as He promised the thief on the cross, that he would be with Him in Paradise, having believed in Him.

- 3) Jesus had comforted the saints as He commended His mother to the apostle John.
 - 4) Jesus had been forsaken by the father incurring the wrath of man.
- c. The word all “pas”, also refers to the events that had taken place while Jesus was on the cross.
- 1) The two thieves were crucified besides Him. Lk. 23:33
 - 2) They divided his garment and cast lots. Lk. 23:34
 - 3) The rulers sneered at Him that He could save others and that He should save Himself, if He were the Christ. Lk. 23:35
 - 4) The soldiers mocked Him as they offered Him sour wine saying, “If You be King of the Jews, save Yourself”. Lk. 23:37
 - 5) The one criminal blasphemed Him, saying, “If You be the Christ, save Yourself and us.” Lk. 23:39
 - 6) The darkness covered all the earth from the sixth till the ninth hour, 12:00 P. M. to 3:00 P. M., as the wrath of God was poured out on Him. Lk. 23:44
- d. The word accomplish is in reference to the work of salvation.

- 1) The word accomplished “teleo”, means to bring to an end or complete and is the same as “It is finished” in verse thirty.
- 2) The wrath of God had been poured out and Judgment of sin was finished.
3. Jesus was not a victim nor one out of control, but one who was in control and conscience of every event.
 - a. John presents Jesus as the Son of God and therefore he does not give us the record of the cry, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”.
 - * The fact that the wrath of God had been poured out on Him is evident, but not mentioned in John!
 - b. John gives constant evidence that Jesus knew all things for he was God. Jn. 1:42, 47; 2:24, 25; 5:6; 6:64; 16:30; 21:17
 - c. John records that Jesus laid His life down of His own will, as a man without sin. Jn. 10:17-18

The incredible commentary of John is that after this, Jesus knew that all things were now accomplished, being in full control!

II. The inescapable concern, “That the Scriptures might be fulfilled.” vs. 28d

- A. Jesus knew that the entire Old Testament spoke of Him. Heb. 10:5-7; “Ps. 40:6-8”
 1. He was the God-man to be born of a virgin, as prophesied to Adam. Gen. 3:15; Is. 7:14
 2. He was the seed of Abraham, Seed as of one, Christ. Gen. 12:3; 22:18; Gal. 3:16
 3. He was prefigured in everything in the Tabernacle.
 - a. The gold spoke of His deity.
 - b. The acacia wood spoke of His humanity.
 - c. The silver spoke of redemption.
 - d. The brass spoke of judgment.
 - e. The typology goes on, the mercy seat, the veil, the shewbread, the candleabra, etc.
 - 1) God would become man to redeem man by judging the sins of the world on His own person!
 - * As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up... Jn. 3:14-15; “Num. 21:8-9”
 - 2) John tells us the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. Rev. 19:10g
 - 3) He is the “Red Thread” that runs from Genesis to Revelation!
- B. Jesus knew that not one yod or title, the markings over the Hebrew letters, would fail from the law till all was fulfilled. Matt. 5:18
 1. Jesus believed the Scriptures were God’s revelation from God. 2Tim. 3:16-17

2. Jesus believed the Scriptures were the Inspired word of God, an accurate and reliable record of what He had revealed to men of God, being without error, infallible and inerrant. 2Pet. 1:20-21
3. Jesus believed He was the ultimate and final revelation of God as the fulfillment of what was revealed to the fathers by the prophets. Heb. 1:1-4

C. Jesus knew that all prophecies would be fulfilled.

1. There are 8,352 verses with predictive material out of 31,124 verses in the whole Bible, a staggering 27%, dealing with predictions about the future. (J. Barton Payne: Intro. To Biblical Hermeneutics:139)
2. Payne calculates that the Old Testament contains 6,641 verses on the future, out of 23,210 total or 28.6%, while the New Testament has 1,711 verses out of 7,914 verse, or 21.6%.
3. Altogether, these 8,352 verses discuss 737 separate prophetic topics!
4. The only books without any predictive material are Ruth and Song of Solomon in the Old Testament, though they do have typology in them of the redeeming work of Jesus and Philemon and 3John in the New Testament.

5. The Old Testament books with the highest percentage of future prophecies are Ezekiel 65%, Jeremiah 60%, and Isaiah 59%.
 6. The New Testament has for it's top three, Revelation with 63%, Matthew 26% and Luke with 23%.
 7. Jesus fulfilled over three-hundred prophecies in His First Coming.
 - a. The odds off one person fulfilling all these would be beyond imagination.
 - b. Professor Peter Stoner in his book, Science Speaks, estimates that just eight of these prophecies would be one in ten to the seventeenth power.
 - c. To give you an idea of what this means you would have to take the entire state of Taxes and fill it with silver dollars two feet deep, mark one of them and then proceed to stir them up completely. Then get a blind man to go out and he would just happen to pick the one marked silver dollar. (The Search For Messiah: 225)
- D.** Jesus knew that at this particular point a prophecy had to be fulfilled.
1. The prophecy is found in the Psalms sixty-nine verse twenty-one.
 - a. The Psalm is a Messianic Psalm written by David.

- b. The Psalm goes beyond the Psalmist's personal agony and despair to the agony of the cross.
- 2. The Psalm is referred to more than once in John.
 - a. The Psalm is quoted in the second chapter of John verse seventeen, when Jesus cleansed the temple. Ps. 69:9
 - b. The Psalm is quoted by Jesus in fulfillment of the soldiers giving Him vinegar to drink as He hung on the cross. Jn. 19:29
 - 1) "They also gave me gall for my food, And for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink." Ps. 69:21
 - 2) They had offered Jesus a wine mixture to deaden His senses previously, but He refused it. Matt. 27:34; Mk. 15:23

The inescapable concern of Jesus was that the Scriptures might be fulfilled to the last!

III. The incredible cry, "said, I thirst. vs. 28e-f

- A. The cry, "I thirst", was evidence of His humanity.
 - 1. The evidence of the humanity of Jesus is undeniable.
 - a. Jesus was conceived in Mary's womb and after nine months He was born like any other man. Matt. 1:20, 25

- b. Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. Lk. 2:52
- c. Jesus tired as any man. Jn. 4:6
- d. Jesus hungered. Matt. 4:2
- e. Jesus slept. Mk. 4:38
- f. Jesus wept. Jn. 11:35
- g. Jesus prayed. Mk. 1:35
- h. Jesus rejoiced. Lk. 10:21
- i. Jesus groaned. Jn. 11:33
- j. Jesus bled. Lk. 22:44
- k. Jesus died. Jn. 19:30
- 2. The reason for His humanity was essential.
 - a. That He might taste death for every man. Heb. 2:9
 - b. That He might be made perfect through suffering. Heb. 2:10
 - c. That as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death he might destroy him who had the power of death, that is the devil and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. Heb. 2:14-15
 - d. That in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a faithful High Priest in the things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. Heb. 2:17
- B. The cry, "I thirst", was evidence of His indescribable suffering for us.

1. The practice of crucifixion was the most torturous way to cause prolonged physical suffering and ultimate death.
 - a. The inhuman practice began with the Carthaginians, passed to the Persians and perfected by the Romans and was used to instill fear to all who would dare to rebel against Rome.
 - b. The condemned man would be flogged and scourged with the cat of nine tails, which contained pieces of bone, glass and metal at the end of the leather whip, in order to tear open the back of the man and often exposing the ligaments, muscles and lungs, accompanying massive bleeding.
 - c. Thirteen lashes would be administered to the right and left side of the back, then thirteen directly to the back, a total of thirty-nine for mercy.
 - * Many never survived this vicious whipping!
 - d. Jesus also had been up all night, tried by the religious community, Annas, Caiaphas and the Sanhedrin, then by the political community of Pilate, Herod and Pilate again, as well as being beat by the soldiers, who crowned Him with a crown of thorns.
 - e. The man would bear his cross to the place of execution and if unable, one

- would be forced to bear it for him, as Simon of Syrenian did for Jesus. Lk. 23:26
- f. The man would be laid on the ground and nailed to the cross by his wrists and the top of his feet.
 - g. The man would attempt to lift himself up to sit on a small seat provided on the upright of the cross, attempting to breath and relief the pain to his wrists by the weight of his body, only to inflict more pain as he pushed up on his feet.
 - h. The inflammation of the joints, the pain of the scourging and the fever that accompanied the agony was horrible.
 - i. The crowds would gear, mock and hurl insults while the man hung helplessly naked.
 - j. The insects, as well as the birds of pray would not be hindered from tormenting and tearing at his body.
 - k. The final act of mercy was to break the legs of the man below the knees with a club, so he would be unable to push up to breath and ultimately die of suffocation.
 - 1) The Scriptures prophesied that not one bone would be broken. Ps. 34:20
 - 2) The prophet Isaiah tells us that His physical appearance was so marred and mutilated that Jesus was not recognized as a man. Is. 53:2

- l.** The man condemned to die on the cross could last for days before dying.
- m.** The Psalms vividly capture the event years before it occurred, “I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me. My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And my tongue clings to My jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of the death. For dogs have surrounded Me; The assembly of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet; I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me. They divide My garments among them, And for my clothing they cast lots.” Ps. 22:14-16
- 2.** The sufferings of the cross also involved spiritual suffering that was willfully chosen in our place by both the Father and the Son.
 - a.** The Father delivered up the Son to be crucified for us, from the determined council and foreknowledge of God. Acts 2:23
 - b.** Jesus died for the ungodly. Rom. 5:6
 - c.** Jesus said, “Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down and I have power to take it up again. This command I received of My Father. Jn. 10:17-18

- d.** The spiritual battle raged at Gethsemane, as well as the victor by the determined commitment of Jesus.
 - e.** The Father had forsaken the Son, as He became sin for us in such a way that no man can imagine nor describe, a divine mystery as much as the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh. 1Tim. 3:16
 - f.** Jesus thirsted due to the spiritual judgment, suffering even as the rich man asked Abraham to have Lazarus the beggar to dip the tip of his finger to cool his tongue from the flames. Lk. 16:24
 - g.** The reason for this spiritual suffering willfully was that the Father so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. Jn. 3:16
- C.** The cry, “I thirst”, was evidence of His longing for fellowship with man.
- 1.** The prophet Isaiah says, “it pleased the Lord to bruise Him and that the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand. He shall see the travail of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, for He shall bear their iniquities.” Is. 53:10a, 11

2. Jesus for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Heb. 12:2
* The joy was being reunited with the Father, having accomplished salvation for all!
3. The believer is exhorted to consider Him who incurred such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest he be weary and discouraged in our souls. Heb. 12:3
4. John tell us that our joy should be full, due to the fact that we have fellowship with each other, the Father and the Son. 1Jn. 1:3-4

D. The cry, “I thirst”, was evidence of what our cry should be towards God.

1. Jesus told the Samaritan woman that if she drank of the water of the well, she would thirst again, but if she drank of the water that He gave, she would never thirst and out of her would become a fountain of living water springing up into eternal life. Jn. 4:13-14
 - a. The contrast is between the things of the world that promise so much, but deliver so little, and lead man into bondage and destruction.
 - b. The quenching of man’s thirst for satisfaction in life is found only in the person of Jesus Christ, through the forgiveness of sins.

2. Jesus cried out on the last day of the Great Feast, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He that believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” Jn. 7:37-38
 - a. This cry was to the religious leaders of the day and is still needed today.
 - b. The invitation is to all seeing their need of God to experience a lasting satisfaction of life, rather than a temporal material experiences in life.
3. The believer is to hunger and thirst after righteousness and the promise is that he or she shall be filled. Matt. 5:6
* The believer’s life habit is to be as a deer panting after the water-brook, so his soul pants after God, the living God. Ps. 42:1-2a-b

The incredible cry, “I thirst” represented His physical and spiritual suffering, as a man to give us hope!

Illustration

Some one has said that if you could convince a man there was no hope, he would curse the day he was born. Hope is an indispensable quality of life.

Years ago the S-4 submarine was rammed by another ship and quickly sank. The entire crew was trapped in it’s prison house of death. Ships rushed to the scene of disaster off the coast of Massachusetts.

We don't know what took place down in the sunken submarine, but we can be sure that the men clung bravely to life as the oxygen slowly gave out.

A diver placed his helmet ear to the side of the vessel and listened. He heard a tapping out a question in the dots and dashes of the Morse code. The question came slowly: "Is...there...any...hope?"

This seems to be the cry of humanity in the search to quench its spiritual thirst: "Is there any hope?" Hope indeed, is the basis of all human existence in Christ! #2273

I thirst! I thirst! the Savior cried.
With burning lips before He died;
A cooling draught He asked of those
Who mocking looked upon His throes.

Angelic hosts from heaven's height
In sorrow gaze upon the sight;
But yet the sky no water drips
To cool the Savior's parched lips.
A thousand fountains flowed that day,
A river flowed not far away;
But not one cup by friend or foe
Was brought to mitigate His woe.

He suffered thirst on Calvary's hill
That He our thirsty hearts might fill,
To open wide a fount of grace
For all who seek the Savior's face.

"O come!" we hear the Savior call--
The invitation is for all:

"Ho, all ye souls athirst, come ye,
And drink the living water free."

(The Incomparable Christ: Oswald Sanders:182,
author unknown)

Conclusion

The fifth saying of Jesus from the cross focused on His humanity marked by three things:

- I.** The incredible commentary of John is that after this, Jesus knew that all things were now accomplished, being in full control!
- II.** The inescapable concern of Jesus was that the Scriptures might be fulfilled to the last!
- III.** The incredible cry, "I thirst" represented His physical and spiritual suffering, as a man to give us hope!